Toned Ground Drawing

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. A toned ground challenges you to apply white and black to create light and dark areas. You will learn to utilize the middle tone of the paper to represent middle tones you see on the objects you draw.

MATERIALS

- 18" x 24" drawing paper
- · black and white charcoal sticks and/or pencils
- kneaded eraser

GRADING

20 points (5 points for timely completion + 5 points for accurate use of values + 5 points for use of the middle tone paper + 5 points for execution)

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 but black and white objects will make it easier to distinguish light and dark areas).
- 2) Create a light line drawing using black charcoal.
- 3) Use the black charcoal pencils to shade in form shadows and cast shadows. Use the white charcoal to create lighter areas and highlights. Work on different parts of the drawing alternately beginning with lighter values and ending with the darkest values. Remember to use the value (tone) of the paper to represent mid-tones.

