

Art 166: Abstract Painting
Fall 2012/ MW 2-4:30pm
Professor Laurel Sucsyl
sucsyl@rhodes.edu
Clough 319
Office hours: by appointment

Course Goals: In this course you will develop creative capacities as you become familiar with the materials and techniques of acrylic painting and explore how artists throughout history used painting to express their vision. This exploration will focus on the language of formalism and specifically explore the relationship between content and technique. The course will be supplemented with technical demonstrations, critiques, and slide lectures in which we examine the ways Abstract Painting manifests as a historical movement as well as a contemporary practice.

Course Outline:

Media

Acrylic Paint

Subject Matter

Principles of Abstract Painting

Visual Skills

Value Structure Light-Dark

Color Mixing

Spatial Structure/ Composition

Surface/ Mark Making

Conceptual Skills

Creative Capacities

Critical Thinking

Course Expectations:

Homework- In addition to the in-class projects you will be given homework assignments. You are expected to put **at least** five hours into your homework project each week.

Critiques- Each project will be discussed during group critiques. Everyone is required to participate in the critiques. They are designed to teach you think critically about painting and share your ideas with the class. Class participation will factor into your grade.

Attendance- Attendance in this class is crucial since every day we will be covering new material and I will be giving you a feedback on your projects. Your late appearance will be disturbing for both your classmates and me. Try to arrive to class at least 10 minutes early to set up. We will start painting promptly at the start of class. If you are going to miss a class for any legitimate reason I must be consulted well in advance. If you have a fever you must be fever free for at least 24 hours before returning to class. You are permitted one unexcused absence. If you miss two classes your grade will be lowered by one half of a grade. Even if your work is not schedule to be discussed do not miss scheduled critiques. If you have not consulted with me about an absence from a scheduled critique your grade for that work will be lowered by one full grade.

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Grading- Each painting you make will receive a letter grade. You will also be assigned homework in this class. Your progress (work put in out of class) will be factored in to your grade for each painting. Grading is based on a cumulative evaluation of effort and quality. With serious effort (no lateness or absence, following the assignment, completing all work, making revisions as needed, concentrating and challenging yourself) it is possible to earn a "B+". An "A" is reserved for work that excels in both effort and quality. Late assignments are unacceptable and will be marked down. Revisions are strongly encouraged. The grade of a revised work will replace the original grade for that assignment.

Grade Criterion:

The Work

Does the painting address the assigned problem?
How well?
Cumulative Growth

Your Performance

Meeting basic requirements (stated above)
Constructive Participation
Energy/ Follow-Through/ Amplitude

Grade Scale:

1. To earn a C Attend every class
Do all assignments
Make no revisions or minimal revisions
Produce satisfactory work that just meets the criteria for each assignment
2. To earn a D Don't submit 1 or more assignments
Show no effort in addressing challenges
Produce occasionally satisfactory work
Demonstrate no growth in skill and understanding of course material
3. To earn an F Fail to fulfill basic course requirements
4. To earn a B Do the same as #1 above, but also:
Show consistent signs of curiosity, initiative, and follow- through
Make revisions as needed
Address & overcome challenges
Produce steadily improved work
5. To earn an A Do the same as #4, above, but also:
Show consistent, significant achievement and overall growth, showing independent initiative, hard work and tenacity that meet and exceed the stated requirements for the course.

Timeline:

(W) August 22	Intro to Syllabus Building Stretcher Demo
(M) August 27	Canvas Stretching Demo Priming Demo
(W) August 29	Color Mixing Demo
(M) Sept. 3	No Class
(W) Sept. 5	Intro to Abstraction
(TH) Sept. 6	Artist's Lecture, Christopher Ulivo, 7pm Blount Room
(TH) Sept. 27	Artist's Lecture, Erin Harmon, 7pm Orgill Room
(W) Oct. 10	CRITIQUE
(M) Oct. 15	No Class- Fall Break
(TH) Oct. 25	Artist's Lecture, John Dilg, 7pm Orgill Room
(TH) Nov. 1	Artist's Lecture, Jordon Martins, 7pm Orgill Room
(M) Nov. 5	CRITIQUE
(W) Nov. 21	No Class- Thanksgiving Break
(M) Dec. 3	CRITIQUE
(W) Dec. 5	CRITIQUE Last Day of Class

Materials:

This course has an approximate \$200 lab fee. This fee covers the materials listed below. In addition you may be required to purchase additional brushes and/or supplemental paint colors.

Golden Acrylic Paint

Hanza Yellow Med
Naphthol Red Light
Quin Magenta
Phthalo Blue Green Shade
Viridian Green Hue
Titanium White

Mediums: Gel Gloss

Brushes

Palette knife

Paint knife

Wood for Stretchers

Canvas

Gesso

Aluminum Pie Tins

Additional things you may want to bring

Work shirt

Plastic containers w/lids