

OLLI – SPRING 2026

Drawing With Your Brain’s Right Side

Thursday, 10:45 am-12:15 pm

MAB2, University Community Education Building

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Learn to use the concepts explored in Betty Edwards book, “Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain” to help you see the world as an artist. She uses drawing exercises to force the student to observe actual spaces, shapes, and objects before and during a drawing. The idea is to allow your artistic brain (right side) to “trick” the analytical brain (left side) by focusing on new, unfamiliar tasks and to overcome old, learned habits. The first half of each class meeting examines Betty’s drawing lessons and techniques with video(s) and discussion, and in the second half students apply this information in creating their own drawing(s).

SYLLABUS		
Week 1	Feb 5	Introduction/Upside Down Drawing
Week 2	Feb 12	Contour Drawing
Week 3	Feb 19	Edges/Modified Contour
Week 4	Feb 26	Negative Space
Week 5	Mar 5	Proportions
Week 6	Mar 12	Perspective and Depth
	Mar 18	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
Week 7	Mar 26	Portrait Basics
Week 8	Apr 2	Value and Shading
Week 9	Apr 9	Composition and Cropping
Week 10	Apr 16	Review and Exhibition
Syllabus topics and order subject to change		

COURSE MATERIALS: Required: Drawing Pad – Your choice: 8”x10”, 9”x12”, 11”x14”

Graphite Pencils: HB (yellow with eraser), 4B

Pencil Sharpener

Erasers: White Plastic or Pink Eraser

Clips or Tape and Board to Support Paper

REFERENCES: Not Required: Book: Betty Edwards – “Drawing on the Right side of the Brain”, The Definitive 4th edition, Penguin Books Ltd, 2012.

Workbook: Betty Edwards - “Drawing on the Right side of the Brain Workbook”, The Definitive 2nd Edition, TarcherPerigee, 2012.