

## The Role and Significance of Drawing in the Educational Process of Higher Education Institutions

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**Abstract:** This article explores the significance of drawing as an integral part of the educational process in higher education institutions. Particular attention is paid to the role of drawing skills in developing creative thinking, enhancing visual literacy, and preparing students for their professional careers. The article emphasizes that drawing not only facilitates deeper knowledge acquisition but also serves as a tool for shaping professional competencies required for future careers.

**Key words:** drawing, education, stages of drawing, modeling form, human anatomy, proportions of head parts



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### Introduction

Mastering realistic drawing skills is one of the primary and most challenging goals in our profession.

Drawing forms the foundation of all art forms—painting, sculpture, architecture—and holds particular importance in easel painting. If a student lacks mastery in drawing, they cannot express the ideas conceived in their sketches. Therefore, drawing, as one of the most complex subjects, requires utmost attention and discipline. Refining drawing skills demands immense diligence, passion, and constant practice.

## **METHODS**

For this reason, particular emphasis should be placed on drawing during the initial courses, which must be carried out sequentially and step by step.

Drawing a Head (Live Model) in Four Stages:

*Sheet 1:* Composition and character of the model

*Sheet 2:* Identifying major forms, light, and shadow while considering the model's character

*Sheet 3:* Modeling the form by emphasizing main elements and subordinating secondary ones

*Sheet 4:* Final drawing

The primary object of study in the initial courses is the head of a live model. Before starting the drawing, the model should be carefully observed from all angles to understand its character and distinctive features.

## **MATERIALS**

*Additional Steps in Drawing the Head:*

Once the dimensions of the eye sockets are established, the front and side surfaces of the nose are defined, followed by the general outline of the mouth and chin. Using horizontal lines drawn from the eye sockets and the base of the nose, the location of the ear is determined.

After this preliminary marking, shading is applied to sculpt the form of the model, using light and shadow. First, shaded parts of the head are separated from illuminated ones, clearly distinguishing light and shadow. This technique highlights the front and side surfaces of the face, which are essential for conveying the volume of the head.

Next, individual details of the head are refined, based on knowledge of anatomy and perspective. The parietal bones cover the forehead surface, which includes the frontal tuberosities, brow ridges, and temporal bones.

The eye, as we know, resembles a sphere in shape. The spherical eyeball is set into the eye socket and covered by the upper and lower eyelids. The visible hemisphere of the eyeball is covered by a transparent corneal membrane, behind which lies the iris disk with the pupil at its center. When drawing the eyes, attention must be paid to the direction of the model's gaze; the axes of vision should converge at a single point.

The distance between the eyes typically equals the size of one eye. The nose consists of a front surface, two side surfaces, and a bottom surface where the nostrils are located. In shaping the head, the lower jaw plays a significant role, as its form determines the oval of the face. The central part of the lower jaw is a paired curved structure with a flat area in the center. The lower jaw connects to the temporal bone via the articular process, where the ear is located.

## **RESULTS**

After the head is defined and divided into major planes of light and shadow, it is essential to verify the proportions. For instance, the distance between the tear ducts should equal the size of one eye. From the tear duct to the base of the nose and to

the corner of the mouth, the proportions reveal that the width of the nostrils is greater than the distance between the tear ducts but smaller than the width of the mouth. This verification aids in the sculptural characterization of the face.

Moving to Detailed Development:

Once the form is thoroughly analyzed and meticulously checked down to the smallest details, the process of summarizing the drawing begins.

At this stage, the focus is on softening secondary elements to highlight the primary ones. By generalizing and subordinating details, the student achieves unity and character in the model, bringing the drawing to a state where it comes to life.

## **DISCUSSION**

*What is a Completed Drawing?*

An artist is not a mere copier of nature but an active creator. While working with a model, the artist must not simply replicate or copy the form but analyze it and reveal the fundamental laws of the form. This analytical approach to the form is the foundation of creativity. The more talented and insightful the artist or student is in understanding the structure and laws of the form, the deeper their art becomes, and the more profound their artistic images.

This is their interpretation of reality. Mindless copying is the worst enemy of professional art.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

An academic drawing or study aims for maximum completeness of form. However, completeness is not defined by the quantity of details but by understanding the fundamental laws of living form. In other words, completeness is determined by the degree of expressiveness.

Poorly prepared students tend to move quickly to detailing and then lose interest. The understanding of fundamental principles of form is replaced by “premature completion,” which is the first sign of amateurism.

This results in a drawing where every detail is depicted, down to the wrinkles, but the most important aspect—the integrity of the larger volumes in space—is lost.

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