Value Study (Charcoal—Additive)

OBJECTIVE

The use of values (tones) will not only lend your drawing a greater fidelity to the subject matter but allow you to render the subject with greater sensitivity and impact. This type of drawing requires some lines to indicate where surfaces with different values begin and end but the final drawing should illustrate your ability to render objects with values alone.

MATERIALS

- 19" x 24" drawing paper (bond or sketch)
- · charcoal sticks and pencils
- kneaded eraser
- · chamois

GRADING

20 points (5 points for timely completion + 5 points for following directions + 5 points for use of values and absence of outlines + 5 points for proper blending technique

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Set up a simple still life under a light source that will be consistent throughout the duration of your drawing. A reading lamp or the lighting in a room at night are preferable as natural light changes dramatically over time. Choose objects with different values (they do not need to be black or white).
- 2) Create a line drawing using vine charcoal. Vine charcoal will smudge very easily and thus allow you to blend the lines into values.
- 3) The object is to allow values define the edges of objects and not lines. Use charcoal pencils to shade in form shadows and cast shadows. The chamois is useful for blending. Use the kneaded eraser to sharpen edges and erase highlights. Work on different parts of the drawing alternately beginning with lighter values and ending with the darkest values.

