

305-01 or 405-01 Painting
Monday and Wednesdays, 6-9 p.m.
Hamlett Dobbins
Office Hours by appointment
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It's simple: you get better at painting by painting.

The purpose of this class is to further explore the physical and illusionistic (maybe not a word) properties of painting. Students will explore advanced techniques and color mixing, surface handling, compositional strategies and spatial illusion. The class will use a variety of open ended assignments that will encourage exploration of individual themes. Frequent, short critiques of works in progress and longer, more formal critiques will be scheduled.

During the semester the class will be given readings on or by painters as well participate in very informal talks. We will also go out to see different shows around town.

After mid-terms each student will be asked to lead an informal class discussion on an artist of their choice. (we all have heroes)

REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THIS CLASS:

Studio art classes at Rhodes require a minimum of 138 work hours for every three hours of credit. You will fail if you do not have these minimum hours of work. In order to achieve this you must average nine hours of work each week. Six hours will be spent in class; however, you must schedule to spend the three additional hours on homework and outside projects. See project lists below.

Attendance and Class Participation: Class attendance and class participation is mandatory. (I can't help you if you're not here.)

--Do not be absent. You will not be able to re-create the learning atmosphere of the classroom on your own.

--After three absences your final class grade will be lowered one grade with each additional absence.

--Team sports absence: If you play team sports and have to go out of town, be prepared to make up the hours outside of class. You are responsible for documenting your make-up work.

--Punctuality: Please be punctual. It has to do with respect, not only for the instructor and your classmates but also visitors that will be working with the class on projects. If you're more than ten minutes late three times it counts as an absence.

Attendance etc. continued

--Illness: Please contact me immediately if you have a serious health problem or a family emergency. If you tell me about problems on the last day of class there's not much I can do to help you.

--Class participation includes participating in critiques, class work, and clean-up. In addition each student will be assigned a duty to perform every class. Your grade will be withheld if you fail to clean out your cubby and take your work and supplies home.

Grades:

40%= Engagement, completion and participation of all in class work and activities. Failure to attend class will pull your grade down dramatically.

40%= Outside projects (Homework)

20%= Willingness to take risks/effort to improve/grow.

--Improvement is defined as significant and sustained skill acquisition.

--Risk taking students take their projects beyond personal satisfaction ("I like it"). Those students also tend to work larger, more, with ambitious media and sustain projects for a long period of time. They make significant changes to their work all through their process.

Supply List for painting:

This is a basic list of painting supplies for oil painting. Don't freak out. Oil paints are expensive, we will cut cost corners where we can, I assure you. If you should have an allergy to oil paint let me know immediately and I will work with you on an acrylic program.

Ivory black
Naphthol red medium
Hansa yellow light
Mono orange
Ultramarine blue
Quinacridone red
Cerulean blue hue
Cadmium yellow light
Cadmium green
Permanent green light
Burnt sienna
Yellow ochre
Palette knife
Palette paper
Galkyd and galkyd lite
Gamsol (odorless mineral spirits)
Brushes
Gesso

Grounds (canvas or paper, it's your choice)
Latex gloves

Supply List Continued

Apron

Set of oil pastels

Fifty eight by six blank index cards (available via office depot of office max).

A sketchbook is important as a gathering place for your thoughts/inspiration. I don't really care what size or kind of sketchbook you chose. I just want you to have one. You can use your sketchbook for other classes if you need to. Either way it helps to keep a book.

Painting timeline:

First segment (re-learning/understanding).

Three hundred colors. On a 20"x30" surface of their choice the students will be asked to create a grid of 1 inch by two inch rectangles (15 rectangles tall and 20 wide). In that grid they will paint their three hundred colors. The colors will be without black or white and will require painters to broaden their color vocabulary.

Color Copy: (ninja painters color test) artists will be given 20 color swatches from a local hardware store. To their best ability they will try to match the 20 colors in an effort to increase their paint mixing prowess.

Simple Still Life (pears and eggs in a bowl) on a small ground (12"x12" or so) painters will paint a realistic still life (harder than one would think).

Second Segment: independent paintings:

Artists will provide the instructor with a contract that will have entail their goals for their independent projects. Contracts will include ideas of image content, the size and number of paintings to be completed in the remaining class time.

Painters are encouraged to consult with the professor on their contract.

Stack of Invention: In this semester long project students are encouraged to keep a stack of fifty or more index cards as a kind of sketchbook. The cards are inexpensive and function like tiny paintings on paper. They should be used as a place for experimentation and invention. Use them as a way to try out new shapes, discover new patterns, explore color relationships, textural issues, etc. In the end be like an unbound sketchbook. I would like to see 25 at midterm and the remaining 25 at the end.

Important dates to remember:

Sept. 2nd is Labor Day

Fall break is Oct. 18th through the 22nd

Thanksgiving break is Nov. 26th through

Last day of class is Dec 11th.

Final critique for the class (where we will all be there to discuss the semester's work) is December 9th and 11th.

Exam time (individual final critique for you and me) is Tuesday, December 17th from 5:30-8:00 p.m. We will arrange to meet and discuss your grade during that time.