

## **Beginning Painting**

ART 9 CRN: 56080

Room: Art Center 159

## **Reedley College**

Instructor: Patrick Brien

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## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

Spring 2022

Welcome to Beginning Painting! Our class will be held **face-to-face beginning January 11**. I'm glad to have you in the class. I look forward to helping you achieve new painting skills and achieve your academic goals this semester.

**Class Meeting Times:** Tuesday/Thursday 5:30 - 8:20 pm

**Final Exam Week:** May 16 - 20, 2022

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an exploration of the creative act of painting using representational, abstract and non-objective forms. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of composition and the ability to handle materials. Students will learn basic color theory, value, line, shape, texture and techniques including direct paint application, glazing, brush strokes and impasto. Issues concerning canvas stretching, brush cleaning, mixing glazes and toxicity are addressed. Through lecture and studio practice, students gain introductory skills in painting within the context of an historical perspective.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course will present strategies and methods for both observation-based and non-objective painting. Students will develop basic, fundamental painting techniques while also learning to analyze and discuss works of art. The class will explore historical and contemporary examples in painting as a way to interpret form and expression in contemporary practice.

## **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- To observe forms and objects in physical, three-dimensional space and be able to translate them in a two-dimensional painting.
- To understand the elements of art (line, shape, value, perspective, texture, and color) and be able to apply this understanding to observational painting.
- To use the medium of painting as a means of creative and individual expression.
- To develop facility with the tools, materials, and techniques inherent to basic painting processes.
- To build physical and digital portfolios that contain resolved, original paintings completed during the course.

## **METHODS OF ASSESSMENT**

- **Critiques/Oral presentations**
- **Written discussion posts**
- **Painting assignments**
- **Sketchbook exercises**

## **ATTENDANCE & PREPAREDNESS**

This semester, our class will be conducted in person in Art Center 159. Course material will also be presented on Canvas to further support the topics we are working on in class. Assignments and projects you complete in class will be required to be posted to the assignment page in the Canvas modules for grading.

Canvas, if you don't know by now, is the college's online learning system. Log in to Canvas from the My Portal link on the Reedley College homepage. I will be a present and active participant on our class's Canvas page and on the discussion forum. I will also inform and remind you of my availability via Zoom during my weekly office hour.

Your participation and "attendance" in the course will be gauged by your attendance to class, your participation in class discussions and critiques, as well as the completion of unit modules and projects on our Canvas page. I will assign due dates for each project as a way for you to keep pace with the coursework. You will not be penalized for submitting finished work beyond the due date and you have until the last week of regular classes to submit any work that may be missing.

Lack of engagement with course tasks and coursework, failure to complete graded posts of the discussion forum, or lack of communication with me as to why you have not been active in the class can result in a lost points in “followed directions” for assignment grading criteria and/or lowered participation grade and, as a last resort, you being dropped from the class. See the section on grading and assessment to view a full breakdown of how your final grade will be calculated. If you have concerns with internet connectivity or lack of means to acquire supplies from the materials list, please make contact with me via email to discuss your options so that we can find a suitable solution.

## **MATERIALS**

9 x 12” Sketchbook

Stay wet paint palette container

Old Button-down shirt or apron that you don’t mind getting paint on to protect your clothing

Gamblin 1980 Introductory oil set

Gamblin Solvent-free gel

Gamblin Solvent-free fluid

Silicoil Glass brush tank

Princeton Real Value Brush set, Bristle, Long Handle, Set of 7

Blick Economy Cotton Canvas Panel, 9” x 12”

Blick Super Value Canvas, 16” x 20” (4)

Blick Painting Knife, 3”, Flat

**The sketchbook represents an ongoing project, which plays a significant part in every other project in this class. You will need it to complete homework and other preparatory work for assignments and projects.**

## **EXPECTATIONS OF THE INSTRUCTOR**

The values of an intellectual community: trust, honesty, free inquiry, open debate, respect for diversity, and respect for others' convictions will be honored throughout this class. Furthermore, the intellectual community always seeks to cultivate the virtues and characteristics of intelligence, curiosity, discipline, creativity, integrity, clear expression and the desire to learn from others. Artistic and intellectual exchange should be held in an environment of openness and tolerance.

## **CREATIVE STRATEGIES**

- Be curious! Question the mechanics of objects in the world around you and how they function.
- Keep a sketchbook. This is required for the course and will be needed to complete homework assignments.
- Look around. Take note of whatever you find visually interesting and document it by making a quick sketch, taking a snapshot, or ripping out images from magazines. Save them, they'll come in handy.
- Backward engineer things. Take objects apart and learn what's inside and how they're put together.
- Unpack your ideas. The first idea you have to solve a problem might not be the best idea. Turn them over in your head and write them down on paper. See if you can define, streamline, or develop them to a more effective and interesting level. Push the boundaries of your imagination.

## **GRADING POLICY**

I will supply you with a rubric for each assignment or project. The objectives for each assignment will be clearly presented to you prior to the start of each project and the grading criteria will be explained on the rubric provided to you.

ACADEMIC GRADES: (as published in the University Catalog)

### **A / A- (Excellent):**

Student has demonstrated a high level of competence in meeting course objectives. Four grade points per unit are awarded. (A- yields 3.7 grade points.)

### **B+/B/B- (Good):**

Student has demonstrated a more than satisfactory level of competence in meeting course objectives. Three grade points per unit of credit are awarded (B+ yields 3.3

grade points and B- yields 2.7 grade points.)

**C+/C/C- (Satisfactory):**

Student has demonstrated a satisfactory level of competence in meeting course objectives. Two grade points per credit are awarded. (C+ yields 2.3 grade points and C- yields 1.7 grade points.)

**D+/D/D- (Unsatisfactory):**

Student has demonstrated only a barely passing level of competence in meeting course objectives so that is not necessary to repeat the course for credit. One grade point per unit of credit is awarded. (D+ yields 1.3 grade points and D- yields 0.7 grade points.)

**F (Failure):**

Student has demonstrated a minimally passing competence in meeting course objectives. Credit is not merited. Zero grade points are assigned.

**CR (Credit):**

Student has demonstrated at least a satisfactory C- level of competence in meeting course objectives (at least B- level in graduate courses). Not used in grade point average calculations.

**NC (No Credit):**

Student has not demonstrated minimally satisfactory competence in meeting course objectives. Credit is not awarded. Not used in grade point average.

**SUBMITTING WORK**

We will hold class critiques to look at and discuss your work throughout the semester. I will note the completion or incompleteness of your paintings during this critique. It is beneficial to you to be present and to exhibit your work during these critiques because you will gain helpful and crucial feedback on your painting from your peers.

All completed assignments should be submitted to the appropriate assignment page in Canvas. Please review the guidelines for documenting and photographing your work (located in the Welcome module) before submitting. All images should be photographed squarely and taken in good light. Avoid photographing your work in dark interior spaces and in direct sunlight. I recommend laying your work on the floor in indirect light (interiors) or in clean, shaded areas (exteriors). Stand directly over the work so that the image is square within the screen. Be sure your shadow does not cover part of the image. (Poorly documented work may affect the grade you receive

for the assignment.) I will demonstrate this in class.

## **LATE PROJECTS AND REWORKING OF ASSIGNMENTS**

Each project or assignment on Canvas will have a due date for submission. Students are encouraged to submit their work fully completed by the deadline stated. If a student is not finished with the project, the student is encouraged to submit the work "as is." The work that is submitted on time but incomplete will be given a preliminary grade that can be improved upon by a reworking of the assignment. Reworking and editing of submitted projects is always encouraged and will be re-evaluated by the instructor in a reasonable time period.

Time management is an important factor in being able to complete and submit the week's assignment(s) on time. The due dates are given to help pace you through each topic. You will be able to turn in work past the due date but please note that points may be deducted for being late before the actual grading of the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If you turn in work on time or display it for class critique but want to rework the drawing and resubmit it past the due date, no points will be deducted for late submission.

## **INCOMPLETES**

Students should consult the regarding the purpose and availability of an "incomplete" grade. An "incomplete" grade will be issued only in extreme circumstances requiring extended absence from the class at crucial times in the learning process. It will be issued only to a student who has shown diligence and responsibility, and who has completed a significant amount of the course work.

When an "incomplete" is given it is the student's responsibility to note the deadline set by the instructor for completion of the work required. It is also the student's responsibility to schedule meetings with the instructor for assessment of progress in the course. A final consultation must take place by the set deadline or the instructor will issue the grade which would have been earned if the "incomplete" had not been issued.

## **COURSE DROP POLICY**

It is the student's responsibility to drop the course for any reason at any time.

## **GUIDELINES, COURTESIES & RESOURCES**

### Classroom Requirements

All students are required to abide by the Covid-19 protocols set forth by Reedley College. Masks are required while inside the building and in the classroom. Please learn and observe physical distancing practices while in the classroom. Please arrive to class on time with your materials ready to work.

### Netiquette

Due to this course being conducted partially online, "netiquette" will be expected and observed within all discussion posts, submissions and interactions. Absolutely no harassing or obscene language or actions will be tolerated. Violations of netiquette will be addressed privately with the student and could possibly be reported to supervising faculty and administration.

### Support Services

Covid-19 Vaccination Reporting:

<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/news/2021/action-required-covid-19-vaccination-reporting.html>

Covid-19 Testing:

<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/covid-19/covid-testing.html>

Information about the Coronavirus:

<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/covid-19/index.html>

Psychological Services Department (Mental Health Counseling):

<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/campus-life/health-services/psychological-services.html>

Student Services:

<https://www.reedleycollege.edu/student-services/index.html>