

**CUYAMACA COLLEGE**  
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

**ART 121 – PAINTING I**

2 hours lecture, 4 hours laboratory, 3 units

**Catalog Description**

Emphasizes painting tools, materials, techniques and color principles. Students will develop skill in handling form, space, and the plastic aspects of acrylic and/or oil paints.

**Prerequisite**

ART 120

**Entrance Skills**

Without the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge, students entering this course will be highly unlikely to succeed:

- 1) Make and evaluate designs and colors using the terms on the official ART 120 vocabulary list
- 2) Apply control over compositions using balance, major divisions eye movement, emphasis, scale and format selection
- 3) Calculate and apply the golden section (0.618) and bioptic vision (0.75) proportions to compositions
- 4) Have a basic understanding of subtractive color theory and paint mixing
- 5) Have a basic understanding of color harmony
- 6) Enlarge, reduce and transfer compositions from working drawings to finished drawing

**Course Objectives**

Students will be able to:

- 1) Analyze, critique and make paintings using the official ART 121 vocabulary list
- 2) Develop knowledge of painting techniques from all cultures and time periods
- 3) Select, use, clean and maintain acrylic and/or oil painting tools and materials
- 4) Select and apply acrylic and/or oil paints and additives
- 5) Select, make, use and maintain acrylic and oil painting supports
- 6) Identify and mix traditional subtractive acrylic and/or oil colors
- 7) Select color harmonies and contrasts with acrylic and/or oil paints
- 8) Paint realistic and representational images using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 9) Select and render lines, positive shapes and negative spaces with acrylic and/or oil paints
- 10) Select and render realistic and artists' textures using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 11) Improve hand and eye coordination
- 12) Work in a safe and ecological manner
- 13) Develop a portfolio of paintings

**Special Materials Required of Student**

- 1) Color wheel and value finder
- 2) Paint brushes, paints (acrylic and/or oil), paint mediums and solvents
- 3) Palette knife, paint mixing palette
- 4) Paper, boards and masonite panels
- 5) Canvas and stretcher bars
- 6) Centimeter ruler

**Minimum Instructional Facilities**

Studio with large flat tables, easels, taborets and bright lighting, wall space with bulletin boards, protective gloves, safe ventilation, fire-safe oil waste can, fire-safe solvent can and fire-proof storage cabinet, outside spray booth, computer system, overhead projector, 35mm slide projector and AV screen, marker boards, Rotatrim paper cutter, mat cutter and cutting mats, painting storage racks, woodworking tools, pencil sharpeners.

**Course Content**

- 1) Use visual images of fine art paintings related to both genders and all cultures and time periods to illustrate painting concepts
- 2) Define and apply the terms on the official ART 121 vocabulary lists
- 3) Describe the influence of old and new technologies on painting
- 4) Describe the business applications of painting
- 5) Define and apply the copyright law as applicable to artists
- 6) Describe the history of oil and acrylic paint and painting
- 7) Define, recognize and apply fundamental color concepts using acrylic and/or oil paints:
  - a. Pigment vs. light theory
  - b. Visible light spectrum
  - c. Influence of light temperature on color
  - d. Color dimensions: hue, value and intensity
  - e. Absolute and relative color temperature

- f. Color orders: 12/18/24 color wheels and light spectrum order
  - g. Standard color names: primary, secondary, intermediate, tints, tones, shades, chromatic whites, grays and blacks and broken colors
- 8) Define, recognize and apply fundamental acrylic and oil paint concepts:
- a. History of oil and acrylic painting
  - b. Paint vehicles: oil and acrylic
  - c. Paint pigments: dyes, minerals, clays, oxides and metals
  - d. Paint compatibility, miscibility and stability of consistency
  - e. Paint tinting strength, hiding power and transparent
  - f. Paint permanence (lightfast vs. fugitive)
  - g. Acrylic paint modifiers: compatibility, thinning and mixing (glazing liquids, flow releaser, gels, retards, etc.)
  - h. Oil paint modifiers: compatibility, thinning and mixing (varnishes, waxes, oils, turpentine, etc.)
  - i. Paint toxicity related to humans and the environment with prevention's and alternative materials and techniques
- 9) Define, recognize and apply fundamental acrylic and oil painting support and ground concepts:
- a. Strengths and weaknesses of different types of painting supports and grounds
  - b. Prevention and remedies of warped supports
  - c. How to square a painting support
  - d. Selection, preparation and uses of paper grounds, wood and masonite grounds and canvas and linen grounds
- 10) Define, recognize and apply fundamental acrylic and/or oil painting tool concepts:
- a. Brush selection: hair types, sizes, shapes, cleaning and care
  - b. Palette and mixing knives
  - c. Tube wingers
  - d. Mahlstick
  - e. Paint mixing palettes
  - f. Canvas pliers
  - g. Hammer and canvas tacks
  - h. Staple gun
  - i. Miter box and saw
  - j. Screw drivers
  - k. Framing square
- 11) Define, recognize and apply painting safety concepts and ecological work habits:
- a. Care, cleaning and standard safety practices of art, painting and general shop tools used in the painting studio
  - b. Use and care of standard safety equipment (gloves, goggles, face shields, respirators)
  - c. Safe cutting procedures for paper, canvas and wood
  - d. Read and follow the health warnings on art products and tools
  - e. Read and follow the "Material Data Safety Sheets" on all art products
  - f. Problems caused by eating and drinking in the art studio
  - g. Problems and preventions of inhaling, ingesting and absorbing harmful chemicals used in art products and processes
  - h. Problems and solutions for selecting, storing and using harmful and dangerous chemicals associated with art painting
  - i. Preventing fire hazards and explosions in the art studio
  - j. Ecological disposal of paints and solvents in an art studio environment
- 12) Develop brush, hand and eye coordination:
- a. Practice hard edges with thick and thin lines using a flat brush
  - b. Practice soft edges with thick strokes using a flat brush
  - c. Practice sgraffito with thick strokes using a flat brush
  - d. Practice blending strokes using a flat brush
  - e. Practice overlaid strokes using a small flat brush
  - f. Practice thin and thick strokes using a round brush
  - g. Practice palette knife strokes
  - h. Practice making straight edges with masks
- 13) Define, identify and mix traditional acrylic and/or oil hues through subtractive mixing:
- a. Arranging colors on the palette
  - b. Neutral grays: (#2,#3,#4,#5,#6,#7,#8)
  - c. Secondary and intermediate hues
  - d. Tints and shades
  - e. Tones with and without hue value changes
  - f. Chromatic whites, grays and blacks
  - g. Broken colors
  - h. Methods of reducing hue intensity by mixing: colors that contain all three primaries, complementary colors or mixing with colors that are already broken
  - i. Using glazing to change intensity
  - j. Mix paints to match local color of objects in the real world
- 14) Define and apply traditional opaque acrylic and/or oil painting applications:
- a. Preliminary washes
  - b. Wet-into-wet
  - c. Scumbling
  - d. Impasto
  - e. Sgraffito
  - f. Dry brush

- g. Glazing
- 15) Define, select and apply value ranges (achromatic and chromatic) using acrylic and/or oil paint
  - a. Full range
  - b. High key
  - c. Middle key
  - d. Low key
  - e. Extreme contrast
  - f. Silhouette
- 16) Define and apply acrylic and/or oil painting techniques to cause pictorial depth and the illusion of form:
  - a. Push and pull of extreme value contrast and hue temperature contrasts
  - b. One and two point scientific perspective
  - c. Atmospheric perspective (shifts in focus, value contrast, hue temperature)
  - d. Shading with gradients of value and hue
  - e. Highlighting with a specific light source (highlight, light, shadow, core of the shadow, reflected light, cast shadow) using gradients of value and hue
- 17) Define and apply acrylic and/or oil painting techniques to cause texture:
  - a. Artist's textures caused by the method of paint application and/or the physical texture of the support
  - b. Methods of rendering realistic textures with paint
- 18) Define, identify and select color harmonies using acrylic and/or oil paint:
  - a. Monochromatic and analogous
  - b. Contrast of hue
  - c. Contrast of value
  - d. Contrast of intensity
  - e. Contrast of extension
  - f. Complementary contrast (dyads and tetrads)
  - g. Split complement
- 19) Methods of creating emphasis with focal points and secondary focal points using acrylic and/or oil paint:
  - a. Contrast of value
  - b. Contrast of intensity
  - c. Contrast of extension
- 20) Define, identify and select formats to enhance painting compositions:
  - a. Format unity with the major division
  - b. External scale (micro, normal figure ground, macro)
  - c. Bioptic vision (0.75) and golden section (0.618) formats

#### **Method of Instruction**

- 1) Lectures with transparencies, 35mm slides, video, video discs, films and/or computer projections
- 2) Instructor demonstrations with live performances, transparencies, 35mm slides, videos, video discs, films and/or computer projections
- 3) Assignments: reading, classroom, homework, studio, Internet
- 4) Individual student conferences
- 5) Master copies
- 6) Student art exhibitions
- 7) Term papers
- 8) Field trips

#### **Method of Evaluation**

A uniformly applied grading system will be established in writing and distributed to all students. The instructor will use multiple measurements to determine students' intellectual understanding of the official ART 121 vocabulary and concepts as well as their application and craft in specific paintings. Instructor must have a written final exam that covers the official ART 121 vocabulary list. Grading options include:

- 1) Attendance and participation in studio cleanup, safety procedures, classroom discussion, field trips, student art exhibitions
- 2) Individual student conferences or skill demonstrations
- 3) Quantity, quality of assignments (homework, classroom, studio)
- 4) Verbal or written critiques by student of studio projects or artworks
- 5) Quizzes (written) or tests (objective)
- 6) Term papers

#### **Texts and References**

- 1) Required: None
- 2) Supplemental: None

#### **Exit Skills**

Students having successfully completed this course exit with the following skills, competencies and/or knowledge:

- 1) Select and evaluate painting tools, materials and techniques using the terms on the official ART 121 vocabulary list
- 2) Make realistic and representational paintings using acrylic and/or oil mediums
- 3) Make acrylic and/or oil painting supports and grounds
- 4) Mix and paint achromatic grays, secondaries, intermediates, tints, tones, shades, broken colors and chromatic whites, grays and blacks using acrylic and/or oil paint

- 5) Paint depth with value gradients and atmospheric perspective using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 6) Select colors based on color chords, harmonies and contrasts using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 7) Make focal points using color selection for unity and diversity using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 8) Control external scales in paintings for unity and diversity using acrylic and/or oil paints
- 9) Control painting formats for unity and diversity
- 10) Make watercolor paintings using safe and ecological studio practices