

Beginning Painting AVT - 232

SPRING 2017 TTH

Professor: Isabel Manalo imanalo@gmu.edu

Office Hours by Appointment: MW

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This introductory painting course utilizes surface, color, and composition as well as technical procedures to introduce students to formal, conceptual, and social issues inherent in painting towards developing an expressive and a more individual voice of their own. These concepts may be explored through the use of models, still life and landscape. Students learn the language of painting and it's context in contemporary art. Lectures, demonstrations, critiques and museums visits expand possibilities for individual development.

REQUIRED TEXT

Acton, Mary, [Learning to Look at Paintings](#).

The primary objectives of this course are:

1. Improve perceptive, analytical and imaginative skills through painting.
2. Expand basic formal concepts expressed/employed in a general art class: Line, Shape, Value, Composition, Space, and Color.
3. Understand relationship between form and content - art and its expressive, political, social and cultural implications.
4. Inspire further research and other creative pursuits
5. Discover the importance of materials and media while developing good working habits.

For AVT 103, 104, 215, 222, 232, 243, 252, 253, 262, 272

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts.

Mason courses in the film making, visual and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture and visual narrative within historical contexts.

Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete a course in the Arts category must meet the first learning outcome and a minimum of two of the remaining four learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic process, and a work's underlying concept, and where appropriate, contexts associated with the work.
2. Identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary and critique appropriate to that form.
3. Analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form, as well as the works cultural significance and context.
4. Analyze and interpret the content of material or performance culture through its social, historical, and personal contexts.
5. Engage in generative artistic processes, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

SKETCH BOOKS

Sketchbook: –the 1st half to be completed by the middle of the semester, and the 2nd half by the end of the semester. **This sketchbook may only be used for THIS CLASS.** I recommend that you work in your sketchbook on a daily basis. DO NOT wait until the week before your sketchbook is due to work in you sketchbook. The sketchbook is meant to emphasize process and to encourage exploration and practice of techniques and creative ideas. **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO WRITE, DRAW, PAINT, COLLAGE IN YOUR SKETCHBOOK.** The form your sketchbook takes is meant to be open; however, it must mainly be used to develop ideas both visually and verbally. In addition, sketchbooks may include notes from lectures, readings, and your own ideas that arise from practicing and thinking about art making. There is a personal, intimate quality to sketchbooks that provides a place to try things out, make mistakes, allow ideas to grow, and to experiment with visual thinking. **The sketchbook must be hardcover with NO spirals. A total of about 75 entries should be the goal by the end of the semester, and 35 entries by mid-term.**

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

Students are required to keep all their work done throughout the semester. Portfolio reviews is the primary method of student evaluation. One museum essay of 2 -3 pages in length including images will be assigned after the 6 week period. An essay criteria handout will be given beforehand.

Homework both studio and readings will be given weekly throughout the semester. Blackboard will be used regularly to announce assignments, readings and other due dates, links and projects. Check it daily.

MIDTERM and FINAL EVALUATIONS

Portfolios should be arranged in chronological order containing all in/out-class work. This will be submitted during the midterm and final portfolio review. Your final portfolio should include projects from the entire semester. Portfolios are used to evaluate your effort and productivity, and progress. **SAVE ALL YOUR WORK AND ONCE DRY, STORE IT IN YOUR PORTFOLIO!**

MIDTERM GRADE

Portfolio

Class Work including attendance, timeliness and participation

Sketchbooks

FINAL GRADE

Portfolio

Class work including attendance, timeliness and participation

Sketchbooks

Museum Essay

GRADING CRITERIA

A – Student works independently and cooperatively and is respectful to the studio environment, professor and to fellow students. Work demonstrates initiative, ambition and **exceptional** understanding of concepts and techniques as evidenced in all their work. Student submits all work on time and is always ready for class critiques and presentations. Student participates constructively and enthusiastically during class critiques and slide presentations.

B - Student works independently and cooperatively and is respectful to the studio environment, professor and to fellow students. Work demonstrates initiative, ambition and a good level of understanding of concepts and techniques. Student submits most work on time with some over due and is usually ready for class critiques and presentations. Student is sometimes prepared and participates during class critiques and slide presentations.

C - Student shows little independence and ability to work cooperatively. Student is sometimes respectful in regards to the studio environment, professor and to fellow students. Work demonstrates mediocre initiative, ambition and understanding of concepts and technique in class in the execution of all their work. Student work is often late and unprepared for class critiques and presentations. Student participates sometimes and with minimal enthusiasm and understanding during class critiques and slide presentations.

D - Student shows no ability to work independently and cooperatively and is disruptive to students and studio environment. Work demonstrates lack of initiative, ambition and understanding of concepts and technique in class in the execution of all their work. Student work is missing, incomplete, sloppy, late and unprepared for class critiques and presentations. Student participates sometimes and with zero enthusiasm and understanding during class critiques and slide presentations.

F – Five absences or more. No work has been completed. No assignments and readings have been done as evidenced in class critiques and slide discussions.

STUDIO EXPECTATIONS

No personal listening devices (with or without earphones) may be used during class time. But music will be played. Please put your phone on vibrate or turn it off completely. If you need to respond to a call, take it out into the hallway not in the classroom.

Clean up your area after each class. If you cut paper, put your scraps into the trashcan. Food and drink are allowed in the class, however any trash/litter must be thrown out after each class.

There will be two major class critiques held during the semester--one at midterm and one during finals. We will have periodic informal critiques in class. These critiques are designed to help students improve their work and develop a vocabulary in which to discuss their own work as well as the work of fellow students. Attending and Participating in critiques is mandatory. Individual conferences may be scheduled at midterm. Attending these conferences is mandatory.

If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what you missed and what you need to do to catch up. Unexcused absences will count heavily against your final grade.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Sketchbook, hardcover, *NO SPIRAL* 8.5" x 11"

Bristol Vellum Pad for painting, 18" x 24"

Brushes, size 2, 4, 6 and 8 in **Flat and Round Sable or Synthetic Sable. NOT the bristle** brushes.

3 Palette Knives- plastic or metal with wood handle

Metal or Plastic Palette, 10" x 14" --

PALETTE PAPER, 50 sheet disposable 10" x 14"

Large PLASTIC container for water

Fine Water Mister or spray bottle

1 1/2" Roll Masking Tape

Rags, sponge roll of paper towel

1 box of Alphacolor Charkole

Black Sharpie marker

Ebony pencils (2)

White eraser

Large Cardboard Portfolio to keep works on paper and handouts

Scissors

Bottle of white glue
Glue stick
Bottle of liquid dish soap
Ruler and Triangle. Optional: T-square
Old Shirt to wear in class or art apron
Canvas: heavy cotton duck #12 for TWO 30" x 30" painting (Unprimed and Unstretched)
Stretcher Bars (**ONLY Heavy Duty**)
1 Pint of white acrylic Gesso, Utrecht Acrylic Primer
Staple Gun and a box of staples that fit the stapler of your choice
Large Flat Brush for Gesso
4 pre-stretched canvases at 24" x 24"
Small hammer
Color-Aid set of paper 4 1/2" x 6" set of 220 colors
Color wheel
Mirror with handle
Small containers with lids to hold leftover paint (about 5)

Acrylic Paint 4 oz. tubes Liquitex Basics or other brands you prefer

Ivory Black
Titanium White
Cadmium Yellow Medium
Cadmium Yellow Light
Hansa Yellow Pale
Cadmium Red Light
Cadmium red medium
Alizarin Crimson
Burnt Umber
Yellow Ochre
Ultramarine Blue
Pthalo Blue
Pthalo Green
Quinacridone Magenta
1 Bottle Matte Medium 8 oz. or 16 oz.
Art Box (art store) or Fishing Box (found in hardware stores) to carry your paints and paint brushes.

SYLLABUS | Subject to change

Week 1: Introduction to course. Supplies. Blind Contour Exercises, Build stretchers and stretch canvas and prime. **Supplies due Tuesday, January 31.**

Week 2: Black and White and Value, Making the value scale. Shadows. Light, Chiaroscuro.

Week 3: Color Wheel, Color studies, Monochromatic

Week 4: Analogous, Figure/ground,

Week 5: Composition, Gestures, Mark making, Texture

Week 6: Expression and distortion

Week 7: Self Portrait

Week 8: Spring Break. No Class (March 13 – 19)

Week 9: Self Portrait

Week 10: Critique Self Portrait and Introduce Final Independent Painting Project

Week 11: Outdoor landscape painting

Week 12: Outdoor landscape painting

Week 13: Final Projects

Week 14: Final Projects

Week 15: Critique Week of Final Independent Paintings

University and School of Art Policies

In accordance with George Mason University policy, turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. The instructor of the class will keep his/her cell phone active to assure receipt of any Mason Alerts in a timely fashion; or in the event that the instructor does not have a cell phone, he/she will designate one student to keep a cell phone active to receive such alerts.

Commitment to Diversity

This class will be conducted as an intentionally inclusive community that celebrates diversity and welcomes the participation in the life of the university of faculty, staff and students who reflect the diversity of our plural society. All may feel free to speak and to be heard without fear that the content of the opinions they express will bias the evaluation of their academic performance or hinder their opportunities for participation in class activities. In turn, all are expected to be respectful of each other without regard to race, class, linguistic background, religion, political beliefs, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, veteran's status, or physical ability.

Statement on Ethics in Teaching and Practicing Art and Design

As professionals responsible for the education of undergraduate and graduate art and design students, the faculty of the School of Art adheres to the ethical standards and practices incorporated in the professional Code of Ethics of our national accreditation organization, The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

Open Studio Hours

SOA teaching studios are open to students for extended periods of time mornings, evenings and weekends whenever classes are not in progress. Policies, procedures and schedules for studio use are established by the SOA studio faculty and are posted in the studios.

ArtsBus

Dates for Spring 2017:

February 18

March 25

April 18

ArtsBus Credit:

* Each student must have up to 5 AVT 300/Artsbus credits before graduation. For credit to appear on your transcript you must enroll in AVT 300. This also applies to anyone who intends to travel to New York independently, or do the DC Alternate Assignment.

* If you plan/need to go on multiple ArtsBus trips during a semester and need them towards your total requirement, you must enroll in multiple sections of AVT 300. Please go to the ArtsBus website:

<http://artsbus.gmu.edu> "Student Information" for additional, very important information regarding ArtsBus policy.

* Non-AVT majors taking art classes do not need Artsbus credit BUT may need to go on the Artsbus for a class assignment. You can either sign up for AVT 300 or buy a ticket for the bus trip at the Center of the Arts. Alternate trips must be approved by the instructor of the course that is requiring an ArtsBus trip.

Visual Voices Lecture Series

Dates for Spring 2017:

- January 26
- February 9
- March 9
- March 23
- March 30

Visual Voices is a year-long series of lectures by artists, art historians and others about contemporary art and art practice. Visual Voices lectures are held on Thursday evenings from 7:20- 9:00 p.m. in Harris Theater: <http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/>

Important Deadlines

<i>January 1 Day of Week</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Martin Luther King Day (no classes)	Mon Jan 16
First day of classes ; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed	Mon Jan 23
Last day to add classes —all individualized section forms due Last day to drop with no tuition penalty	Mon Jan 30
Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty	Mon Feb 13
Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)	Fri Feb 24
Immunization Record Deadline	Wed Mar 1
Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web	Mon Feb 20 – Fri Mar 24
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	Mon Feb 27 – Fri Mar 31
Spring Break	Mon Mar 13 – Sun Mar 19
Incomplete work from Fall 2016 due to Instructor	Fri March 31
Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2016 due to Registrar	Fri April 7
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri May 5
Last day of classes	Sat May 6
Reading Days Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.	Mon May 8 – Tue May 9
Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)	Wed May 10 – Wed May 17
Commencement and Degree Conferral Date	May 20

Once the add and drop deadlines have passed, instructors do not have the authority to approve requests from students to add or drop/withdraw late. Requests for late adds (up until the last day of classes) must be made by the student in the SOA office (or the office of the department offering the course), and generally are only approved in the case of a documented university error (such as a problem with financial aid being processed) , LATE ADD fee will apply. Requests for non-selective withdrawals and retroactive adds (adds after the last day of classes) must be approved by the academic dean of the college in which the student’s major is located. For AVT majors, that is the CVPA Office of Academic Affairs, Performing Arts Building A407.

Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences

If you have a diagnosed disability or learning difference and you need academic accommodations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and contact the Disabilities Resource Center (SUB I room 234, 703-993-2474). You must provide me with a faculty contact sheet from that office outlining the accommodations needed for your disability or learning difference. All academic accommodations must be arranged in advance through the DRC.

Official Communications via GMU E-Mail

Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

Attendance Policies

Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

Honor Code

Students in this class are bound by the Honor Code, as stated in the George Mason University Catalog. The honor code requires that the work you do as an individual be the product of your own individual synthesis or integration of ideas. (This does not prohibit collaborative work when it is approved by your instructor.) As a faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, *A Writer's Reference*.) The exception to this rule is information termed general knowledge—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, “When in doubt, cite.”

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

Writing Center

Students who are in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). The services of the Writing Center are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis. The Collaborative Learning Hub Located in Johnson Center 311 (703-993-3141), the lab offers in-person one-on-one support for the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Blackboard, and a variety of other software. Dual monitor PCs make the lab ideal for collaborating on group projects, Macs are also available; as well as a digital recording space, collaborative tables, and a SMART Board. Free workshops are also available (Adobe and Microsoft) through Training and Certification; visit ittraining.gmu.edu to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.