

Positive/Negative Shapes

- OBJECTIVE** By closely observing an object or objects you can learn to draw contour lines with greater accuracy and sensitivity. Learning to see positive and negative shapes helps you to record contour lines with greater detail and allows you to create more interesting compositions.
- MATERIALS**
- 19" x 24" drawing paper
 - pencil
 - eraser
 - black ink pen
 - black India ink
 - watercolor brush (#4 or #6 round)
- GRADING** 20 points (5 points for timely completion + 5 points for following directions
5 points for neatness in execution + 5 points for quality of observation)
- INSTRUCTIONS**
- 1) Create a still-life using ordinary objects. Challenge yourself by choosing something somewhat complex (like a plant or collection of different objects). Before you begin to draw zoom in by choosing an area of the still-life that you find interesting. Record what you see using contour lines first and then add lines that describe the negative shapes. Use the entire drawing surface of your paper so that the object(s) touch all four sides of the paper.
 - 2) After you have completed a line drawing in graphite you will use a watercolor brush to fill in the negative spaces with black ink. Remember to only fill in the negative spaces. Erase any remaining pencil lines.

