

# Lassen Community College Course Outline

## ART-10A Beginning Painting

3.0 Units

### I. Catalog Description

A beginning (no previous art experience necessary) studio course in acrylic, and watercolor painting techniques and materials. A variety of subject matter such as still life, landscape, wildlife and human figure will be explored. Emphasis will be on realistic representation, but other methods will be studied. Technical, historical, aesthetic and cultural points of view will be considered. This course has been approved for online delivery. To cover costs of paints, brushes and canvas, a \$35.00 lab fee will be charged at the time of enrollment. Students may need to purchase additional supplies to create more extensive projects.

**Recommended Preparation:** Successful completion of ENGL105 or equivalent assessment placement.

Transfers to both UC/CSU

General Education Area: C

CSU GE Area: C1

*C-ID ARTS 210*

25.5 Hours Lecture, 76.5 Hours Lab, 51 Outside of Class Hours, 153 Total Student Learning Hours

Scheduled: Fall, Spring

### II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable, Take 1 Time

Grading Option: Graded or Pass/No Pass

Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable

TOP Code: 100210

### III. Course Objectives

#### A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Choose acrylic, or watercolor mediums, the preferred medium for future artistic technique development.
2. Use basic blending techniques to produce a convincing illusion of three dimensions on the painting surface.
3. Use basic painting equipment and techniques to produce images of various subject matter such as wildlife, still life, landscape, and figurative.

#### B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate sharpened visual perception.
2. Demonstrate effective use of pictorial elements such as shape, volume, value contrast, color contrast.
3. Demonstrate compositional skills such as arrangement of elements in the format, verticals, horizontals, diagonals.
4. Demonstrate use of fine motor skills necessary for basic control of acrylic watercolor paint using tools such as brushes and palette knives.

5. Create the illusion of three dimensions on a two-dimensional surface through the use of color value contrast, warm/cool contrast, sharp/soft edges, and blending.
6. Select, use, and care for the paints, brushes, painting surfaces, and other tools of the painter.
7. Demonstrate knowledge of the basic principles of color mixing and of paint/pigment characteristics.
8. Demonstrate preparation of traditional painting surfaces.
9. Define and use proper terminology of discussing paintings and making critical aesthetic judgements.
10. Demonstrate basic techniques of creating sharp edges, soft edges, washes, glazes, and impasto.
11. Demonstrate knowledge of the differences in painting in acrylics, and watercolors.
12. Define and use the components of the creative process: disciplined work habits, hand skills, risk taking, critical evaluation.
13. Demonstrate knowledge of past works of art and how they relate to the student's art.
14. Use basic acrylic/watercolor painting techniques to create simple exercises.
15. Choose one of the two mediums to create paintings of various subject matter such as landscape, still life, etc.
16. Demonstrate basic knowledge of important paintings styles of the past (Realism, Impressionism, Cubism, and Non-representationalism).
17. Demonstrate basic knowledge on non-European styles of other cultures (Oriental, African, and Micronesian).
18. Demonstrate basic knowledge of the development of acrylic and watercolor painting through individual artists.

#### **IV. Course Content**

##### **A. Materials**

1. Paints: various pigments: differences between acrylics and watercolors
2. Brushes: various shapes and bristle types and their uses
3. Painting surfaces: canvas, paper, Masonite/wood
4. Media
  - a. acrylics: water, gel media
  - b. Watercolor: water, gum arabic

##### **B. Techniques**

1. Sharp/soft edges
2. Blending
3. Thin paint, thick paint, impasto, scumbling, glazing
4. Flat and graded wash, dry brush

##### **C. Composition**

1. Format
2. Arrangement of elements
3. Different feelings produced by verticals/horizontals, diagonals

##### **D. Color Theory: using color to produce the illusion of three dimensions**

1. Color contrast
2. Value contrast

3. Brightness/intensity
4. Cool/Warm contrast
5. Complementary colors
- E. Painting various subject matter; still life, landscape, wildlife, and figure
- F. Exposure to past art
  1. Viewing reproductions
  2. Discussion, relevance, evaluation
- G. Critiques
  1. Discuss strengths and weaknesses of student's own work
  2. Accept and utilize constructive criticism
  3. Comment constructively on others' work
  4. Objectively evaluate one's own work in a group setting
- H. Presentation of work
  1. Framing/matting techniques
  2. Exhibiting in student show
- I. Historical perspective of painting as an art form
  1. Non-European contributions
  2. European developments
  3. Interrelationships between culture and the art of painting
  4. Contemporary painting
- J. Individual Artists
  1. Significant innovations (plain air, white ground)
  2. Major artist and their work (da Vinci, Rembrandt, Monet, Pollock, Sargent, Homer)

## V. **Assignments**

### A. **Appropriate Readings**

Reading of the textbook and other available materials in the classroom and library.

### B. **Writing Assignments**

Two short subjective papers critiquing shows seen in art galleries/on the internet.

### C. **Expected Outside Assignments**

Homework assignments and visits to art galleries.

### D. **Specific Assignments Demonstrating Critical Thinking**

All painting assignments require critical thinking; the application of the skills learned through readings, discussions, and demonstrations.

1. Monochromatic paintings of a ball and a still life in three mediums.
  - a. Introduce basic painting techniques; blending, glazing, washes, etc.
  - b. Introduce importance of value contrast.
2. Color Theory: value, brightness, hue, cool/warm contrast, aerial perspective, complements
3. Chromatic painting of ball and shadow using the basic principles of color theory
4. Subject of student's choice (with instructor input)
5. Additional painting assignments of various subject matter
6. Discussion/Critiques of the art of:
  - a. Past European styles
  - b. Non-European styles
  - c. Recognized individual masters
  - d. Contemporary painting

7. Short subjective papers critiquing paintings from historical/cultural/aesthetic viewpoints.

## **VI. Methods of Evaluation**

### **Traditional Classroom Delivery**

- A. Participation
- B. Amount of work produced
- C. Critical evaluation of work produced
- D. Portfolio

### **Online Delivery**

A variety of methods will be used, such as: research papers, asynchronous and synchronous (chat/forum) discussions, online quizzes and exams, posting to online website and email communications.

## **VII. Methods of Delivery**

Check those delivery methods for which, this course has been separately approved by the Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee.

Traditional Classroom Delivery  Correspondence Delivery

Hybrid Delivery

Online Delivery

### **Traditional Classroom Instruction**

- A. Lecture
- B. Demonstrations
- C. Visual Examples
- D. Illustrated Lectures
- E. One-on-one instruction while students execute their paintings
- F. Critiques

### **Online Delivery**

Participation in forum-based discussions. Online exercises/assignments contained on website. Web based video vignettes with discussion paper, email communications, postings to forums, online lecture notes and web links will comprise the method of instruction.

## **VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies:**

Gair, Angela and Sidaway, Ian; How to Paint: A Complete Beginner's Guide to Watercolors, Acrylics, and Oils (2nd), Companion House Books (2019). ISBN: 9781620083000

### **Traditional Classroom Delivery**

Additional materials and supplies recommended to create more extensive projects:

Sketchbook: 9" x 12"

Water color paint: 3 primary colors (red, yellow, blue) tube paints.

Acrylic paint: primary colors (red, yellow, blue, white, black) tube paints or bottle.  
Brushes: set of basic acrylic brushes (rounds and flats) Watercolor: natural hair (rounds and flat)

18in. x 24in. Watercolor or Heavyweight Mixed Media Paper (30 Sheets)

Acrylic paint: primary colors (red, yellow, blue, white, black) tube paints or bottle.  
Brushes: set of basic acrylic brushes (rounds and flats) Watercolor: natural hair (rounds and flat)

18in. x 24in. Watercolor or Heavyweight Mixed Media Paper (30 Sheets)

### **Online Delivery**

Additional materials and supplies recommended to  
create more extensive projects:

Sketchbook: 9" x 12"

Water color paint: 3 primary colors (red, yellow, blue) tube paints.

Acrylic paint: primary colors (red, yellow, blue, white, black) tube paints or bottle.

Brushes: set of basic acrylic brushes (rounds and flats) Watercolor: natural hair (rounds and flat)

18in. x 24in. Watercolor or Heavyweight Mixed Media Paper (30 Sheets)

## **IX. Discipline/s Assignment**

Art

## **X. Course Status**

Current Status: Active

Original Approval Date: 9/11/1990

Revised By: James Kleckner

Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 02/15/2022