ARTZ 221A.01: Painting I

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Course Information

Painting I
ARTZ 221A 01
33558
3 Credits
Spring 2024

Instructor Information

Steven Krutek
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Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Room 3412, Fine Arts Building (FA)

Class Meeting Time

T, TH: 1:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Course Description and Course Objectives

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.

Paintings can be executed with acrylics or oils. Though, I do recommend oil paint. Even though this medium may initially be more difficult to control than acrylic, I feel that conquering such lack of control in oil helps with progressing further with painting in general.

*Materials may be purchased at your local art supply store—I recommend Frame of Mind. If you prefer ordering online, use Dick Blick: [https://www.dickblick.com/](https://www.dickblick.com/) or Amazon.* Please see the SUPPLY LIST document on the introduction page of Moodle, which lists all the materials that are required for this course. Please also let me know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this document.

**Workload:** Expect to spend 5 hours a week painting, outside of the time you spend in class. You will have approximately two weeks to complete most assignments, with the exception of one assignment in April and the final project. All told, you will be completing seven painting assignments for this course.

*Format*

Techniques and concepts will be introduced in class but may be supplemented with video lectures/demonstrations, image galleries, and occasionally through assigned readings on Moodle. Critiques will occur in class.

*Learning Outcomes*
Creative Thinking: Knowledge and competence in creative problem-solving as it relates to meaningful visual, audio and narrative communication.

Critical Thinking: Knowledge and competence in the ability to analyze creative content from the past and present, and articulate the cultural and social impacts.

Technical Skills: Knowledge and competence in technical skills and basic processes in a variety of media, appropriate for chosen field of study.

Creative Literacy/Language/Informed Aesthetic: Demonstrate knowledge of audio, visual and/or narrative language in both creation and analysis of creative work, which include stylistic, comparative, historical and formal analysis.

Course Workload

You will find a syllabus below, which lists the concepts we will undertake by the week. Expect at least five hours of work outside of class per week for completion of projects and assignments. Individual and/or group critiques may coincide with the completion of the art assignments. Students are required to thoroughly evaluate their own artwork, others’ artwork, as well as understand/accept criticism given by others.

To be successful in this class, each student must:

Participate with all materials/resources

Actively participate with individual and group discussions concerning work

Complete all assignments on time

Keep notes on technical information

Help maintain a safe, clean, and organized studio

FYI: I will not accept work turned in for another course
Syllabus

Weeks 1 and 2 (January 18 - January 28): Warm-Up Paintings

Weeks 3 and 4 (January 29 – February 11): Distorted Self-Portraits

Weeks 5 and 6 (February 12 – February 25): Color-Mixing Abstractions

Weeks 7 and 8 (February 26 – March 10): Saturation Still-Life

Weeks 9, 10, 11 (March 11 – April 7): Interiors

SPRING BREAK (MARCH 16 – MARCH 24)

Week 12 (April 8 - April 14): Experimental/Timed Painting

Week 13, 14, 15 (April 15 – May 5): People Come First Portrait Assignment

May 9, 1:10 PM: Our designated final meeting day and time

Materials

Painting I requires you to purchase your own supplies, which I recommend you do very soon through an online vendor such as Dick Blick, Amazon, etc. Below you will find a supply list. PLEASE take notice of the following:

- You are not required to purchase all your supplies at once, as indicated below.
- Some of your supplies you may already have, which you are more than welcome to use. Also, some supplies can be found at places other than an art supply store, like a hardware store.
- The brand names for all supplies and the brush sizes are simply recommendations. You are welcome to use brushes you already have or brands for which you have a stronger allegiance.

THE LIST:

What you will need to purchase/acquire during the first week of Painting I
• Acrylic Ivory Black 37ml, Golden brand is recommended
• Acrylic Titanium White 37ml, Golden brand is recommended

• Acrylic Gesso White, at least 1 pint, either Golden or Utrecht brand
• Fine-grit sandpaper

• Brushes: Connoisseur Synthetic: #12 round, #6 round, #2 flat
• 1 Cheap 2-inch brush for gesso
• Surface to paint on: canvas board(s), or heavy paper like Arches or Reeve’s BFK.
• Painter’s tape—I recommend the Frog Tape brand
• Water container, such as a yogurt container
• Palette knife, preferably with a “bent” handle
• Palette: any large, non-absorbent, flat portable surface will work. For example: enamel coated or varnished wood, cookie sheet, thick glass with tapered or taped edges, an old window, Plexiglas, or disposable palettes. Try to acquire a surface that is 20” x 20” or larger
• Painting materials storage box (optional)
• Wear Clothes that you can get paint on!

What you will need later in the course (you do not have to buy right now)

Acrylic Paint (37 ml tubes), Golden brand is recommended

• Ultramarine Blue or Cobalt Blue
• Cadmium Red Light
• Cadmium Yellow
• Ivory Black

• White Acrylic Gesso, either Golden or Utrecht. You may want to share a gallon-size with another student to save money.

Oil Paint
Oil paint is the preferred type of paint for this class. However, we will be using acrylic paint for early assignments and under-paintings, as it is less toxic. If you already have a substantial amount of acrylic paint, you may use acrylics entirely, but check with me first.

**Oil Paint** Pick up 37ml tubes, (except for white). M. Graham paint is recommended.

- Cadmium Red Light or Red Medium
- Ultramarine Blue
- Cadmium Yellow Medium or Hansa Yellow
- Bright Purple, such as Dioxide Purple
- Viridian Green
- Burnt Umber
- Burnt Siena
- Titanium White (large 50ml Tube)

Note: Cadmiums and Cobalts tend to be very expensive but very beautiful. You can substitute a cheaper version, such as a “Hue” or similar color if you wish. Try to avoid Quinacridone or Phthalo colors, as they are strongly staining and hard to control.

Optional colors

- Cerulean Blue
- Cobalt Blue
- Alizarin Crimson
- Yellow Ochre

**Brushes**

Connoisseur Synthetic
• #12 bright or flat
• 2–#6 bright or flat
• #6 round
• #2 flat
• 1 Cheap 2-inch brush for gesso. (You can pick this up at a hardware store)

Solvents

• For Oil: 16 oz Gamisol ONLY. Terpenoid, Odorless mineral spirits (OMS), low-grade mineral spirits and turpentine are prohibited due to their toxicity.
• For Acrylic: water

Paint Medium

• For Oil: 75 ml Liquin
  Linseed or walnut oil
• For Acrylics: Matte or Gloss Heavy-body Glazing Medium

Support (or surface)

Do not buy all ahead of time. I will let you know which support you will need for each assignment.

• Quality paper, such as Reeve’s BFK or Arches. Mount with tape on a hard board.
• Un-tempered Masonite
• High-finish plywood, like birch or mahogany door veneer
• Canvas Boards
• Pre-stretched canvas
• Canvas and Stretcher bars
Miscellaneous

- Liquid dish soap
- Metal Medium cup with screw cover
- Lidded jars
- Soap, either Murphy’s Oil Soap or Master Brush cleaner
- Gloves
- Charcoal, pencil and sketch book
- Paper towels or rags

Textbooks (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)


Marylin Scott. The Oil Painter’s Bible, published by Search Press Ltd.

You can get these used or new through Amazon or another book dealer of your choice (I recommend AbeBooks.com).

Grading and Assessment

Late work is not accepted. If you have an extenuating circumstance, please contact the instructor. Extra credit is not offered for this course.

A total number of points will be formulated from studio projects, written critiques/reflections, and class attendance. The percentage of points earned will be assigned letter grades as follows:
100-93 = A
92-90 = A-
89-88 = B+
87-83 = B
82-80 = B-
79-78 = C+
77-73 = C
72-70 = C-
69-68 = D+
67-63 = D
62-60 = D-
59-BELOW = F

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”—please see below
  - Contributions to critiques
  - Online etiquette and care in presentation of your work

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

***I am always willing to discuss your work with you on an individual basis; you’ll just have to reach out to me in person or through my e-mail
Attendance/Absence Policy

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time and be in class for its entire duration. All absences regardless of cause (sleeping in/travel/medical emergency/family emergency), follow the guidelines below:

+ Two absences/late arrivals/leaving early = No grade change
+ Three to four absences/late arrivals/leaving early = One full grade drop
+ Five to six absences/late arrivals/leaving early = Two full grades dropped
+ More than six absences/late arrivals/leaving early = Retake course

Lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and instructions missed will not be repeated; the absent student must obtain notes and information from another student.

Cell Phone Policy

Please refrain from using your cell phone in class, unless the instructor has given permission for the sake of visual and/or other related research. If you need to answer or make a call, please do so by excusing yourself from the classroom in an unobtrusive manner.

Extra Credit Policy

There will be no extra credit offered for this course.

General Health and Safety Policies
The UM School of Art uses environmentally-sound methods. Spray fixatives may not be used inside the studio/classroom facilities. They may be used outside or in an approved spray booth. Acrylic media are water-based and acceptable.

You will be individually responsible for clean up at the end of each of your classroom working periods, both during and between classes.

During the last week of the semester students will removing all studio work from the art facilities. No work should remain in the building beyond the end of the semester.

No creatures or children under the age of 18 will be allowed in studio during class time or open studio times.

No food or open beverage containers are allowed in the School of Art facilities when art-making is in progress. Students may take a snack break by stepping out of the studio/classroom in necessary and approved.

The use of studio space requires enrollment in a specific studio course or a course that incorporates studio practices. Hours are from 7 AM – 10 PM daily. However, you should have access to the Fine Arts building at anytime with your Griz Card.

Covid-19 Policy-

The University of Montana may require masks for every course being held in a classroom, lab, or studio until otherwise informed.

If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please don’t come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.

If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress. If such support is necessary the instructor will work out a plan directly with the student to serve his, her, or their needs.

UM recommends students get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center.
Where social distancing (maintaining consistent 6 feet between individuals) is not possible, specific seating arrangements may be used to support contact tracing efforts.

Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom.

Mask use may be required in vehicles when traveling to field sites as part of class/fieldwork.

**Land Acknowledgement**

The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people. Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.

**Inclusion Policies**

The University of Montana values leadership, engagement, diversity, and sustainability, because our institution is committed to respect, welcome, encourage, and celebrate the differences among us. As members of the University of Montana community, we aspire to:

Respect the dignity and rights of all persons.

Practice honesty, trustworthiness, and academic integrity.

Promote justice, learning, individual success, and service.

Act as good stewards of institutional resources.

Respect the natural environment.

The College of the Arts and Media at the University of Montana, has chosen to actively pursue equity and access for all persons. In this charge we will be researching, planning, and implementing ways in which our culture can be more accessible, inclusive, equitable, sustainable. It is not enough to be anti-bias in principle without being equitable in action. We will implement these
actions organized by a group of students, faculty, and staff across the entire College in an ongoing way.

**Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code**

This Code of Conduct embodies and promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, and duties associated with citizenship as a student in our community at the University of Montana. This Code exists to protect the interests of the community and dignity of its members, and to challenge those behaviors which are not in accordance with our policies. The Code is available for review online at [https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf](https://staging.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/student-code-of-conduct-2021-pdf)

**Accommodations**

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting the DSS office. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). For more information, please consult [http://www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability).

**The Writing and Public Speaking Center**

Provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process. Visit now. Visit often. We’re ready when you are. [www.umt.edu/writingcenter](http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter).

**Mental Health and Well-Being Policy**

The University of Montana is committed to advancing the mental health and wellbeing of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of support, services are available. For help, visit [https://www.umt.edu/diversity/resources/mental-health.php](https://www.umt.edu/diversity/resources/mental-health.php)
Stay Connected

Please join SVMA (School of Visual and Media Arts) social media to stay informed about events and happenings in our school.

Instagram:  https://www.instagram.com/umt_svma/

Facebook:  https://www.facebook.com/UMTsvma

Student Art Collective (this is primarily for art students): The collective is a student–organized and student-led group that sponsors art related workshops, events, and the Annual Juried Student Art Show. Look for informational posters.

Content Notification

Art scholarship and art practice along with teaching and learning involve a critical exploration of ideas, theories, art-making practices, and art movements that encompass such things as the human body, sexuality, race, gender, religions, and cultures. This course can touch upon any of the above categories with an expectation that students will actively participate in all course assignments, discussions, and tests. Given this information, it is the student’s obligation to determine that the requirements conflict with his or her core beliefs. If the student determines that there is a conflict with his or her beliefs, one of the following actions needs to be taken: 1) drop the class before the last day to drop a course without penalty; 2) meet with the instructor within the first week of classes to determine if an accommodation can be made. (Note, faculty are not required to grant content accommodations.)