

5. Field Sketching and Rendering for Amateur and Professional Naturalists and Researchers (format arranged with presenter) - 3 or 4 days

In Field Sketching for Naturalists students can learn:

- right-brain techniques for “seeing” a subject accurately
- how to transfer an accurate image to paper
- how to draw successfully in the field
- pencil and pen techniques to create various textures
- mechanical pencil and pen techniques to show details
- mechanical pencil and pen techniques for getting 3-dimensional effects
- ways of using photo research materials to produce a drawing
- ways of combining computer technology with the art of illustration
- artistic and technical requirements to consider when preparing artwork for reproduction
- copyright considerations when using others’ photographs or drawings as a basis for an illustration



In this custom workshop, students can learn techniques to enable them to sketch in the field in order to enhance and clarify their observations, then, if desired, to transform the sketches into acceptable-quality illustrations for whatever use is needed: publication, pamphlets, lectures, classroom instruction, etc.

While subsequent practice and polishing may be needed to advance the artist to professional status, this course lays the foundation and offers guidance for the naturalist wishing to go further in the field.

Students will draw items appropriate to their field to learn sketching and rendering techniques being taught. We can work in a classroom situation or combine classroom with in-the-field sketching.

Working from “*Illustrating Nature ~ Right-brain Art in a Left-brain World*,” a textbook written by Irene Brady for use in her scientific illustration classes at Southern Oregon University, students will get the benefit of not only what there is time to teach in a 3- to 4-day class, but also insight into what is required of a scientific illustrator.

The scope and depth of this course is contingent on time constraints of the workshop, the desires of the organizer and participants, and the availability of equipment required for a particular subject.

If instruction in using computer drawing techniques or drawing under the microscope is requested, for instance, a sufficient number of computers or microscopes must be provided for all attendees to work at the same time on their projects.

