

# Basic Oil Painting

Fall 2015

Elisabeth Nickles SAR-2022-100

CRN# 24278

Vasey Hall 207

Class Time- Wednesday 6:10-8:50 PM

Office Hours- Wednesday 4:30-6:00, 9:00-9:30 PM

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*This class is an introductory course to the medium of oil paint, although experienced painters are welcome and will improve their skills and stylistic approach. We will cover historical and contemporary approaches with a foundation in the technical aspects of mixing paint, color theory and paint application. Throughout the course you will develop a skill set that will advance in complexity each week. As your skills develop, you will find your own way of approaching oil painting. Design aesthetics as well as working from life are emphasized, as interpretation in paint is quite different from photography. Students will increase their exposure and knowledge of art history and are encouraged to find their own aesthetic preferences by the end of the semester. Developing a visual, critical thought process will be stressed.*

## Course Objectives:

- Color and color theory and the use of different palettes.
- Paint application techniques and tools
- Design and composition
- Introduction to various artists and artistic movements
- Rendering form monochromatically and chromatically
- Research on artists and the development of a personal aesthetic.

## Supplies:

Materials Fee. (Check, Cash, or Credit Card) Make check to: Merion Art & Repro Center. *Merion Art & Repro Center will be Handing out kits during the first class. Please bring payment to the first class **Remember never to mix oil paint and acrylic paint** and to clean your brushes with turpenoid first, then with soap and water when you are finished painting.*

## Text Book

No personal textbook needed. Common text, reading and visual presentations will be provided online and in print. Some online research will be a part of the homework assignments.

## Homework

Homework will be assigned weekly in class and posted online. (All home assignments are due the next class, unless otherwise specified. Make sure your name and the date is on all assignments. Failure to do so could cause a misunderstanding in grading.)

*Please note: if you miss a class, you are responsible for speaking to a fellow classmate and making up the work that was done during class as well as the homework assignment for that week. Please find a “buddy” that you can exchange emails with in the case you are absent. Email Professor if you are unable to communicate with fellow student when you miss a class.*

## **Grades**

Students will be expected to attend ALL classes and to fully participate. More than three absences will result in a failing grade- three late arrivals equal one absence. Even if you are late it is better to come to class than to miss class.

Attendance based on departmental attendance contract: *Certain valid circumstances are excused (death in the family, illness, required professional commitments). Makeup work for valid absences is expected in maintaining progress throughout the semester. A student cannot achieve an ‘A’ with more than one absence. Three unexcused absences is an automatic ‘F’ for the course.*

## **Grading**

The assignment grades will be averaged along with your in class work. Effort and attendance will be factored into the average. Opportunities are offered for extra credit and outside work to improve your grade. Homework assignments can be reworked after a critique to improve your grade

## **Sample Grading for Each Assignment**

### ***1. Effort/Time Spent on Assignment. Not haphazard or rushed***

1            2            3            4            5

### ***2. Fulfills objective of the assignment. Comprehension.***

1            2            3            4            5

### ***3. Technique/ Use of Materials/ Investigates and Uses material adequately***

1            2            3            4            5

Total\_/15

Written Feedback and suggestions:

## General Grading Scale and Rubric

Effort/ Growth: Based on in class assignments, class participation and preparedness. Maximum 150 points

Weekly Homework assignments (10) 3.5% each or 15 points each: 150  
(each week late 3 points deducted)

In Class Paintings: (10) 3.5% each or 15 points each :150

**450 Points / 4.5 = grade**

**(33.3%)Effort**

**(33.3%)Weekly Homework**

**(33.3%) In class work**

A = 93 – 100  
A- = 90 - 92.9  
B+ = 87 - 89.9  
B = 83 - 86.9  
B- = 80 - 82.9  
C+ = 77 - 79.9  
C = 73 - 76.9  
C- = 70 - 72.9  
D+ = 67 - 69.9  
D = 63 - 66.9  
D- = 60 - 62.9

## Weekly Schedule

*Although the class is planned ahead, we may choose to spend longer on a painting depending on the progress of a particular painting. Homework will be explained in depth each week and may vary according to the rate at which the class is learning and completing a particular lesson. If you are absent and miss the assignment, check with a fellow classmate or email the instructor. Check blackboard regularly.*

### 1. Wednesday 8/26

Introduction to supplies and use of materials. Layout of Color and Value Chart with pencil, proportion of solvent to paint. Avoiding muddy color by diligently cleaning your brush. Color Terminology handout.  
**Home Assignment #1:** Review terminology. Work on color chart and Value Scale. Make sure brushes are clean and stored upright.

- 2. Wednesday, 9/02** **Slide lecture beginning of class: Color & Design.**  
Chroma, repetition, edge quality and paint application.  
Bring 12" x 16" panel.  
**Home Assignment #2:** Finish color and design painting for the following week. Finish color chart.
- 3. Wednesday, 9/9** Monochromatic painting of platonic solids using wipeout technique and a limited palette.  
Bring 12" x 16" panel.  
**Home Assignment #3:**  
Read the handout on light and shade. Create a monochromatic value study of egg on a 6"x 8" panel.
- 4. Wednesday, 9/16** Still life of multiple objects using a limited palette.  
Underpainting with direct color. 12" x 16" panel.  
(4 colors+white)  
**Home Assignment #4:**  
Color study of interlocking objects: space around objects seen as integral part of painting). Use knowledge of light and shade as well as negative space. Review image presentation on blackboard before painting homework.
- 5. Wednesday, 9/23** Continue with Still life  
**Home Assignment #5:** Color painting of two pieces of Fruit.
- 6. Wednesday, 9/30** Alla Prima Painting : one night quick study. 12" x 16" panel.  
**Home Assignment #6:** Monochromatic copy of impressionist painting to learn brushstroke, drawing with the brush.
- 7. Wednesday, 10/7** Perspective lesson. Begin Still life and table surface 16"x 20" panel.  
**Home Assignment #7:** Painting of room at home.
- \*\*No Class Wednesday, October 14\*\***
- 8. Wednesday, 10/21** Continue with Still life.  
**Home Assignment #8:** Impressionist painting of landscape
- 9. Wednesday, 10/28** Interior painting, reality and abstraction- Color 16"x20" panel.  
**Homework Assignment #9:**

At home interior painting. Alla Prima.

- 10. Wednesday, 11/4** Interior painting, reality and abstraction- Continue.  
**Home Assignment #10:**  
Home interior- exaggeration of color.
- 11. Wednesday, 11/11** Paint from portrait sculpture 11" x 14" panel  
**Home Assignment #11:** Copy of an artist's portrait(2.5 hour painting)
- 12. Wednesday, 11/18** Begin Portrait painting  
**Final Assignment part 1:** Begin Self Portrait
- \*\*No Class Wednesday, November 25 –  
Thanksgiving Break\*\***
- 13. Wednesday, 12/2** Portrait painting  
**Home Assignment #13:** Self Portrait
- 14. Wednesday, 12/9** **Self Portrait and portfolio review**