PAINTING I, AVT 232 003
Spring 2018, 2017
T, Th 7:20pm - 10:00 pm
Art and Design Building
Room 2046

Professor: Ryan McCoy
Office hours: by appointment only
rmccoy1@gmu.edu

Course Description: Painting I is a foundational course designed to help develop both an understanding of the basic elements of painting as well as a greater perceptive awareness. Students develop technique as well as their intuitive response and analysis abilities through various observational painting studies and reflective critiques. At the Painting I level, emphasis is on construction, gaining an understanding of the materials, color mixing, developing an understanding of color and value, the articulation of form, and developing a visual language through a variety of mark-making experiments.

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts.

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts. Arts goal: Courses aim to achieve a majority of the following learning outcomes: students will be able to identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary appropriate to that form; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of a work’s underlying concept; analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form and cultural context; analyze and interpret material or performance culture in its social, historical, and personal contexts; and engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

General Expectations:
Attendance: Students are allowed two absences from a regular studio day without any grade penalty. Every day missed beyond two affects your final grade by a half letter grade. There is no substitute for being in class.
Tardiness: Arrival 15 min or more late counts as one late. Two lates equals one absence. Early departures will also be counted in this way.
Communication: Things happen and things come up. If you are sick or have an emergency just send me an email to let me know.
Independence: Painters are expected to work in an independent manner. Have a rigor with yourself.
Deadlines: Each project has a deadline which is the day of critique. Be prepared! Late projects are penalized by one letter grade for each class beyond the critique and will miss the benefit of the critique.
Lesson Flow and Critiques:
At the beginning of each section, I will go over concepts and techniques and do demonstrations when needed. I will then assign visual problems for you to solve in the form of projects. Students work through these projects by experimenting and working out ideas and approach in class. In class there are frequent group check-ins as well as opportunities for one on one help. Similar to an exam day, a critique of projects occurs after each section. Critiques are the most important part of a studio class. This is your opportunity to articulate through your paintings how well you understand the concepts, your mastery of the techniques and materials, and how you’ve solved the visual problem you were given.
Critique Basics:
- Never miss a critique
- Always approach a critique openly
- Listen attentively. You can learn a lot from your classmates critiques as well.
- The critique is about the work and not you. It is not personal.
- Always be respectful and fair.
- Be productive and helpful. Saying “I like that painting” is not helpful.

Grading:

Attendance, participation in the studio, project grades, participation in critiques, progress, sketchbook, and your overall level of engagement will be the basis by which your semester grade will be determined. Projects will be evaluated on the basis of technical, creative, and aesthetic merit resulting in a weighted grade. Separate weighted grades are given for a student's attendance record, progress and participation.

Projects are the equivalent of major tests and should be viewed as such.

Artistic Achievement in the eight projects: 80%

Participation, Attendance, and overall level of engagement: 20%

A grade of an A, 90-100%, signifies that a student has achieved competence and performed at superior level across all components of the course. B, 80-89%, is above average competence. C, 70-79% is average competence. D, 60-69%, is poor and F, 0-59%, is failing. A full range of grades will be used.
Grading Standards:

For a grade of A:
No more than two missed classes
No missed critiques
Mature, innovative, and independent production of all required work by deadline
Work is superlative, demonstrating the highest level of artistic achievement
Work demonstrates a clear mastery of assignment concepts and techniques
Work demonstrates thoughtful and attentive response to issues raised at critique
Consistently high level of engagement and committed participation in all class periods, projects, and critiques

Requirements for a grade of B:
No more than four missed classes
100% attendance at critiques
All work completed by deadline
Mature, consistent, and innovative production of all required work by deadline
Work demonstrates a high level of artistic achievement
Work demonstrates a strong understanding of assignment concepts and techniques
Work demonstrates thoughtful response to issues raised at critique
Demonstrated growth in artistic thinking and production
Attendance and participation in all critiques

For A Grade of C (Minimum Requirements):
No more than six missed classes
All work completed
Attendance at all critiques
Work demonstrates a basic knowledge of materials and formal elements
Work demonstrates a fundamental understanding of the assignments
Student has worked hard and consistently and work demonstrates a satisfactory level of artistic achievement

The instructor reserves the right to subjectively and professionally judge your work and performance in this course.

A: 100-90 %
B: 89-80 %
C: 79-70 %
D: 69-60 %
F: 59-0%
Schedule:

Note-The schedule may change to address the needs of the class at any time.

Week 1:
1/23 - introduction to the course, syllabus, expectations, introduction to materials.
1/25 - Technique Topic: Preparing a canvas.

Week 2:
1/30 - Technique Topic: Paint mixing, value studies from direct observation
       Painting #1 Assigned: Monochrome
2/1 - Studio day

Week 3:
2/6 - Studio day
2/8 - Critique: Painting #1 due

Week 4:
2/13 - Topic: Color Theory
       Color basics: relativity or the neighboring effect of color, contrast, high-key and low-key contrast, simultaneous contrast, complementary contrast, saturation, subtraction of color, color intensity - brightness, harmony, monochrome, analogous color, the emotive effects of color, color as form.

       Painting #2 Assigned: Color Observation

       Painting # 3 Assigned: Choose Your Own Color System
2/15 - Studio day: work on color studies

Week 5:
2/20 - Studio day
2/22 - Critique: Painting #2 and Painting #3 due

Week 6:
2/27 - Topic: More on Color
       Painting #4 Assigned: Harmony
3/1 - Studio day

Week 7:
3/6 - Studio day
3/8 - Midterm Critique: Painting #4 due

Week 8:
3/13 - Spring Break: no classes
3/15 - Spring Break: no classes
Week 9:
3/20 - **Topic: Portraiture**
    Painting #5 Assigned: Self-portrait (home)
    Painting #6 Assigned: Classmate (in class)
3/22 - Studio day

Week 10:
3/27 - Studio day
3/29 - Studio day

Week 11:
4/3 - **Topic: Landscapes**
    Painting #7 Assigned: Landscape
4/5 - **Critique: Painting #5 and Painting #6 Due**

Week 12:
4/10 - **Topic: Landscapes**
    Studio day
4/12 - Studio day

Week 13:
4/17 - **Critique: Painting #7 due**
4/19 - Studio day

Week 14:
4/24 - Studio day: Work on Final Projects
4/26 - Studio day: Work on Final Projects

Week 15:
5/1 - **Final Critiques (full portfolio)**
5/3 - **Final Critiques (full portfolio)**
Supplies:
One Artbin, One color wheel, One roll of paper towels, a few small containers with lids (plastic, metal, or glass)
Paint thinner: Turpenoid or Gamsol (both odorless), One bottle of Liquin, One bar of soap, One hand towel

Canvas Building
Two pairs of stretcher bars at equal length
One Unprimed canvas blanket that is at least 4 inches longer in all directions than assembled stretcher
One container of Gesso, One 2 or 3 inch house painting brush, One staple gun with staples,
One pack each of Fine and Extra Fine sandpaper

Brushes
Purchase a variety of 6 of the following suggested brushes…
bright #2, #4, #8, #12
filbert #2, #4, #8, #12
flat #4, #8
round #2, #4, #8
one metal palette knife.

Readymade Canvases: These sizes are guidelines and represent the minimum.
Painting #1: 18 x 24 or 24 x 24
Painting #2: 18 x 24 or 24 x 24
Painting #3: 18 x 24 or 24 x 24
Painting #4: 24 x 30 or 30 x 30
Painting #5: 24 x 30
Painting #6: 24 x 30
Painting #7: 24 x 36
Final Project: minimum 30 inches in any direction
One pack of 12 canvas boards
Always have two surfaces with you at each class. Have a few extras within these sizes.

Palette
One pad of palette paper for class at 12 x 16 or larger or a piece of plexiglass
Paint
The colors you will need:
Ivory black
Zinc white (large tube)
Viridian green
Cobalt violet
Cadmium red light hue
Ultramarine blue
Prussian blue
Payne's grey
Alizarin crimson
Raw umber
Burnt umber
Raw sienna
Yellow ochre
Cadmium yellow light hue
Any other colors you may want to use.
**Important University Dates:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Jan 15</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Jan 22</td>
<td>First day of classes; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Jan 29</td>
<td>Last day to add classes—all individualized section forms due</td>
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<td>Mon Jan 19 – Fri Mar 23</td>
<td>Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</td>
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<td>Fri Feb 23</td>
<td>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</td>
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<td>Thu Mar 1</td>
<td>Immunization Record Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Feb 19 – Fri Mar 23</td>
<td>Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Feb 26 – Fri Mar 30</td>
<td>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 12 – Sun Mar 18</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Fri Mar 23</td>
<td>Incomplete work from Fall 2017 due to Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri Mar 30</td>
<td>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2017 due to Registrar</td>
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<td>Fri May 4</td>
<td>Dissertation/Thesis Deadline</td>
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<td>Sat May 5</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<td>Mon May 7 – Tue May 8</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Wed May 9 – Wed May 16</td>
<td>Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)</td>
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<td>Fri May 18</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<td>Sat May 19</td>
<td>Degree Conferral Date</td>
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**ArtsBus Credit and Policies:** You are responsible for knowing and following ArtsBus policies and rules. Please go to the ArtsBus website: http://artsbus.gmu.edu "Student Information" for important information regarding ArtsBus policy. 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* 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.

**ArtsBus - Dates for Spring 2018:**
- February 24
- March 24
- April 14
Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2018: 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/

January 24 – Brian Noyes
February 1 – Teresa Jaynes
February 22 – Sharif Bey
March 1 – Juliet Bellow
March 8 – John Henry

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 your instructor 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.

Cell Phones: 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.

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, and are responsible knowing the rules, as stated on the George Mason University website’ Academic Integrity page (http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/). “To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, trust, and fairness among all members of the Mason community, and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:

  Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

Mason’s Commitment: To create an environment that is innovative, diverse, entrepreneurial, and accessible-helping you avoid accidental or intentional violations of the Honor Code.”

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.