

Course Title	Measurement & Proportion in Drawing
Tutor	Adele Wagstaff
Studio session Dates	Fridays; 19th September - 28th November 2025 (10 Weeks) Reading week, 27th — 31st October 2025
Session Times	10:30AM - 4:30PM
Course Code	E2501D02
Studio	Bankside Studio 7&8
Course Fees	£675.00

Course overview

In this course you will develop a straightforward approach to using systems of measurement when drawing from life or two-dimensional sources. You will gain confidence using measuring techniques in drawing. The first part of the course will be dedicated to drawing figures and objects from life, followed by an assignment where your own photographs will provide the subject material for finished studies.

Learning outcomes

Students will be able to:

Understand essential artistic anatomy, applying principles to create drawings with accurate proportions.
Select and apply relevant systems of measurement in observational drawing.
Develop and apply drawing skills.
Apply safe working practices at all times.

What Level is the course and do I need any particular skills?

This course is suitable for all levels.

About your tutor

Adele Wagstaff trained as a painter at Newcastle University and the Slade School of Fine Art. She has been shortlisted for the Jerwood Drawing Prize and the BP Portrait Award, and her work has been exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery, Royal West of England Academy and Canadian Portrait Academy. Following on from her graduation from the Slade School of Art, where she focused on working from the nude in sustained poses, her practice continues to look at the human figure and still life.

Adele teaches at West Dean College, Putney School of Art & Design and the Royal Academy of Arts. She has written two books *Painting Still life in Oils* 2012 and *Painting the Nude* 2015, both published by the Crowood Press.

<https://www.adelewagstaff.co.uk>

Weekly breakdown

Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Please bear in mind that these sessions will move with the

pace of the group, so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed.

Wk	Date	Topic/Activity	Location, Tutor & Model	What to bring
1	19/09/25	<p>Health & Safety briefing</p> <p>An introduction to measurement in drawing</p> <p>Introductory talk about drawing systems focusing on key artists and a breakdown of the course. We will discuss various measuring methods and consider their application, followed by a practical demonstration. You will then be invited to draw a simple still life.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff Bankside Studio 7&8</p> <p>No model</p>	Drawing pencils, pencil sharpener, putty rubber
2	26/09/25	<p>Figure Drawing - basic proportions</p> <p>As your introduction to measured figure drawing, you will focus on developing a reliable way to represent the human form through a combination of quick & sustained poses. You will learn strategies relevant to the unique challenges the figure presents.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff</p> <p>Bankside Studio 7&8</p> <p>Model x1</p>	<p>as per week 1</p> <p>+ Measuring tools, to include a pair of compasses and a 30xm ruler, preferably wooden. Please refer to Moodle announcements.</p>
3	03/10/25	<p>Object</p> <p>An opportunity to revisit still-life drawing, and discuss values.</p> <p>The day will entail drawing a complex still-life set-up from life, utilising systems of measurement.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff</p> <p>Bankside Studio 7&8</p> <p>No model</p>	<p>as per week 1, 2</p> <p>Charcoal, Putty rubber</p>
4	10/10/25	<p>Space - concepts of measuring space</p> <p>Continuing the use of the motif of still life objects, we will focus on including & considering the architectural interior of the studio.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff</p> <p>Bankside Studio 7&8</p> <p>No model</p>	As per week 1, 2
5	17/10/25	<p>Developed figure drawing continued - composition</p> <p>We will revisit the figure to include concepts of composition and the use of such ideas as the utilisation of grids and the proportional ratio of the Golden Section in Art.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff</p> <p>Bankside Studio 7&8</p> <p>Model x1</p>	as per week 1, 2
6	24/10/25	<p>Figure - reclining pose</p> <p>We will explore how to apply a system of measurement to a less conventional reclining pose.</p>	<p>Adele Wagstaff</p> <p>Bankside Studio 7&8</p>	as per week 1, 2

			Model x1	
READING WEEK 27/10/25 - 31/10/25				
7	07/11/25	Developed figure drawing - form & space. This is an opportunity for you to produce a more developed and systematic figure drawing over the course of two weeks, drawing from the lessons of previous weeks.	Adele Wagstaff Bankside Studio 7&8 Model x1 (1 of 2)	as per week 1, 2
8	14/11/25	Developed figure drawing - form & space continued.	Adele Wagstaff Bankside Studio 7&8 Model x1 (2 of 2)	as per week 1, 2
9	21/11/25	Project week 1 This is an opportunity to apply measuring techniques to one of the following assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architectural interior of the studio • Enlargement of two-dimensional reference material using a grid (this can include a photograph, painting or photomontage) • Self-portrait • Still-life 	Adele Wagstaff Bankside Studio 7&8 No model	as per week 1, 2
10	28/11/25	Project week 2 Continuation of the two week project. (Studio)	Adele Wagstaff Bankside Studio 7&8 No model	as per week 1, 2

Preparation Requirements & Additional Costs

YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN MATERIALS.

Paper will be supplied in the studios.

Please see the 'what to bring each week' sections above for full details on what to provide.

If you do not have your own drawing materials, there is an option to order a **Drawing Pack** at the time of booking which will be available when you arrive for your first class.

A **Drawing Pack** (£25.00) contains
 One set of lead pencils (2B, 4B, 6B)
 One box of medium willow charcoal sticks (25 pieces)
 One box of willow charcoal extra thick individual stick

One stick of chalk
 One box of compressed charcoal sticks (12 pieces)
 Six Derwent pastel pencils, can be used wet or dry in: Process Yellow, Cadmium Red, Prussian Blue, Forest Green, Burnt Umber, Titanium White
 One putty rubber in a box
 One eraser
 One auto lock knife

OPTIONAL: Nitram Fusain charcoal, (HB or B) (This is charcoal intended for complex tonal work)

Certain materials can also be purchased from the Academy shop during shop hours. Please check in advance of your class if the item you require is available, as the Academy may not have this in stock.

Resources & Further Reading

Please note reading lists are suggested, not required.

Author	Year	Title	Publisher	Location
Peck, S. R.	1982	<i>Atlas of Human Anatomy for the Artist</i>	Oxford University Press, U.S.A	Oxford
Speed, H.	2003	<i>The Practice and Science of Drawing</i>	Dover Publications Inc.	New York

Other useful resources (websites, galleries etc)
National Gallery https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk

Who can I contact for further information?

General information and advice on courses at Art Academy is available from the main office, open Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00 during term time.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7407 6969 or email at academiccourses@artacademy.ac.uk

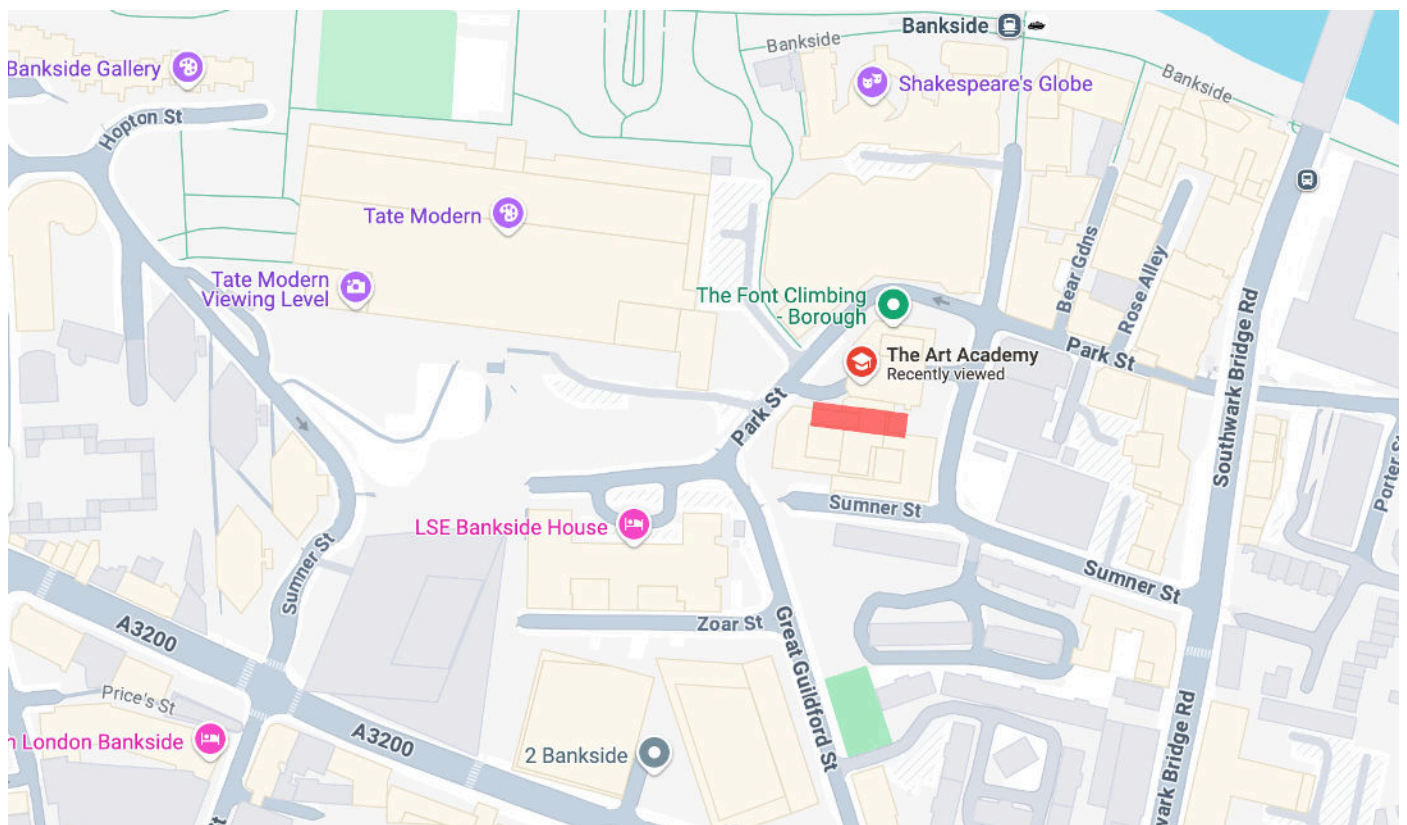
Locations - (Please check course location at the top of this document)

Art Academy – Bankside Campus

185 Park Street

London SE1 9BL

The Art Academy is conveniently located minutes away from London Bridge (Northern and Jubilee lines, National Rail services), Southwark (Jubilee Lines) and Borough (Northern line) underground stations. Please [click here](#) for a map, what three words input.



Just moments walk from the Thames, Art Academy is also ideally located for access to:

- White Cube
- Tate Modern
- The Globe
- Bankside Gallery

If you would like to make the most of the area a member of the team will be happy to advise you on areas of interest locally.

Refreshments & Facilities

All students have access to the common area located in the basement level of the building, here you will have use of a fridge, kettle, microwave and eating area.

There is a wealth of supermarkets, shops and cafes in the area as well as the world-famous Borough Food Market, fifteen minutes walk away.

For health and safety reasons, all students, staff, and tutors must use a sealable keep-cup or container for hot drinks. Mugs and open cups are not permitted in our teaching spaces. As we do not provide keep-cups, please bring your own if you wish to use the coffee and tea facilities in our Hub area.

Disabled Access

The campus has an elevator and has no threshold from the street level providing full step free access. We make every effort to accommodate students' access requirements, if you have mobility issues please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

Further Details

- You will need to have paid in full for your class before the first session of your class, your place is not guaranteed until we have received payment.
- If you purchased a materials pack online this will be given to you on the first session of your course upon your arrival.
- Ensure that you wear appropriate clothing, as you may get messy!
- All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of your course.
- If you wish to join any class for the next term please contact the office to re-book. Classes are becoming increasingly popular, so please book early in order to guarantee your place.
- If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your cooperation and we look forward to seeing you.