

Drawing Assignment at the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA)

DRAWING FROM SCULPTURE

Objectives:

- Develop an understanding of the human figure
- Further skills in drawing from observation
- Gain an appreciation of the dynamics of sculptural representation
- Become more familiar with museums and the collection at NCMA

Assignment:

During a visit to the North Carolina Museum of Art, create a drawing of a sculpture of your choice, from observation. The majority of the drawing should be completed while in the museum viewing the sculpture.

Materials:

Because of museum regulations, only **pencil** or **conte crayons** may be used. I would like this drawing to be on 18 x 24 drawing paper (a slightly smaller format may be used).

Your drawing board must have rounded corners, or it will not be allowed into the museum. You can borrow a folding seat by asking at the front desk.

Procedure:

In order to be allowed to draw and sketch in the museum, a gallery sketching permit must be filled out at the front desk of the museum. You can ask there for a folding seat. Please follow all of the regulations of the museum. Do not touch the artwork. No drinks, even bottled water, or food, are allowed in the galleries. Photography is only permitted on some artworks, without a flash. You can get a map of the galleries, and one of the outdoor sculpture trails.

Drawing:

Choose a sculpture that you really enjoy looking at. Also, be sure the lighting is good, and you can find a comfortable spot to draw. When planning your drawing, be sure to consider composition, the figure should fill the page and may be cropped. The values that you are seeing may be influenced by the material and surface of the sculpture. In addition, the lighting can be somewhat dim at the museum, so you may need to exaggerate the values. Think about adding a tone or some suggested background.

Museum Guidelines:

A drawing permit is needed for on-site drawing. I will arrange for one permit for the entire class. If you would like to draw on your own, please make an arrangement with me. No backpacks, ink pens, food, or water are allowed in the museum. In addition, you cannot lean or place materials (drawing pads, etc) against the walls, pedestals, or overhangs in the museum. Never touch the works, art, or point at them with an ink pen.

In the Museum:

Office hours Tuesdays & Thursdays before and after class or by appointment

The following is a suggested list of sculptures in the NCMA collection to draw. To locate the gallery, look at a museum map, or ask a guard.

Greek and Roman Gallery:

Emperor Caracalla in the Guise of Helios, Roman
Aphrodite of Cyrene, Roman, 1st century
Torso of an Emperor in the Guise of Jupiter, Roman
Aphrodite, Hellenistic, Greek, 60 B.C.
Herakles, 2nd century, Roman after Hellenistic original
Head of God, Bacchus

European Gallery:

Female Saint, Tilmann Riemenscheider, carved wood

Kunstkamer:

Bacchus, 2nd century, Greek

French Gallery:

Venus Italica, Canova, 1815-22