

Watercolor I

ART 165

Tuesday Nights 6 - 10 p.m.

Instructor: Joey Baker
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Course Description: *In this class you will be introduced to the fundamentals of transparent watercolor, and will explore the various ways of making a painting with it. You will learn about mixing and using color, composing with interesting shapes, planning successful value relationships, creating the illusion of space, using line, applying washes, etc. Along the way you will be exploring traditional techniques as well as more contemporary ones. Assignments will range from painting and drawing from observation to working from the imagination. My aim for this course is for you to gain an understanding and appreciation of watercolor, learn to predict it's behavior in a variety of circumstances, and be able to use it to execute a "successful" painting. Further, I expect to see your perceptual skills grow, and a channel to your imagination open, so that you can move toward personal expression.*

Notes:

1. Please bring all necessary supplies to each class, including resources and/or objects from home as assigned.
2. Attend class! *If you are absent, please call another student to see what the current project is, so you can come to the next class prepared for it.* You do not need to contact me when you are absent, but do let me know what is happening if you must miss two classes in a row. Otherwise, you may be dropped from the class.
3. Normally, I ask students to clean their workspace at the end of class, but as this is primarily a drawing studio, I strongly suggest you clean your area before setting up to paint!
4. Please purchase your supplies before the next class so you will be ready to begin painting right away. Buy the necessary paint and brushes now, then order extras if you like. The best bet for your supplies is Arizona Art Supply on Indian School at 2nd Ave. The staff there tends to be very knowledgeable and can generally guide you in the right direction supply-wise. *You may want to comparison-shop if time permits.* Be sure to ask for your student discount there and at all art supply stores!
5. Grades are based on performance! Essentially, I am looking for overall progress during the semester, curiosity, and a healthy amount of risk-taking, enthusiasm, and class participation in addition to great work.
6. Assignments will consist of sketches, exercises, and paintings done inside and outside of class.
7. Critiques will be held informally during each class, and formally at the end of the semester, when you will present your best (and finished!) works to the class.
8. Final Critique and Party! Tuesday, May 13, 6 - 10 p.m.

All night studio classes require the equivalent of 4 extra classes!

See attached calendar.

On-going Homework!

If you are interested in progressing faster and learning as much as possible, invest some time at home!
I suggest one or all of the following:

Select an element (flower, tree, rock, wad of paper, etc.) and make a small painting of it each week. Choose a size for your paintings and keep that format throughout your series. At least two of your paintings (1/8 sheet is a good size) should be from observation; the remainder approached, as you like. If you work from observation you might have fun with a time based approach where you choose a subject and record it's life cycle, for example from a bud to a flower to a wilted flower to a dried flower etc.

Select 4 artists you like from the recommended list, analyze their styles and techniques, and complete a series of 4 small format experiments inspired by them. Utilize techniques and ideas presented in class or generate your own inspirations.

Read a book (*autobiography or biography!*) on one or more recommended artists.

Visit museums, look at art magazines, books, videos, etc. Experiment with anything that interests you.

Start a sketchbook. Use it for collecting and exploring ideas, investigating inspirations, artists, books, working out compositions, experimenting, etc.

And::

Questions? Please ask!

Headsets? NO.

Lockers: Lockers are free and available for your use.
Place a lock on one and sign for it in the gallery.

Parking Stickers: You can get a parking sticker at campus security (south side of the commons).

Guests: Please do not bring guests to class with you. As much as we would enjoy their company, it is against school policy for unenrolled guests to be in the studio.

Important:

Two or more absences may cause you to be dropped from the class, although remember that it is your responsibility to drop if you are no longer attending class.

Instructor reserves the right to make changes to better meet the needs of this particular class.