

Al Akhawayn University

COURSE SYLLABUS

Title and Code of the course: ART 1303 Introduction to Painting

Instructor's name and title: Vladimir Shcherbak, Assistant Professor of Art

Email: v.shcherbak@au.ma

Classroom (art studio) location and hours: Building 9, room 103.

Section	Tuesday	Thursday
01	1:00 pm –2:20 pm	1:00 pm –2:20 pm

Office location and office hours: Building 7, room 111. By appointment.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	2:30 pm - 7:00 pm		2:30 pm - 7:00 pm	

Number of credits: 3 credits

Prerequisites: None

There is no textbook required; however, you are expected to keep notes and use the recourses on Canvas.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will introduce students to the basic language of painting. Class exercises and experiences continually reinforce the formal, conceptual, and the technical aspects of painting. A variety of subjects and approaches are investigated that serve as provocateurs for these issues.

Throughout the course, painting is continually addressed as a formal language that has four basic elements: line, shape, surface qualities (actual and simulated), and color (value, saturation, temperature). Students will mostly work from observation. This will include still-life arrangements and interior space. Through study of contemporary and historical painting, we will attempt to understand how artists construct images, handle paint, and elicit emotions. Principles that define both representational and abstract painting will be explored. Studio work will be supported by demonstrations, slide presentations, group, and individual critiques.

Instructional Methods

Methods of instruction include demonstrations, hands-on art studio work time, in-class critiques, slide presentations, video presentations, lectures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce students to formal and structural aspects of art: Elements of Design (line, shape, space, texture, volume, color) and Principles of Design (balance, emphasis, proportion, rhythm, unity, variety).
2. To introduce students to a range of artistic techniques, tools, and materials used in painting. Develop an understanding of the relationships between pigment, water, and paper surface.
3. Expose students to diverse artists, both current and historical, to understand art in context. View and discuss traditional and contemporary paintings.
4. Develop skills of visualization and spatial organization, ability to plan a composition.
5. Articulate critical insights and communicate artistic ideas verbally using an expanding relevant vocabulary.
6. To introduce students to the broad visual culture we call art.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Develop the use and understanding of formal and structural aspects of art. Develop ability to define and utilize Elements of Art (line, shape, space, texture, volume, color) and Principles of Design (balance, emphasis, proportion, rhythm, unity, variety) in compositions.
2. Gain facility with a range of artistic techniques, tools, and materials used in painting.
3. Better understand art in context.
4. Develop skills of visualization and spatial organization, ability to plan a composition and paint still life arrangements, landscapes, architecture, and work in abstract manner.
5. Communicate artistic ideas verbally using relevant vocabulary.
6. Gain a greater appreciation for the broad visual culture we call art.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RULES

- Painting is a physical and mental act, so energy and concentration will be required.
- You can bring a bottle of water to the class. Water is allowed, food is not. Avoid drinking, eating, or smoking while painting or with paint on your hands.

- No recording of class sessions is permitted without the explicit authorization of the instructor.
- Cell phones and laptops are to be turned off or put on silent and placed out of sight throughout the class session.
- No headphones/ear buds during class.
- Mark your name in large block letters on the back of all painting surfaces & stretchers.
- Fabric rags should always be used when working with paints.
- **Never** dispose of medium or paint down the sink. All paints and mediums should be disposed of in the trash.
- All students enrolled in this class are responsible for the maintenance of studio sinks as well as the studio itself--please keep your studio clean. Wipe up all spills immediately. Do not leave coffee cups, newspapers, paper towels, etc. at the end of a painting session.
- Do not use **spray paints, oil-based commercial paints, printmaking ink/paint/solvents, or commercial adhesives**. Ventilation isn't adequate for these.
- Put all materials away after class in containers.
- Painting from photographs not accepted unless specified by the assignment.
- Bring all the materials every day starting on the third day of class. Showing up unprepared counts as 1 absence.
- **Keep all your work.** Turn work in with name printed legibly on back. No work accepted after final critique.

GRADING

Grades will be based on quality and quantity of work, as well as participation (in critiques, discussions, and class in general) and improvement. Quality is defined by a student's improvement and demonstrated learning as much as in making "good" paintings. Grading of class and homework will take place roughly every four weeks. Keep all your work even if it has already been critiqued and graded. Each painting must have your name and date. Following aspects of each painting will be considered:

- Discipline/effort/time invested.
- Intellectual engagement with the exercise
- Technical ambitions of the painting
- Subject/content ambitions of the painting

- 4.0:** uniquely excellent in technique, craftsmanship, & concept. Extraordinary effort.
3.0: High quality technique, good craftsmanship and concept. Much effort.
2.0: Average quality technique, some sloppy craftsmanship, typical concept. Basic effort.
1.0: Below average technique, sloppy, concept unclear. Lack of effort
0.0: Does not meet minimum requirements of assignment. No or little effort.
(.5 given accordingly)

Late Work Grading Policy: Grade will be lowered by 20% for each day assignment is late. There is no late submission for the final assignment, Painting based on collage.

GRADE PROPORTIONS

Assessment Task	Due date	Weight out of total score
Student has All painting supplies on the third day of classes	23/01/2024	2%
Student has All painting supplies on the fourth day of classes	25/01/2024	3%
Attendance and participation	7/5/2024	5%
Digital portfolio	25/4/2024	5%
Value scale of 4 and 10 tones from black to white in sketchbook.	15/2/2024	2%
Achromatic painting	15/2/2024	5%
Limited Palette Painting	15/2/2024	10%
Painting exploring warm/cool. Red, Blue, Yellow, White	5/3/2024	10%
Four 20 minutes gestural paintings.	4/4/2024	10%
Painting of a still-life consisting of objects of only one color (red). Full palette.	4/4/2024	10%
3 collages	4/4/2024	10%
Painting based on collage	7/5/2024	25%
Collaborative assignment between Aesthetics and Painting class: publish your best collage and written assignment (write about your favorite collage).	4/4/2024	3 %
Extra credit opportunity: attend student	TBD	2 %

art show		
Total excluding extra credit		100%

GRADING SCALE

A	93 - 100 %	4.0
A-/B+	88 - 92 %	3.5
B	83 - 87 %	3.0
B-/C+	78 - 82 %	2.5
C	73 - 77 %	2.0
C-/D+	68 - 72 %	1.5
D	63 - 67 %	1.0
D-	60 - 62 %	0.5
F	0 - 59 %	0

ATTENDANCE

Regular quality attendance is a clear indication of the student's commitment, dedication, and respect for the course. Attendance is mandatory. The student is responsible for finding out about and completing all material presented in their absence. Three instances of arriving late or any instance of leaving early without permission will count as an unexcused absence. Anyone who arrives more than **ten minutes late** is welcome (and encouraged) to stay and attend but will be **counted absent**. Total grade will be lowered 1% for each unexcused absence.

More than five unexcused absences will result in an automatic grade of 0.0 in the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

One of the signs that the course material has been properly understood is honesty when accomplishing the assignments. Lack of academic integrity (e.g., plagiarism, copying another person's work, the use of unauthorized aids, cheating, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others) will not be tolerated.

Upon suspicion and doubt of the authenticity of the work submitted, the instructor has the right to ask the student to verify her/his work. This can be done through, but not limited to, repeating the work, oral examination, or discussion, alternative or similar on spot class assignment, or any other action deemed necessary.

Any act of Academic Dishonesty may result in severe consequences for violations ranging from zero grades given for the assignments or failing the course.

Examples of academic dishonesty or misconduct including, but not limited to:

- Plagiarism: the presentation of someone else's ideas, words, or artistic work as one's own creation, including use of Artificial Intelligence (AI, Chat GPT, etc.).
- Assisting in cheating
- Submitting the same work for more than one course

- Submitting artwork made by others.
- Receiving or providing unauthorized help or assistance in any academic work or assignment

MATERIALS LIST

Art supplies required for the introduction painting class; you must have them on the third day of classes! Illustrated list is available on Canvas page.

Heavy Body (thick, not watery) Acrylic Paint (Large Tubes of 4 fl oz (fluid ounce) 120 ml:

Do not buy cheap acrylic colors, they are impossible to work with.

1. Cadmium Yellow Medium or Light
2. Cadmium Red Medium or Cadmium Red Light
3. Ultramarine Blue or Phthalocyanine (Phthalo) Blue
4. Mars or Lamp Black (small tube, 60 ml)
5. Titanium White (expect to replenish depending on the use).
6. Sap Green
7. Magenta
8. Burnt Sienna

Acrylic Paint (optional colors):

- 1) Yellow Ochre
- 2) Cerulean Blue
- 3) Burnt Umber

Other required supplies:

- 5 canvas boards 40 cm x 50 cm.
- 1 canvas 50 cm x 70 cm.
- **Brushes for acrylic painting (do not buy a set):**
 - a. **3 Round brushes:** large size (bristles width/diameter 10-12 mm), medium size (bristles width/diameter 5-7 mm), small size (bristles width/diameter 2-3 mm)
 - b. **2 Brights brushes:** (same as flat, but with rounded corners: large (bristles width 18-20 mm), medium (bristles width 12-15 mm).
 - c. **1 Flat brush:** large (bristles width 20-25 mm).
- Metal painting knife- small diamond shape
- Sketchbook, A4 size.
- 1 sheet of thick paper (at least 300 gm/m² or heavier), A4 size
- Regular HB pencil
- Ruler 30 cm
- Rubber eraser.

- White plastic palette for color mixing at least 25 cm x 35 cm. Do not buy one with deep compartments, it must be flat!
- Masking tape 1,5 inch or 2 cm wide.
- Fabric rags to wipe brushes, at least 4, approximately 30 cm x 30 cm, old t-shirts or jeans could be used to make them.
- 2 pairs of cloth utility gloves.

DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

All students should create digital portfolios from their work. This is a record of and a tool to be used to promote your work.

Do not leave this until the end of the semester because you will simply have too many paintings to photo/scan at that point with your finals and projects breathing down your neck. However, if you do this from the very beginning you will spend no more than 10 min a week. 10 min/week or 130 min/day if you leave it till the end. Choose wisely!

IMPORTANT

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to any section of this syllabus. Students will be informed about these changes prior to their implementation.