

**Class Observation Report****Class Observed: Art 5****Instructor Observed: John Watrous****Date of Observation: October 22, 2007****Observer: Todd Straus, Modern and Classical Languages**

The session I observed consisted of four parts: a short video, a student presentation, an explanation of the final project and a period where students put finishing touches on their Totem Project due at the end of the observed class session. The class seemed always to follow, to be listening and to understand the effort that was being asked of them. The instructor was clear and enthusiastic. He seemed to be enjoying his relationship with the students and the material.

**Organization and Clarity:** Excellent. Course documents and classroom management all reflect an complete awareness of the need for organization and clarity. Of particular note, the extremely well conceived explanation of the final project which helped the students, through multiple examples of both good and bad work from the past, to understand the challenge that faces them.

**Enthusiasm:** Excellent. Unflagging.

**Subject-Matter Expertise:** Seemed masterful to me, the non-artist. John had helpful discussions with most of the students while they were working on their projects. The students appeared to value his input.

**Rapport with Students:** The students appeared to value John's input and to be comfortable in their creative process.

**Student Evaluations:** Exemplary. An average of 4.67 out of 5 and no measure below 4.31. A very satisfied group of students to be sure.

John Watrous

Student Comments

Observed Class: Art 5 10/22/07

This class and John's teachings are priceless. I'm very proud to be one of his students. He challenges everyone and accepts students creativity as individuals so everyone gets the credit they deserve.

Mr. Watrous is a great teacher. He's understanding. Provides everything that is assigned. Gives out fun projects.

John loves to teach and see all of our products. He helps everyone equally and never is vague with instructions or critiques.

One of the greatest things about this class is the instructor's enthusiasm for the subject. It's infectious! Broad range of projects. I've really expanded my artistic range and I've never been bored. Could be a little more discussion about basic construction skills before projects begin, though.

This guy is great! He makes me use my mind, go to the limit and become creatively expressive – even more than I knew or even thought I had. He's understanding and I dig that he remembers to play and have fun. I'm learning well and loving my project making.