MODELING IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ART/ART HISTORY

Student models are hired throughout the year to model for the drawing classes taught at St. Olaf as well as for evening Figure Drawing Coop sessions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What paperwork is required?

It is not required that you receive financial aid to work as a model although priority goes to those students with a work award. All models must have a completed I-9 and W-4 form on file in the financial aid office. You will also need to have the administrative assistant in the art dept. submit an online work authorization form. Once that's done, you'll receive an email notice that you need to approve your authorization form (done online).

How much do I get paid?

There are two pay rates for models:

- Nude models \$14.30
- Clothed models \$10.75 /hr

If you do both types of modeling, you will need different work authorizations for each and two separate online time sheets—one for each pay rate. Submit your time sheet EACH month.

Do I have the right body type?

ALL size and shape bodies are fine for modeling. Variety is good!

What do I wear? What about nude modeling?

This is up to the individual professor. If you are not modeling nude, you should be prepared to be minimally clothed, such as in a swimsuit, leotard, shorts, tank top, etc. Do not wear suggestive clothing such as underwear or bra, which could change the understanding of the classroom as a learning environment. In some cases, the professor will supply you with a costume and props. Bring a bathrobe for changes and between poses (the dept. can provide one for you if you need). If at any time you are uncomfortable modeling nude you can request to switch to clothed modeling. During breaks, wear a robe or otherwise cover yourself until it is time to resume modeling.

Where do I change clothes?

There are restrooms located near the studios in the Dittmann Center. Change into a bathrobe in the restroom if modeling nude. Do not change into or out of your clothes in the classroom.

When should I arrive at the class?



It's a good idea to get there about 10 minutes before the class begins to discuss the plan for the session with the professor.

What is a modeling session like?

This also depends on the professor and the lesson for the day. Frequently it will start with 15 minutes of "gesture" drawings (quick, spontaneous 15-60 second poses) and then move into more sustained poses (standing or seated for 15-30 minutes) or reclining (up to 2 hours). Modeling is more strenuous than you think. Be sure to eat a good meal before modeling and have a bottle of water with you. Never hesitate to talk the professor if you start to feel poorly or uncomfortable during a session.

What makes a good model?

Someone willing to be "expressive" with their body, un-intimidated by artists' observation and willing to experiment with poses (within reason, of course). It is also beneficial if the model has had his/her own experience drawing from a figure.

Artistic Comments

Models are generally advised not to offer comments on student work since they may unwittingly reinforce something the instructor is trying to discourage or discourage something the instructor is trying to reinforce.

St. Olaf Live Model Policies for Classes

- No nude models unless a faculty member or 5th Year Art Apprentice is present.
- Only students enrolled in a St. Olaf art class will be allowed to attend sessions with a nude model.
- The students must be art majors who have completed the foundation drawing courses.
- The studio door will remain locked while a nude modeling session is in progress.
- All faculty members and students must maintain an appropriate professional atmosphere.
- Respect the model's personal space. Do not touch the model while he or she is at work.
- Do not make comments concerning the model's body or appearance.
- Do not discuss student models with others outside of the classroom.
- Photography of nude models is not allowed.