

In 2015, Friendly Stalking was implemented as a didactic strategy at Willem de Kooning Academy Rotterdam by Sjoerd Westbroek and Rolf Engelen for students of the Art Education Program. The students’ findings are incorporated in the following:

- Students follow each other’s research trajectory within a regular educational project.
- The student designs a following strategy on the basis of the competences applicable to the field of study, possibly supplemented with other competences, the need for which the student must convincingly substantiate.
- The students are challenged to organize the (possible) encounters in different ways, such as interviewing each other, visiting workspaces, cooking together, going to the seaside or the movies, writing letters - or following someone at a distance.
- The student is responsible for the assessment and the feedback.
- The student makes at least two presentations of the findings with

- the material of the student being followed. This way the progress of the process is made transparent.
- The assessment method used by the follower and the way he / she represents the work of the followed is evaluated by small working groups.
- Every student gains experience with following and being followed, but there are no research couples; the one you follow never follows you.
- The teacher monitors the entire process and documents the final presentation. The project is rounded off with an evaluation in small work groups to map out the knowledge gained, to enable it to be used in follow-up projects. In this way, the student gives direction to future learning environments.

FRIENDLY

Run, run...
Part 1
Walk to the academy’s main entrance
Set a timer for 10 minutes
Within this timeframe, try to get as far away from the academy as possible
Stay there for an hour
Part 2
After returning, process your impressions in a medium of choice

At the table
"At the table" comprises a public lesson, held in the central hall of the WdKA. It is organised by Rolf Engelen and Sjoerd Westbroek, who offer to share a simple meal. Anyone is welcome to join. It is optional to bring a work (of art) or a question, but you may simply want to listen in on the conversation and have a bite to eat. "At the table" takes place every last Wednesday of each month.

Dialogue
Two students present each other with one of their own works, without any further explanation. Each student takes some time to write down what they see, after which each goes for a 10-minute solitary walk.

Upon return, the act of viewing the work and writing down thoughts is repeated. Another 10-minute walk follows, during which each student formulates a question to open the conversation.

The conversation is followed by a visit to the library, where the students select a book for one another.

Wrap — Unwrap
Each student produces a piece of work and wraps it. At the end of the lesson, the wrapped works are collected in the classroom. Each student picks one work and takes it home. After three days, everyone unwraps the work at an agreed hour.

The students are invited to do whatever they like with the work, the only condition being that they use every single aspect of what they’ve found. The re-made works are wrapped once again and brought to the collection-rack, where they are swapped for another work. It is up to each student to decide how they wish to document the process. After seven swaps follows the final presentation; the question is: of what, exactly?

STALKING

Beach-Studio
(Rotterdam - Hoek van Holland)
Cycle to the beach, leaving at sunrise. You will dig a hole and stay with it. Will you bring tools? The tutor also carries out this task. Document it in a way that befits the experience and write each other a letter describing your findings. You will be home by sundown. Collectively share your results in a conversation the following day and formulate some points of departure for the next beach-studio lesson.

Rope
Items needed: three different balls of rope and a pair of scissors. Each student picks a type of rope and snips off a piece. As this is done out of view from others, each student determines individually what length of rope they take. Beyond the classroom, the students are asked to employ the rope in 25 different actions and to document these accordingly.

The Wooden Mailbox
A mailbox is placed in the students’ shared studio, allowing them to post texts or images concerning their work, their imaginary world, ideas, etc. Every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. the mailbox is emptied. One week later, the mail is answered. Mail can consist of images, text, books, objects, etc. All mail remains in possession of the student.

The Night Class
The night class begins at 6:00 p.m. and lasts 24 hours. As part of the lesson, the group redesigns all daily routines and activities. In addition, the students compile a program of workshops and interventions. No alcohol.

Secret
Within the timeframe of one semester, produce a work in secret. Nearing the end of the semester, determine how you want to show the work in consultation with others. Not making the work visible can be part of the showing. presentation.
5 x
In small-sized working groups, pick an item and investigate it by employing at least five different research methods. This exercise culminates in a stand-alone presentation.