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ARTZ 221A.02: Painting I

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Spring 2014

The University of Montana, School of Art

ARTZ U 221.01A, Painting 1, 3 Credits

Prereq., ART 125/102/ARTZ106.

Instructor: Kevin Bell

Office: Room 413, Fine Art Building, kevin.bell@umontana.edu

Office Hours: Mondays, 12:00-2:00pm

Meeting times: 10:10-12:00pm, Mondays and Wednesdays, FA 404

TEXTBOOK: Marilyn Scott. The Oil Painter's Bible. Book Sales, 2005. Please order through Amazon.com or similar web site. The bookstore currently only has a limited number of copies.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Acrylic and oil painting emphasizing composition and application of color theory. Research in historical and contemporary theories.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND FORMAT: This course is designed to introduce the craft, materials and conceptual issues of painting. No prior painting experience is assumed. Two major areas will be addressed in this course, often simultaneously, sometimes more independently: 1) Basic technical aspects of paint handling and manipulation, color theory and mixing. 2) Exploration of critical and conceptual concerns, such as visual problem solving and development of personal expression and visual language. While technique and content are both essential to creating art, some assignments and projects will focus more strongly on one than the other. I encourage you to keep an open mind to all.

In class: The majority of the class time will be spent painting with individual instruction. Interspersed throughout the term will be various demonstrations, group critiques and lectures. Critiques in particular are valuable to artists at all stages of their career. These discussions allow students to learn from each other and their instructor, evaluate themselves, and to utilize their growing visual vocabulary. I will guide these discussions and offer my feedback, but ultimately expect the class as a whole to speak more than myself in response to each other's artwork. Your participation is essential to make these meaningful and engaging experiences.

Homework: Expect to spend 5 hours a week outside of class. Occasionally I will have you complete exercises over the weekend, but most of your homework will consist of continuing with painting assignments initiated in class. I will often briefly meet with each of you towards the end of Wednesday's class to discuss your weekend work. If you are not sure what you need to be doing over the weekend, make sure you come see me before you leave on Wednesday's class. This studio is available for your use when no other class is meeting. (No classes are scheduled in this studio on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and are a perfect time to work.)

PARTICIPATION. Participation is an important part of this course, and you will be expected to be engaged in every class. Please make sure you show up with all material each class. Critiques are valuable to artists at all stages of their career. These discussions allow students to learn from each other and their instructor, evaluate themselves, and to utilize their growing visual vocabulary. I will guide these discussions and offer my feedback, but ultimately expect the class as a whole to speak more than myself in response to each other's artwork. Please come ready to talk and offer your insights and suggestions.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Grades will reflect

- Quality of work (70%)
 - Completion of assignment with a high level of commitment.
 - Understanding of new concepts
 - Willingness to take chances
- Participation (30%)
 - Attendance
 - Contributions to critiques
 - Classroom etiquette, and facility care

If you are present, engaged and working to understand new things, progress will come inevitably.

I will give you verbal feedback on each of your paintings during scheduled group critiques and through written comments on completed assignments. A final one-on-one critique will be scheduled at the end of term to discuss your work. Additionally, I would be happy to meet before this to discuss your progress if you wish.

ATTENDANCE: Success in painting is almost entirely a function of effort. It is important to arrive on time, with all materials, and be ready to work. Usually at the beginning of each class I will discuss important concepts and issues that will guide the day's assignment, and each assignment builds on previous work. **It is therefore nearly impossible to make up missed class and it is essential that you are committed to arriving on time and attending every class.** More than 3 missed classes or consistent lateness will result in a lowered grade. (For example, from B+ to B).

If you miss a class, please ask a fellow classmate about what you missed. It is often very hard to find a time to meet and summarize the class for you. I ask that you have the email of at least one fellow classmate you can contact. I will post all lectures and assignments on Moodle.

Two hours go by quickly in a studio so it is also important that you are set up and ready to go by classtime. Information about assignments is usually discussed at the beginning of the class and it is distracting to others to be setting up late.

Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://life.umt.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>.

Disabling Condition:

“The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability for Students (DSS). If you think you have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you are not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation”

Withdrawal Policy

Specifics available at this web address: <http://www2.umt.edu/catalog/acpolpro.htm>

Health and Safety

The UM Art Department uses environmentally sound methods. Required materials from your supply list are in compliance, with the exception of Gamsol. Gamsol is the only allowable solvent in the painting area because of its relatively low aromatic vapors and evaporation rate (20% in three hours). Even still, do not leave any container of Gamsol open for a prolonged period. All other solvents, including turpentine and Odorless Mineral Spirits are prohibited. You are individually responsible for clean up at the end of each session in this classroom (either in or out of class time). Use of the woodshop power tools is voluntary, and all users must complete a power tool orientation. No creatures or children will be allowed in the studios during class time or open studio times. No food or beverage containers will be allowed in the Art Department facilities when art-making is in progress. All art work must be picked up by the Monday after finals week or it will be discarded.

Building Access

The use of studio space requires current enrollment in a specific studio course, as course fees are used to purchase supplies. Those not currently enrolled will be asked to leave. Building hours are 7:00am to 11:00pm daily. Fridays are open studio day in the art building—no classes are scheduled.

Art Student Collective

The collective is a student-organized and student-led group that sponsors art-related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Members meet regularly. Look for informational posters in the Art Building.

Events in the Department

<http://umartdepartment.wordpress.com>

Please sign up for the School of Art Facebook Page—look for “GrizArt”