

Disclaimer: This is an indicative syllabus only and may be subject to changes. The final and official syllabus will be distributed by the Instructor during the first day of class.

The American University of Rome **Fine Arts Program**

Department or degree program mission statement, student learning objectives, as appropriate

Course Title:	Painting Techniques I
Course Number:	ART 115
Credits & hours:	3 credits – 4 hours
Pre/Co-Requisites:	ART 101 or ART 102 or permission of the instructor

Course description

This introductory course introduces students to the techniques of painting in water-based and /or oil-based colors. The complexity of the artist's craft will be introduced through a series of gradually scaled exercises; for example, students will learn how to make preparatory drawings for transfer to the canvas. Other projects include an introduction to imprimaturas, the function of grisaille and skill of working with glazes. The course culminates in participation in a public exhibition of student work.

Entry Fees:

Course fee (includes materials) Euro 75. Students are also responsible for all entry fees.

Required Textbook (subject to change)

- An Introduction to Art Techniques (covers all techniques) by Ray Smith
ISBN: 789451514

Recommended Readings (subject to change)

Johannes Itten, 1973. The Art of Color: The Subjective Experience and Objective Rationale of Color. Van Nostrand Reinhold. New York. Giorgio Vasari et al. 1998. The Lives of the Artists (Oxford World's Classics) Oxford University Press. Oxford.

Course Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. experiment skillfully with technical issues such as abstraction, non-objectivity, figurative expression and realism using the given technical possibilities
2. analyze and critique their own work and another painter's work
3. produce a portfolio of drawings and paintings and other elements of high quality (as indicated in "Course Content" below) demonstrating coherence of compositional achievement
4. demonstrate independent decision-making and critical thinking skills
5. demonstrate well developed aesthetic values and oral and written communication skills through written and oral course components
6. show evidence of the development of creativity and personal artistic awareness;
7. demonstrate skill in preparing a studio for an exhibition, and selecting their own works of art

Course Learning Activities

- **Portfolio:** Creating a portfolio of paintings done in class and outside of class time. Personal Color Notebook including notes, sketches, color related information and personal ideas on the use of color. Educational Goal 1 specifies a Personal Color Notebook. A sketchbook or color journal will be kept for work done both inside and outside the studio. These must be presented at the midterm and final critiques. The Personal Color Notebook must relate to their class work also and have written comments about their ideas and the works of the great masters. The Personal Color Notebook is evidence of the official extra class work of two hours per week of student time dedicated to course educational goals.
Portfolio: All works of art produced under Educational Goals 1 & 2 are compiled in a portfolio. Students must produce at least 16 works (of which at least 13 are elaborated works while the rest can be preparatory) and covering the specific elements (listed above in the Educational Goals) and the Personal Color Notebook. In relation to the Minor in Fine Arts, these works and other selected pieces can contribute to the final personal Portfolio.
FINAL PROJECT IN PAINTING (TO BE DONE OUTSIDE CLASS TIME): PLEASE PICK A ROMAN THEME OF YOUR CHOICE (E.G. WATER, FOUNTAINS, ROADS, RUINS, SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF HISTORICAL PERIODS – BAROQUE, RENAISSANCE, NEO CLASSICAL ETC..) PLEASE BEGING THIS AT LEAST 3 WEEKS BEFORE FINAL REVIEW. IT WILL BE REVIEWED AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER AND BE PART OF THE FINAL GRADE.
- **Research Essay:** Students will do a research paper of 5 pages, on the work of a modern artist of their own choice. The student must explain why they have chosen this artist, describe the artist's work in a critical manner and relate it to their own work. Two photos of work of the chosen artist must be attached to the paper.
- **Exhibition:** Group Show of students taking the course will be organized by them and featuring a selection of works done during the semester and will include the Personal Artist's Statement to accompany the work on exhibition. Each student will be given a particular assignment, i.e. matting works, preparing invitations, doing publicity etc. so that a team spirit will be created and each student will respect the work of the other student by keeping to the required deadlines for the show.
- **Participation:** Students are required to be present at the various technical demonstrations carried out by the instructor. They must be ready to comment on their own work and be amenable to commenting on the work of others as well. Attendance is mandatory as is adherence to the rules relating to keeping the studio and equipment in good order. These rules will be posted in the studio.
- **Expert Critiques:** This will be done by the professor teaching the course, both half way through the semester and at the end. Students must be able to develop their work and ideas in a disciplined and scholarly way. All work will be evaluated to see if the above techniques have been acquired, with coherence of compositional achievements in the creation of a cogent individual stylistic expression of the student's work.

Assessment tools

Participation	10%
Portfolio Portfolio of course paintings and drawings	50%
Personal Color Notebook	10%
Final Painting Project	10%
Research Essay	10%
Exhibition	10%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic
Week 1	Introduction to painting techniques, soft pastels. Painting techniques: 2. acrylics and soft pastels
Week 2	Color Theory: 1. individual color panel; 2. a Personal Color Notebook evidence of the official extra class work of two hours per week of student time dedicated to course learning goals; 3. An acrylic sketch
Week 3	Shading and Perspective: Shading Techniques done inside and outside class time Copying and analysing a painting of your choice from art books. 2. inside of a box seen at a diagonal; 3. an urban scene in Rome at an intersection of two streets – done during extra two hours of study time
Week 4	Painting techniques: Acrylics
Week 5	Painting techniques: Collage
Week 6	Still-life drawing: 1. A composition of two non-organic objects; 2. A multiple-object composition that comprises non-organic and organic forms.
Week 7	Portfolio Review in office of professor
Week 8	Painting techniques: Oils and soft pastels
Week 9	Mixed Media
Week 10	First selection for exhibition
Week 11	Still life and free compositions
Week 12	Prepare works for exhibition, give out duties
Week 13	Mount Exhibition
Week 14	Final Portfolio Review

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In keeping with AUR's mission to prepare students to live and work across cultures, the University places a high value on classroom experience. As a result attendance is expected in all classes and attendance records are maintained. The University's attendance policy is as follows:

1.0. Minimum Attendance Requirement: Students must attend a minimum of 70% of a course in order to be eligible to be considered for a passing grade.

1.1. Automatically Accepted Absences

Students will not be penalized for one absence from classes meeting once a week;
Students will not be penalized for three absences from classes meeting twice a week;
Students will not be penalized for four absences from classes meeting more than twice a week, as in the case of some intensive courses.

1.2. If further absences are recorded, grade penalties will be applied according to the Instructor's specific attendance policy, as stated in the syllabus, and following the institutional parameters given in the Note* below.

1.2.1. If the Instructor does not specify an attendance policy, there will be no grade penalty other than that attached to the minimum attendance requirement, and any penalized absences recorded above the basic 70% attendance requirement for the course will be invalidated.

1.3. During Summer sessions where courses are taught more intensively over a shorter period the following applies:

- Students will not be penalized for two absences from class.

2.0. Tolerated Absences

Certain categories of absence will not be penalized but they will be counted as an absence (for a 3-credit course meeting twice a week). These absences are:

- The Model United Nations (MUN);
- Permit to Stay,
- SG's "Ambassador Program" (Student Government initiative)
- Religious Holidays

The American University of Rome makes all reasonable efforts to accommodate students who must be absent from classes to observe religious holidays. (Please refer to the Provost's Office list of accepted absences for religious holidays)

Not attending a class due to the observance of a religious holiday will normally not be counted as an absence.

Students who will need to miss class in order to observe religious holidays must notify their Instructors by the end of the Add/Drop period (first week of classes), and must make prior arrangements with their Instructors to make up any work missed.

2.1. The list does NOT include academic field trips because these (including arrangements for travel) must not overlap with other classes.

3.0. Cases of prolonged absences caused by an emergency or a medical condition may require students to withdraw from some or all of their courses. Under such circumstances students should first consult their academic advisors.

*Note: No Instructor may penalize a student more than half a letter grade for each absence beyond the tolerated limit (e.g. from A- to B+).

Grade Point Average

A student's grade point average (GPA) is computed by multiplying the quality points achieved by the number of credits for each course. The result is then divided by the total number of credit hours taken. The Cumulative or Career Total Grade Point Average (CGPA) is the grade point average for all credit hours taken at the University and at approved study abroad programs. The GPA and CGPA are calculated by truncating after the second digit after the decimal point. Transfer credits have no effect on the CGPA at The American University of Rome.

Grades

Grades are posted on a secure area of the University's official website and are mailed to AUR degree students only upon written request. Grades are mailed to the various study abroad programs. Grades computed in the (GPA) reflect the following grade equivalents:

GRADE		GPA	
A	Excellent	4.00	94 – 100 points
A-		3.70	90 – 93.99 pts
B+	Very Good	3.30	87 – 89.99
B	Good	3.00	83 – 86.99
B-		2.70	80 – 82.99
C+		2.30	77 – 79.99
C	Satisfactory	2.00	73 – 76.99
C-	Less than Satisfactory	1.70	70 – 72.99
D	Poor	1.00	60 – 69.99
F	Failing	0.00	59.99 – 0
WU	Unofficial withdrawal counts as an F	0.00	
P	Applicable to development courses	0.00	
<i>Grades not computed into the grade point average are:</i>			
W	Withdrawal		
AUDIT (AU)	Only possible when the student registers for a course at the beginning of the semester as an audit student		
I	Incomplete work must be completed within the ensuing semester. Failure to do so results in automatically converting the I grade to the default grade, which is then computed into the grade point average		
P	Pass grade is applicable to courses as indicated in the catalog.		
WIP	Work in progress		