Gary Geraths (Foundation/Digital Media) explored new virtual ground in offering online synchronous drawing courses as part of a unique and exciting collaboration with Stanford's Online High school (OHS).

What began as a 3-hour online synchronous Portrait Drawing workshop in fall 2014, quickly evolved into an 8-week Portrait Drawing seminar offered to 7-12 grade students enrolled in Stanford OHS spring 2015.

The seminar was the focus of discussion at the spring 2015 eLearning Showcase and was featured in O-Mag Issue 16.

SET-UP

The goal was to provide 2-D drawing skills in a virtual environment. Gerath collaborated with Jean-Marie Venturini, Instructional Designer, to develop the course. The goal was not to sacrifice the pencil and paper medium just because students were working online. To accomplish this, a digital document camera was used focused on Geraths' drawings that could be zoomed in and out to capture different details. Venturini also provided in class instructional technology support.
We used three computers:

- one streaming the document camera feed,
- the second computer webcam was used to show Geraths speaking, and
- the third computer was used to monitor the live chat feed by a Teaching Assistant.

This ensured Geraths could focus on the drawing and lecture. Adobe Connect was the platform used to host the virtual classroom.

Dedicated recording space is available for faculty interested in experimenting with recording demos or online synchronous instruction. One space is located in the basement of the Ahmanson Building. The other space will be part of the new Teaching Learning Center.

There was some initial hesitation.

"I thought it was going to be kind of dry with the distance learning routine, but after a couple of weeks the students got more comfortable, and when I saw the chat feed, I realized they were really into this." - Geraths

THE WORK

Student work was turned in through email. Geraths would provide digital drawing overlays on the student homework using Adobe Photoshop to provide feedback. Live critiques were held in the virtual classroom with students holding up drawings to their webcams for comments.
**NEXT STEPS**

The success of the 8-week workshop has lead to an even richer collaboration with Stanford OHS.

- Fall 2015 Geraths taught a 15-week online synchronous Portrait Drawing course.
- Spring 2016 Geraths taught a 15-week online synchronous Landscape Drawing course
Otis College of Art and Design
Portrait Drawing

September 18, 2014
9:00a.m. - 10:00a.m.

Gary Geraths
Otis Instructor

http://www.garygerathsart.com
STeeper angles on upper lids

Level angles on lower lids

Female

“Completed” eyes with a focus on value and line

Older male

Layout
• Age showing sockets
• Angles

Heavier shadows
• Heavier line on upper planes

Heavier bushy brow
• Lines over laps of lids corner
• Crow's feet
* Work up all of the features at the same time to compare sizes/shapes + distances

Axis lines measurements
distances between features
Week 1+2

Week 9+10