Art 227.001 Introduction to Painting

Spring 2013: Tuesday & Thursday  2:00pm – 4:50pm

1/14/13 – 5/10/13

Syllabus for Spring Semester 2013: Tentative

Instructor: Robert R. Bird., M.F.A.  email: arbird88@yahoo.com

Office Hours: I will be available between 1:00pm to 2:00pm before class.
                 (Or by appointment)

Course Catalog Description:

Art 227 Hours: 3 Lecture Lab/ Clock Hours 3 Lecture/3 Lab

Introduction to the fundamentals of painting with an expanded practical investigation of color interactions beyond the basics introduced in Two-Dimensional Design. Exploration of traditional and contemporary techniques and methodologies through a variety of subjects including still life, figure, self-portrait and landscape from direct observation or imagination.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- To be able to relate foreground, middle ground, and background as a design element of space. Also, to use color to establish the space.

- To use the fluidity and flexibility of paint to create believable effects of what solids, liquids, and atmosphere look like.

- To be able to reference artists’ and paintings in history when talking about one’s own work.

- To be able to show technical improvement and ability in the mixing and use of paint.

- To be able to create an idea, concept, or theme within the process of creating an image using paint.
**Instructors Additional Description:**

As an introduction to painting, we will cover the basics of how to establish a proper or acceptable painting surface. We will learn how to mix and use paint properly as far as basic skills are understood. We will explore a range of approaches to various painting techniques, concepts and subject matter. Though painting can be very challenging, the techniques covered are accessible and established. The toxicity and dangers of painting will be addressed and minimized through proper use of materials. If done with patience, focus and time well spent, painting is a meaningful and rewarding experience. As a goal, we should end up with something worth looking at.

**Students requesting accommodations for disabilities must go through the Academic Support Committee. For information, please contact the Director of Disability Resources & Student Services, Halladay Student Services Bldg., Room 303, (903)885-5835.**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct.)

Please pay special attention to the *Instructors Specific Requirements* on the next page. If for any reason you cannot follow these requirements, please talk to me outside of class. I expect everyone to follow these rules.
**Instructors Specific Requirements:**

No texting or using cell phones during class.

No talking while I am lecturing or giving instructions.

No loud talking while we are in the painting process.

No food or drinks are allowed in the class room. **AGAIN, NO FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE CLASS ROOM!!!**

No sleeping in class or during lecture.

No public displays of affection.

No leaving early unless otherwise instructed.

No working of projects while another student is presenting work.

No headphones or musical earpieces are allowed in class.

**NO WHINING!**

Please Note: We will be taking short breaks during class. These can be used for short bathroom, smoke or a short snack break.

**Class Starts at 2:00pm sharp.**
Goals for the Course:

Other than the course description, student learning outcome and additional description, there are some specific goals for this course. One goal is to instill a sense of pride and organization with just the painting process. This requires a thoughtful, clean approach to setting up, painting, and tearing down. Because of the fluid and sticky nature of paint, it is easy to develop poor work habits. It is necessary to first learn how to control our working environment.

A second goal is to learn how to mix and use color. Using color in different ways can create certain emotions or responses. A goal related to use of color is to push the response we want to create. Sometimes the response may be to just enjoy the colors found in nature and the interplay with the objects or space they reveal.

A third goal is to develop a dedicated work ethic. Only with a few exceptions can a successful painting be done with short furious energy. What we will be focusing on takes a while to develop. Spending quality time with the process, both in class and out of class is a goal. Part of this is to make constant adjustments to make the painting work. Overcoming a sense of failure or frustration is part of the process.

The last goal, perhaps the most relevant, is to develop an understanding of painting and how it relates to the understanding of ourselves in this world. This relates to art history of the past and our contemporary state. This is the goal that adds meaning to what we are doing with the painting process.
Grading:

10% Class Participation

70% Main Projects

20% Final Project

Class Participation: 10% 10 points possible.

You will work towards a class participation grade based on performance in class, participation in critiques and discussion on the given days a project is due. Not attending class will result in one lost point for class participation. After three absences, being dropped from the course is an option. If for some reason all 10 points of class participation are lost, there is most likely something very wrong going on. If all points for class participation are lost, work with me to see if there is a way to get on track. Or, it may be time to think about dropping the course. Theoretically a student could miss all these points and still do well, but it is unlikely.

Main Projects: 70% 9 main projects worth varying amounts based on difficulty.

Each project will have more than just a painting involved. An example would be to include a preliminary for a work. Another example would be a short response paper about someone else’s work, a short research paper about a significant artist or painting, or a brief write up about your own work. Grades for the main projects will be based on 10 criteria used to assess the characteristics and qualities of the work. *See Grading Criteria.

Final Project: 20% The last final painting.

The last, final painting is a significant part of a possible overall grade. Significant improvement must be made to lead to a successful final painting. All paintings should have development going on, the last one showing substantial growth and improvement. A sense of self direction needs to take place with the last painting.
10 grading criteria for main projects.

Grading is given a 0-10 range of points based on success of each category.
0-3 being poor, 4-6 being acceptable, 7-8 being good, 8-10 being excellent.

1. Composition
2. Proper use of time
3. Proper use of materials (both volume and technique)
4. Sophistication of color
5. Proper surface/support being used
6. Improvement (both technical and conceptual)
7. Proper balance of light and dark (related to composition)
8. Preliminary studies or research
9. Creativity
10. Presence of response paper

Final Project Grading:

The final project will be graded on the significant, noticeable improvement taking place compared to all other work. More time and dedication will need to show in the later projects, but particularly this one. This is also going to be a self guided project where the student makes a written proposal of what they want to explore with a painting. Only upon approval from the instructor will the painting be accepted as a final piece. A small series or a large painting are acceptable sizes to think about. The proposal needs to be only one page. Referencing art from the past or relevant contemporary art is required.
Main Projects:  (tentative)

1. Monochromatic.  One color (mixed, not straight from tube.)+black and white.

2. Still Life.  Earth tones + black and white.

3. Plein Air Painting. (painting outside. *depending on weather


5. Impressionist Painting.


7. Cubist Painting.

8. Pop Art Painting.

9. Self Portrait.  (any style *with instructors approval)-This is not the Final.
Final Grading:

Main Project Grades:

1. Mono Chromatic Painting (5%)............................x.05 =

2. Still Life earth tones (5%).................................x .05 =

3. Plein Air (10%)..............................................x .10 =

4. Still Life, transparency/reflection (15%).......x .15 =

5. Impressionist Painting (10%)............................x .10 =

6. Expressionist Painting (10%)............................x .10 =

7. Cubist Painting (15%).....................................x .15 =

8. Pop Art Painting (10%)....................................x .10 =

9. Self Portrait (20%)..........................................x.20 =

Class Participation Grade: 10%____________ x .10 =

Main Project Total: 70%=_________________x.70 =

Final Project Grade: 20% = _______________ x .20 =

Class Participation 10% = ____________ 90 – 100 = A
Main Projects .......70% = ____________ 80 – 89 = B
Final Project .........20% = ____________ 70 – 79 = C
Total.................................= ____________ 60 - 69 = D 0 – 59 = F

At the .5 on final grade, goes to the next number up. At .49 it goes down.
Materials:

White large plate with no texture or patterns to mix paint on.
(A pad of pallet paper will also work.)

One medium size pallet knife with a metal blade.

One 1” (flat) synthetic brush for acrylic paint

One ½” (flat) synthetic brush for acrylic paint

One ½” (round) synthetic brush for acrylic paint

One smaller detail brush for acrylic paint (round)  1/8” or slightly larger

Small bucket for holding water

Small box of straight edge razor blades

One roll of white Bounty paper towels.

One sponge or scruffy

One larger 2 ½” – 3” synthetic house painting brush. Used to gesso surfaces.

Paint: Get Liquitex, Golden, Winsor Newton, Gambling or other higher quality paints. Paint at Walmart will not work.

Titanium White, Mars or Lamp Black, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Yellow Ocher,
Burnt Siena, Permanent Green Light, Veridian Green, Cobalt Blue Medium,
Pthalo blue, Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red Medium,

(We may need additional paint, and getting an extra tube of white will help.)

One large tube of acrylic paint retarder. This will slow the drying time and allow more flexibility with the painting process.

We will need a variety of canvases to paint on. I will cover this at the beginning of the semester.