

Portfolio preparation in semestercourses

The fall and winter semester courses are each 12 weeks in duration, while the spring semester courses run for 6 weeks. The first courses begin annually around 1st of August, running through the autumn and winter term, and finishing at the end of the spring term at the middle of the following year. Thus, students who are interested in studying in Higher Technical Schools have the optimal preparation to prepare their portfolios to hand in early (Dresden, Leipzig, and Berlin).

Structure of classes and lecturers

The classes divide in black and white and colour lessons and theory. Kathrin Ruhligh is educating the black and white lessons, Michael von Erlenbach instructs in colour lessons.

To be successful in the classes your intuition, your ideas and your creativity are what's required. We put together the question of how to approach formally the handling of colour or surface, line, structure, light, material, surface texture and the general workings of the creative process. By drawing upon the basics of this fundamental application and trying out, applying different means and through supplementing the development of your own individual experience (recognizing the relationships and the different approaches) and work methods.

Michael von Erlenbach is also giving the theory lessons, together with various people, working in diverse subjects. It depends on the structure of our participants which kind of artists we invite for our Friday seminar. We invite: designers, stage designers, art teachers, painters, sculptors, drawers, performance artists, concept artists, ...

In the Friday seminar, they talk about their studies, how they succeed during their study and what they are doing right now. They tell us about the difficulties and the sunny side of their profession. And you can ask them in any direction referring to their profession.

Besides we will have guests who are studying in different academies who did their portfolio preparation at our school.

Your commitment and our expectations

Beside all the fun and joy of working in a creative environment we do expect a ready willingness and openness and a good will with which all the art material, resources and techniques can be used. Through getting to learn new things alongside intensifying what we're already familiar with in exchange for individual strengths alongside supporting our weaknesses and in the best possible scenario through concentrated work minimize them.

According to the experience of the first two years, fixed structure can not be maintained for long. Apart from the tried and true, each semester demands new starting points. For that reason, in cooperation with our course participants, we always try to vary and improve our work, our structure, and, as a result, our self-image from semester to semester.

Your own perspectives are briefly formulated

We want to incite our course participants to personal presentation portfolios that are captivating, independent, and also "comical" -- unique and characteristic portfolios that reveal the determination and the absolute desire to study an artistic profession. We do not want to confirm any stereotype nor think backwards, but rather we want to proactively face changing demands, working with a varied program of study for success that is lasting, rather than quick.

Prospect of success

Many of our course participants cannot enough appreciate the worth of a good portfolio. Many don't recognize even at the beginning of the course for which course they exactly want to apply. This in our opinion isn't the most important thing or necessarily necessary at the beginning of the semester, the decision usually comes and develops itself in due course parallel to working on the course. Naturally many have the expectation that a preparation for a good portfolio often can be quickly produced (1 semester) that possibly would be accepted after the first attempt. Unfortunately we have to stress there is no guarantee and there can never be a guarantee for what is going to be accepted

Contacts to Arts Schools of Fine Arts and Academies

After 4 years of intense work in the field of portfolio preparation, we have made an effort to establish direct contacts with German Higher Fine Arts Schools and their professors. Against all expectations, they have positively accepted our requests for cooperation or an exchange of interests. From the end of the third year, a culture of cooperation has been developed that benefits, above all, our participants in the courses, given that we can directly advise them about the portfolios that need to be turned in, with the necessary information and the expectations and concepts of the different Higher Schools of Fine Art.

A first impression of our school can be obtained from the first book of our school that was published in 2007. In this book, the professors of the different departments of the Higher Schools of Fine Arts deliver the expectations and concepts of the portfolios to be handed in to their respective Schools.

Profile of academies, art colleges or universities

Who every wants to apply to an art academy, university, art college or higher level of study should without fail very carefully consider the profile of the college or academy. Irrespective of your own qualification, an applicant to the colleges in Berlin only makes any sense when your work fits in with the profile of the college itself. That means you have to have visited the place you want to go (for example open days) and spoken with the students to find out whether it fits in with what you conceive and as with the reality.

Portfolio checkup

We offer a portfolio checkup for everybody. It doesn't matter if you were abused by applying at an art academy or if it is only a short term for your application for an art academy. Just call: 030 - 23 888 393

Life drawing, life painting and life modelling

The life drawing courses, which work in conjunction with the life-drawing institute assist the course programme. The classes take place every Saturday and are not only for those producing a portfolio but equally offered to those interested in devoting more time to looking more intensively at the figure.

www.aktinstitut.de

For advanced students

Beside the portfolio preparation and the life drawing courses, come those who want to, through our help, further develop and professionalize their artistic work.

We offer these course participants the possibility to join the course whether for just single days or weeks. So we are able to give the right individual attention. We are keeping an eye on individual aims and wishes.