

**For more than 45,000 years, humans have utilized the human figure for inspiration and as a vehicle for self-expression. As we study the history of art we quickly discover that an artist's interpretation of the human figure reveals far more than just an anatomical or physical picture of the human form. Through contextual variations, manipulation and distortion of the human figure, artists offer new insights into the nature of the human experience, the forces that shape the human condition, cultural priorities, our specie's relationship to the natural environment and finally, the possibilities of the human spirit.**

**In the first part of this course, we will study human anatomy with a specific focus on the mechanics of the human skeleton and muscle structures. It is through this examination of the mechanics of the human machine that we will develop a deeper understanding of the potential and limitations of human movement. Central to this study will be direct observation and drawing from the human skeleton, cadaver images and the live model. Each student will be expected to produce a 6 to 8 minute presentation that focuses on some aspect of the biomechanical processes of the human body.**

**The second part of this course will focus upon examining the works of a variety of artists from prehistory to the present with the purpose of developing an understanding of the potential of the human figure as a tool for personal expression and interpretation. In addition to lectures and discussions, each student will be expected to produce a 10 to 12 minute presentation for the class that examines the way in which a unique culture or internationally recognized artist has utilized the human figure as a vehicle for self expression.**

### **DETAILS**

**Each student will maintain a portfolio that includes all figure study drawings, anatomical studies and approximately 4 assigned creative projects. She will also be expected to maintain a folder for hand-outs and research materials.**

**Your success in this course will be determined by the quality of your classroom participation in discussions and critiques, the quality of your research and presentations, your demonstrated understanding of the concepts and techniques explored and the quality of your portfolio. Attendance is also an important indicator of a student's commitment to a course. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in a failure for the course.**

### **SUPPLIES**

**18 x 24 newsprint pad, 11x 14 Bristol board pad, sepia(rust)conte, pencils-2h, h, hb, b, 2b, kneaded eraser, gum eraser, ultra fine tip black marker.**

