

"3 Strikes You're Out!"

As a group we need to help make an ideal drawing environment. But I can't do it alone. I need your help. This cannot be achieved by just a few working students. In fact in order for an ideal classroom working/drawing environment to exist, I will need the help from **each** class member. That environment cannot tolerate students who visit /chat with each other during drawing time. If as a group you are showing me that you are all working with your full attention on your assignments, I will turn on the radio for background music. If one or more is off task for any reason, the radio goes off and you may have to listen to one of my old boring Cd's or nothing at all. If off task behavior happens a second time, then no background music will be played period. If off task behavior happens a third time, then we are no longer voting by our behavior as a group to have drawing time and everyone will be asked to put their drawings away and you will have to listen to me read from the book "Drawing from the Right side of the Brain" which explains why we need an ideal drawing/working environment. The second time I have to read the book, and every time thereafter I'll read in monotone, to discourage anyone even further from hindering our ideal work environment. Trust me you will much rather draw and listen to music, than sit in silence except for listening to my monotone voice read a book on how to draw when could be practicing drawing for yourself and have play catch up at home. Plus If as a group you are productive I will "Eduatain" you th last 10 or so minutes of class!

Class Rules:

1. Follow the directions the first time given--especially classroom rules. Class rules are not subject to negotiation. Eye rolling and smart remarks are not only unacceptable, but they very worst way to try and persuade anyone to your way of thinking.

2. Ask me for help as often as you need it. Sign up on the "Help List!" Ask my advice. Ask questions. It's your job to ask and it's my job to help. You are allowed to ask for my help 10, 000 times a day if you need me, (if no one else has also been waiting for help.) Repetition is one of the ways we learn. As Abraham Lincoln said, "Determine that the thing can and shall be done and then WE shall find the way."

3. Do the work the whole time unless I tell you differently. I do notice when you are ignoring me or wasting time by mostly focusing on your friends.

4. Do your own work. There are no shortcuts. I believe that you don't learn to use your judgment when you trace someone else's drawings--you use the judgment of the person's work you are tracing. If you feel that tracing helps you learn to eventually draw on your own, fine, just don't hand the traced drawing in; hand in the drawing you did on your own. Tracing and expecting it to count towards your grade is the same as cheating on a test or plagiarizing a friend's term paper. **You will earn a zero for tracing. Never draw something the exact size of your reference material--that way that you will never be accused of tracing.** I recommend that you draw larger than your reference material and be prepared to show me the original visual reference to avoid putting both of us in an embarrassing situation where I have to make a judgment call on this subject of your work not being your own--the results of which you will not like. Also never draw on anyone else's work, the moment you do is the moment that their works stops being their own. **If you want to BRIEFLY whisper TO HELP your neighbor, I think that is great as long as whatever you are drawing is A DIFFERENT PAPER from theirs and you are both looking at it or their drawing, Whatever paper it is, you should both be looking at it, otherwise it looks like chatting and you will be asked to stop.**

(One other option to not having to make a drawing noticeably bigger is to draw on a matte board. Matte board is too thick to see through when tracing using a window or light box. Whatever you do always drawing as large as possible. It's the easiest way to be able to fit in tiny shading details later.)

5. Do not talk while I'm talking or when you should be working. After you have passed off my "Dot to Dot method" then most of the class time will be drawing time. The only times it isn't drawing time, is when we are writing down notes, or while I am teaching you how to draw and I'm **SHOWING** you something specific, then I'll say "look up" and you are expected to look at what I'm showing you and at me. **BUT IF I SPECIFICALLY TELL YOU TO DRAW BECAUSE I'M JUST TALKING--WHICH I WILL DO OFTEN-- THEN DRAW!** IT'S YOUR DRAWINGS THAT EARN THE MAJORITY OF YOUR GRADE, SO IF I ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE EVERY PRECIOUS MINUTE TO DRAW, THEN DO IT--even if it goes against good manners in this case. **Once I'm no longer SHOWING you something, you need to go back to drawing. Now if you look up at me while I'm talking once in a while and you use your class time well most all the time during drawing time, then that's OK..** (This advice is largely for students who find excuses not to draw and will even use the drawing teacher as an excuse why their drawings were unfinished either inside of class time or outside of class time.) You are allowed to WHISPER to your neighbor briefly during drawing time if it's obvious you are helping them. If you are helping them pass off the "dot to dot method You can help them longer, but otherwise they need to sign up for help from me.