

# PAINTING I

**Instructor:** Deirdre Murphy

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Office Hours: Monday 10-12 & by appointment

**Course Information:**

Art 135

Fall 2020

Tues / Thurs 11:15 - 1:55

Building C

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to painting with emphasis on color theory, formal principles, content and expression. The course will explore the technical application of paint as well as the impact of a range of compositional and color strategies. Working from direct observation, students will develop perceptual skills to create convincing color relationships of form in space. The studio course assignments will be supported by lectures that introduce both contemporary and historical precedents in painting.

**Course Content**

1. Introduction of Color Theory: color wheel, theories of additive and subtractive color, color mixing, pigments and their characteristics, contrast of hue, value and saturation.
2. Technical aspects of painting: pigments, mediums, solvents, construction of support, preparing canvas, and paint handling.
3. Construction of the pictorial field: composition, translation of 3D to 2D in color, figure ground relationship, volume and mass, light and volume, edge and contour, spatial strategies.
4. Content: the relationship between formal issues and content.
5. Color organization:
  - i. Color and its complement, Mineral Inorganic vs. Modern Organic pigments.
  - ii. Venetian/Classical palette
  - iii. Primary palette
  - iv. Other color schemes: analogous, warm and cool, monochromatic,
  - v. Paint handling: fat over lean, direct paint handling-benefits of simplification with a la prima, impasto.
6. Context: Painting methods, art history, studio practices, conceptual thinking and formal issues.
7. Sketchbook and preparatory process, thumbnail process and planning.

## **Course Learning Objectives**

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Demonstrate how to paint perceptually with great skill
- Solve visual problems utilizing color, form and content as analytical tools
- Create well composed and innovative paintings
- Clearly understand the principles of color theory
- Confidently use painting vocabulary to analyze art

## **Expectations**

This class is a “maker-class” where we learn by doing, however each concept will be introduced with a slide show of art historical, contemporary and student examples paired with technical demonstration. At the end of each concept we will critique student work and completed projects will be graded as well as some in-class short assignments. This is an energetic, engaged learning environment where students are encouraged to take risks and challenge their understanding of painting.

## **Online Etiquette**

Video cameras must be on at all times. Name must appear on your zoom screen. Please don't eat on screen or lay in bed while attending class. We will be drawing and critiquing art work during our class sessions. You will be expected to critique your peers' work on our class blog site and will be working in smaller “break out” groups on zoom where participation is mandatory.

**Lab Fee:** Enrolling in this course requires the payment of a \$100 Studio Lab Fee to be charged through the Bursar. This fee will be used to supply the student with most of the materials required to complete the course. Students will be expected to purchase additional materials as needed based on their individual studio projects.

## **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Lehigh University is committed to maintaining an equitable and inclusive community and welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting accommodations, please contact both your instructor and the Office of Academic Support Services, Williams Hall, Suite 301 (610-758-4152) as early as possible in the semester. You must have documentation from the Academic Support Services office before accommodations can be granted. For more information or to request services, please contact Disability Support Services in person in Williams Hall, Suite 301, via phone at 610-758-4152, via email at [indss@lehigh.edu](mailto:indss@lehigh.edu), or online at <https://studentaffairs.lehigh.edu/disabilit>

## **Environment**

Lehigh University endorses The Principles of Our Equitable Community. We expect each member of this class to acknowledge and practice these Principles. Respect for each other and for differing viewpoints is a vital component of the learning environment inside and outside the classroom.

## **Academic Integrity**

If a portion of your work (ie: artist statement & research presentations) is not your own, you must cite the source completely. Images are also copyrighted. Even when you utilize “copy-free” work from Wikimedia Commons, there are rules for how the author is to be credited. See the Library Tutorials for Research Success.

## **Attendance / Grading / Cell Phone Policy**

Punctuality and attendance is mandatory for each class. New concepts will be introduced daily, as well as discussions and demonstrations that cannot be made up. More than three unexcused absences will result in a grade drop and a Section 3 report will be issued. Three unexcused tardies is considered an absence. A doctor's, deans or judge letter must accompany excused absences. Homework that is turned in late will drop a half letter for each day that it is late. It is the student's responsibility to find out missed assignments. Use of phones for texting and calls is strictly prohibited during class time. Students may listen to headphones with one earbud only so that you can listen to class instructions.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

- Attendance 55%
- Completion & quality of class work 40%
- Critique Skills/Participation 5%

## **Homework**

Students are expected to do a minimum of 3 homework hours per week. Weekly classes will begin with a critique of the homework assignment. Verbal participation during critiques is required. Students may resubmit projects for an improved grade resulting in an average of original and final re-submitted grade. Please discuss with instructor. Attendance of LUAG events & visiting artist lectures is extra credit.

## **Studio Maintenance & Safety**

This is a shared low toxicity painting studio. Proper low toxicity studio methods will be taught for solvent recycling, rag disposal and daily studio clean-up. These studio maintenance rules must be strictly observed for your safety and others. Improper clean-up and repeated negligence will result in grade reduction. No eating in the studio.

**RESOURCE MATERIALS** \*\*\*\*PDF files or links can be found on Course Site

David Batchelor, Colour, Documents of Contemporary Art, MIT Press

Albers, Joseph, Interaction of Color, Rev. Ed. New Haven, Conn. Yale University Press 1975

Arnheim, Rudolf, Visual Thinking, University of California, 1969

Itten, Johannes, The Elements of Color, Edl. Faber Birren. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold,

**Assignment Schedule** \* Instructor may modify material or schedule. All changes will be announced in class.

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
Aug 25	Introduction to course, supplies & syllabus & blog	Pick up art kit supplies
Aug 27	Introduction to student team research project & LUAG Art Stor	Color Wheel & Chromatic Black studies on canvas paper
Sept 1-3	Color Theory & Application Hue, Value, Chroma / Chromatic Black & How to Photograph Artwork	Color Lab #1 / GRID Grid assignment on canvas paper. Listen to Radio Lab Color
Sept 8-10	Gray Painting / Imprimatur toned canvas using canvas & brushes Introduce Collaborative USPS Mail Art Project	Color Lab #2 Gray abstraction color study. Painting Palette paper & palette knife
Sept 15-17	Finish Gray Painting / Value, temperature, edge control to create form, volume and composition.	Color Lab #3 / Chromatic Black Abstraction/ Homage to Rothko
Sept 22-24	Complementary Contrast / Contemporary + Modern Painters that use the grid as a formal and conceptual framework *****Field Trip Virtual Museum Tour	Critique Gray paintings + Color Lab studies
Sept 20- Oct 1	Complementary Contrast. Liquid Soap Bottles Painting with neutral and saturated colors	Midterm Portfolio Due Tonal Painting
Oct 6-8	Complementary Contrast. Liquid Soap Bottles	Chroma Painting
Oct 13-15	Complementary Contrast. Liquid Soap Bottles Monochromatic color study lecture / Albers	Color Lab #4 / Monochromatic Homage to the Square Albers studies
Oct 20-22	Finish Complementary Liquid Soap Bottles *****Field Trip Virtual Museum Tour	Finish Color Lab
Oct 27-29	Master Reproduction / Color Distribution Striped Abstraction	Library Field Trip
Nov 3-5	Master Reproduction / Color Distribution Striped Abstraction	Finish Master Reproduction
Nov 10-12	Intro to Contemporary Practice / color & space & content *****Field Trip Virtual Museum Tour	MOMa & Metropolitan Museum
Nov 17-19	Final Project	Cumulative Final Project
Nov 24-26	Thanksgiving Break	Relax & Reboot!

Dec 1-3	Final project completion & Final Critique	Mandatory Critique Attendance
Dec 18	Grades Due	Pickup work & supplies