

NYAA CE Course Description: Fundamentals of Oil Painting

Instructor: Dennis Cheaney, www.dennischeaney.com, dennis.cheaney@faculty.nyaa.edu

Syllabus for First Time Online Students

Course Description:

In this class, conducted through web-based video conferencing, students will learn the fundamentals of oil painting. Through a series of projects done from prints of master works, we will consider foundational topics of observational drawing and painting. The class will proceed in a progressive manner with each project building on the previous one.

During the semester we will review drawing procedures, create a black and white oil painting and conclude with a multi-class painting in a limited color palette. Each class will be divided into a lecture or demonstration portion and a practice session. Lectures will be given with appropriate visuals or videos screen-shared with the students. Demonstrations will occur on major topics in which the students will create along with the instructor their own drawing or painting.

A practice session will occur each class where students will develop an assigned project on their own with instructor feedback given to each student. Topics will include: getting the right proportions, creating the illusion of volume in pencil and paint, and fundamentals of light and color theory.

Through email, the instructor will supply all prints of master works, lecture notes and give additional feedback. Optional homework and outside reading will be assigned so students may work independently to reinforce the concepts from class.

This course is intended for those students who have taken introductory courses in the past and would like to further develop their studio skills (little or no painting experience required). Students with more advanced training will find the review of the fundamentals rewarding.

Course Syllabus:

Week One: Drawing in Line: Proportion and Shape^[1]_{SEP}

While working from prints of master drawings supplied by the instructor, learn techniques to see the large shape and proportion.

Materials for tonight: All drawing supplies needed in class.

Week Two: Intro to Painting: Black and White, session 1 of 2

In this two session exercise, create a full value painting in black and white oil paint from a print of a still life. Tonight we will create a value scale and our thumbnail sketch. Also, start the oil painting.

Materials for tonight: Only black and white oil paints needed. All other painting supplies needed in class. One 8x10 or 9 x 12 inch canvas. Two 8x10 inch canvas boards. Masking tape (half inch), soft vine charcoal (three sticks), kneaded eraser and 12 inch plastic ruler (t-square or tape measure is okay).

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Week Three Intro to Painting: Black and White, session 2 of 2

Continue painting from the oil sketch, massing in large areas and adding smaller shapes into wet paint.

Materials for tonight: Only black and white oil paints needed. All other painting supplies needed in class. Canvas from week 2. The two 8x10 inch canvas boards from week 2.

Week Four: Intro to Color: Traditional Limited Palette^[1]_[SEP]

Create a color chart. Possibly start a color oil sketch.

Materials for tonight: All oil paints needed: black, white, Venetian red, burnt umber, yellow ochre, ultramarine blue. All other painting supplies needed in class. Bring back to class the two 8x10 inch canvas boards from week 2. Masking tape (half inch), soft vine charcoal (three sticks), kneaded eraser and 12 inch plastic ruler (t-square or tape measure is okay).

Week Five: Painting with Limited Color, session 1 of 2^[1]_[SEP]

In this two session exercise, create a color oil painting with a traditional limited palette from a print of a still-life painting.

Materials for tonight: All oil paints needed. All other painting supplies needed in class. One 8x10 or 9x12 canvas needed. Masking tape (half inch), soft vine charcoal (three sticks), and kneaded eraser. 8x10 inch canvas boards from week 2. Color chart from week 4.

Week Six : Painting with Limited Color, session 2 of 2^[1]_[SEP]

Continue with the painting started in week 5.

Materials for tonight: No new materials needed tonight. All oil paints needed. All other painting supplies needed in class. The canvas started in week 5. Color chart from week 4.