

Experiments in Life Drawing

Date	Saturday 22 November 2025
Times	10.30-16.30 GMT
Location	At the museum (Learning Studio)
Tutor	Karly Allen
Level	Introductory



François Lemoyne, *Time Saving Truth from Falsehood and Envy*, 1737 (detail)

Course Description

Take an experimental, intuitive approach to drawing the human figure. Through sustained observation of artworks in our galleries and short drawing exercises, you'll tune in to the subtleties of gesture, expression, shape and line. In the afternoon, we'll then spend three immersive hours drawing from a life model in our studio. By the end of the day, you'll have created a collection of drawings using a variety of art materials and techniques.

Suitable as an introduction to life drawing for beginners, or for people with some experience. For ages 18+.

Course Tutor

Karly Allen is a drawing tutor and lecturer in art history. A graduate of the Ruskin School of Art (University of Oxford) and SOAS (University of London), she has led workshops and developed learning programmes for national art collections for over 20 years, including the National Gallery, Courtauld Gallery, V&A and National Portrait Gallery. Karly enriches her teaching with her training as a mindfulness teacher and, as co-director of Limina Collective, contributes to the emerging field of mindfulness in museums. She specialises in approaches to looking and drawing in art collections, the history of the sketch aesthetic, and drawing to promote wellbeing and connection.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Equipment and Materials

Please wear clothes suitable for using messy materials. All materials and equipment are provided.

Joining Information and Format

For ages 18+. This workshop will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor as well as galleries throughout the museum. We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food must be packed away in a bag and liquids carried in a sealed bottle, flask or travel mug.
