

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Art Division of Painting and Drawing
Spring 2016

AVT 232 Painting I

Monday / Wednesday 4:30 pm – 7:10 pm

Instructor: Nathan Loda

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Office Hours: By appointment only

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.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students are introduced to the materials, tools and techniques of oil painting and are instructed in skills and methods (indirect and direct) basic to the discipline through lectures, demonstrations, critiques as well as one to one instruction. As they work from observation to progress and become skilled in controlling the medium and understand the process of creating a work of art with paint, students also learn about the conceptual and compositional structure of Painting, in order to continue developing their aesthetic ability and visual perception.

OBJECTIVES

The course's objectives are:

- (a) To give students an understanding of the inherent characteristics of paint, to introduce them to the tools available to the artist (brushes, canvas, mediums, etc.), and to teach them the basic skills required (i.e. stretching a canvas, priming, etc).
- (b) To specifically focus on oil painting so that students become familiar with the discipline and gain a solid technical foundation in terms of paint handling and application (i.e. brushwork, blending, painting knives), by working with a variety methods and techniques (i.e. scumbling, glazing, ala prima).
- (c) To further develop the students' formal training (i.e. with regards to the principles of art as they relate to compositional arrangement), as well as their understanding of Color.
- (d) To stimulate the students' observational and organizational skills, so that they can begin to discover and develop their own personal creative vocabulary.
- (e) To introduce students to the work of various painter

CONTENT

Students will examine the following:

1. Painting materials and tools. Understanding safety in the studio.
2. Supports and grounds. Learning how to stretch and prime a canvas.
3. Controlling and selecting the right brushes, knives and other tools.
4. Review of basic color theory. values and hues, adjacents, complements, warm and cool colors and their effect on the composition, contrast, color harmonies, saturation.
5. How to mix colors. Knife work. Scraping.
6. Indirect and Alla prima painting. Impressionism.
7. Glazing and scumbling. The principle of "fat over lean." Varnishes.
8. Working from observation: content, format, etc.
9. Rendering flesh tones and working with edges (hard and soft).
10. Making choices, developing ideas, beginning to interpret visual stimuli
11. Understand how a painter may successfully incorporate ideas and sources beyond observation in his or her work.
12. Development of a personal aesthetic.

AXIOMS (Do not abide by these all the time...just a reference)

In any layer:

Paint from warm to cool.

Paint from thin to thick.

Paint from lean to fat.

Paint from dark to light.

Paint from loose to tight.

Paint from big to small.

Use the largest brushes possible.

Avoid using white as long as possible. Make as many midtones as possible without white.

Paint light not objects as long as possible.

Use as few colors as possible.

Remember that any daylight scene has one color of light and one opposite color in all the shadows.

After a certain point, removing paint can be more effective than adding it. After another certain point, removing paint becomes your only option.

Cover the surface evenly, don't let a problem area distract you.

Your agenda for the painting may not be where it wants to go. Allowing it to succeed on its own terms might be more interesting.

MATERIALS LIST

Basic Supplies:

9"x12" sketchbook (optional, any sketchbook or notebook to draw on is helpful)

Pencil for sketch book (2B)

Vine charcoal

Tackle box or other box to hold materials

Brush cleaner container: 2 glass or tin jars that have a LID, clear container with a metal coil works well

Mineral Spirits

"The Masters" Artist Hand Soap, good for hands and brushes

9"x12" or 14"x11" piece of glass or plexi for paint palette.

X-Acto scraper knife

Basic palette knife (Avoid Plastic palette knife, they are awful)
Artist's tape (1 roll, 1-inch wide)
Old rags / towels to clean brushes (A MUST-HAVE)

*If you want to stretch your own canvas, you need:

Gallon of gesso / Staple gun and staples / scissors / 3" brush
Stretcher Bars, Unprimed cotton duck canvas

*I prefer to prime my canvas with a neutral light grey. You can mix your own with acrylic gesso, acrylic ivory black, and acrylic yellow oxide. You can also purchase Daniel Smith's "World's Best Grey" gesso.

Medium:

Liquin 250 ml (quick drying and easy to transport.)

Paint: (Purchase student grade paint)

Titanium White, small= 37ml or large tube = 150 ml
Burnt Sienna, small = 37 ml
Raw Sienna, small
Ultramarine Blue, small
Cobalt Blue, small
Cadmium Red light, small
Alizarin Crimson, small
Cadmium Yellow Light, small
Cadmium Yellow Medium, small

Additional colors that are useful.

Viridian
Indian Yellow
Prussian Blue
Cobalt Violet
Cadmium Green
Cadmium Orange
Cadmium Red medium
Zinc White

Brushes: Hogs hair, oil and/or acrylic brushes (long handles)

Brush (description page: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brush>)

#10 Bright
#8 Filbert
#6 Bright
#2 Bright or Filbert
#0 Bright

Canvas: (This is rough estimate, You can purchase canvas on a project basis so you don't have to buy all them at once, just when you need them)

7 canvases 9" x 12" or 12" x 12" for small studies (Plaza Economy Pack =\$23.95)

5 canvases Sizes 16" x 20" or larger (Plaza Economy Pack =\$23.95)

SOURCES FOR SUPPLIES

- Plaza 3045 Nutley Street Pan Am Shopping Center Fairfax, VA (703) 280-4500
- Utrecht Art Supply (good prices, own brand inexpensive paints, student discount) 1250 Eye Street, NW (at 13th and NY Ave) Washington, DC (202) 898-0555
- Craft stores such as Michael's and AC Moore have some limited supplies but offer great coupons and good prices.
- www.dickblick.com

EVALUATION AND GRADING:

70% Preparation/participation

Class attendance (MANDATORY, 5 or more unexcused and you WILL FAIL)

Arrive on time with materials, prepared to work

Always attend and participate in class

Demonstrate industriousness during class hours

Critique and Assignment Deadlines

Meet critique deadline with completed assignments

Set up your work before critique start time

Critique Participation

Present your work using thoughtful and articulate language

Contribute reasoned commentary about the work of your peers

Demonstrate earnest engagement with your own work in critique

30% artistic achievement

Work demonstrates:

Level of mastery of materials and techniques

Level of careful attention to the goals of each assignment

Evidence of hours of labor appropriate to each assignment

Quality of independent and thoughtful inquiry

Quality of innovative and imaginative response to assignments

Level of overall artistic achievement

GRADING STANDARDS

For a grade of A:

- No more than two missed classes
- 100% attendance at 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
- Attendance and highly committed participation in all critiques (willingness to listen, take notes, and participate equally in critique of peers and self)

For a grade of B:

- All work completed by deadline
- No more than four missed classes
- 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 (willingness to listen, take notes, and participate equally in critique of peers)

For a grade of C:

- No more than five missed classes
- All work completed
- Level of artistic achievement
- 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

For a grade of D or below:

- Five or more missed classes
- Missing critique(s)
- Incomplete project assignments
- Low level of commitment
- Lack of participation and involvement with class discussions

2017 Boilerplate for inclusion in syllabi:

The following is in two sections Mason Core and general information for all classes. If you are teaching a course that is part of the Mason Core listed below, please include the following in your syllabus:

(1) MASON CORE CLASSES:

Mason Core Arts; Please include the following for sections of AVT 103, 104, 215, 222, 232, 243, 252, 253, 262, 272, 385:

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.

Mason Core IT; Please include the following for sections of AVT 180:

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Information Technology. IT goal: The purpose of the information technology requirement is to ensure that students achieve an essential understanding of information technology infrastructure encompassing systems and devices; learn to make the most of the Web and other network resources; protect their digital data and devices; take advantage of latest technologies; and become more sophisticated technology users and consumers.

1. IT courses will fulfill a majority of the following learning outcomes: Students will be able to use technology to locate, access, evaluate, and use information, and appropriately cite resources from digital/electronic media.
2. Students will understand the core IT concepts in a range of current and emerging technologies and learn to apply appropriate technologies to a range of tasks.
3. Students will understand many of the key ethical, legal and social issues related to information technology and how to interpret and comply with ethical principles, laws, regulations, and institutional policies.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate, create, and collaborate effectively using state-of-the-art information technologies in multiple modalities.
5. Students will understand the essential issues related to information security, how to take precautions and use techniques and tools to defend against computer crimes.

Mason Core Synthesis; Please include the following for sections of AVT 385, 497 and 498:

This course fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Synthesis. The purpose of the synthesis course is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge, skills and values gained from the Mason Core curriculum. Synthesis courses strive to expand students' ability to master new content, think critically, and develop life-long learning skills across the disciplines. While it is not feasible to design courses that cover "all" areas of general

education, synthesis courses should function as a careful alignment of disciplinary goals with a range of Mason Core learning outcomes.

A general education synthesis course must address outcomes 1 and 2, and at least one outcome under 3. Upon completing a synthesis course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.)
2. Using perspectives from two or more disciplines, connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns
3. Apply critical thinking skills to:

1. Evaluate the quality, credibility and limitations of an argument or a solution using appropriate evidence or resources, OR,

2. Judge the quality or value of an idea, work, or principle based on appropriate analytics and standards

(2) GENERAL INFORMATION; Please include in ALL syllabi:

Important University Dates:

ArtsBus - Dates for Fall 2017:

September 23

October 21

November 18

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.

Visual Voices Lecture Series Fall 2017 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/>

August 31...Simon Schwartz

Sept 14... Andy Birnbaum

Oct 5...Patricia Bello-Gillen

Oct 19...Sadie Barnette

Nov 11... Walter Kravitz

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's 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.