

Beginning Field Painting
Fairbanks
Art 233, 1.0 credit
Summer Sessions 2008
July 10, 11, 12, 13, 2008

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No office hours in summer- contact instructor via email or telephone.

Class will meet at the art department's painting studio (or where instructed) at 9:00 am each morning. Class will conclude in the field at 4:30 pm. There will be a one-hour lunch break and the extra half hour each day will cover driving time to sites in the Fairbanks area.

Course Description:

Beginning Field (outdoor) Painting offers dramatic opportunities to learn artistic principals in a novel and inspiring setting. The course consists of two 3-hour classes each day over four days at field locations. Lectures and directed study are used to introduce students to landscape painting and to establish an understanding and accomplishment in landscape painting from drawings and/or small painted studies to finished oil and acrylic paintings. Use of basic painting and drawing materials will be covered. Concepts of space, light, color, composition, scale and specific elements of landscape painting such as water, reflections, skies, aerial and linear perspective will be addressed.

Class Sessions will be in the field with some supporting lecture in the studio. There will be an orientation session a few days before going into the field. This meeting will be to review materials and supplies that are necessary for comfort and painting success in the outdoors. **Out of class expectations:** Students are expected to spend double the equivalent amount of class time outside of class working on class objectives (sketching, drawing, painting, reading, preparing materials, etc.). To accomplish this in our class's timeframe the student should visit galleries, begin reading, practice studies and preliminary work prior to class. After the class has begun, students will wish to continue working in the field or studio on their projects after class sessions. Recommended books on drawing, painting and field work will be available from the teacher and summer sessions in advance of the field class.

This field painting course involves light hiking outdoors. Light rain gear, pile for insulation and wind resistance, sunglasses, sunscreen, hats, bug spray or head nets, and sturdy hiking shoes for walking on uneven and possibly wet terrain are advised. Bring water bottles, light daypacks and something to sit on and/or whatever student usually takes on a painting excursion. For students who have never done field painting before, contact the instructor with any questions regarding recommended gear, supplies and materials.

Course instruction will include group lecture and individual directed study as well as small group discussion. Students will work at their own level and have the opportunity to work in their own areas of specialized interest.

Prerequisites:

Beginning Drawing Art 105 or permission of instructor is required. Any substantial drawing or painting experience can serve as prerequisite if demonstrated in a portfolio of previous works. Images for review can be submitted by email, on disc or in person.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be based on participation and a portfolio of the paintings and other works produced in the field. The emphasis will be weighted 75% portfolio and 25% participation. Students will be expected to work on their paintings and drawings during the entire period of each class. Most students should be able to complete 3 to 4 paintings but the acceptable quantity is variable as long as a sustained course-long effort is demonstrated. Any absence or tardiness will affect the grade. Paintings will be evaluated on student progress, demonstration of artistic principals and level of project ambition.

Course Schedule:

Orientation meeting approximately one week in advance of class dates:

Materials, supplies, equipment needed, field condition expectations, further reading, galleries, etc.

Day One – Morning

Introduction to landscape painting

Lecture on scale and drawing

Demonstrations of the painting process from drawing to painting.

Day One – Afternoon

Work in the field

Day Two – Morning

Lecture on color and light

Work in the field

Day Two – Afternoon

Work in the field

Day Three – Morning

Short Group Critique

Lecture on strategies for outdoor use of painting materials

Day Three – Afternoon

Work in the field

Day Four – Morning

Work in the field

Day Four – Afternoon

Work in the field

Return to studio for final retrospective critique of work and workshop

This is a general outline and course content will vary to a degree depending on interest and ability of the students. Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities including equal access to campus and course material. For information contact Office of Disabilities Services 203 WHIT 474-7043.

Field Painting Materials List

Oil, Alkyd or Acrylic Paints

- 1 Alizarin Crimson
- 1 Ultramarine Blue
- 1 Phthalo Green and/or Viridian
- 1 Cadmium Yellow Light
- 1 Cadmium Red Light
- 1 Phthalo Blue
- 1 Cadmium Orange
- 1 Titanium White large size tube

Note that alkyd paints are listed in addition to oil paints. Alkyd dries overnight which makes them easier to transport. They are plastic base paints that perform much the same as oils. They are not usually available in town so mail order early. Acrylic paints dry very quickly and can be used on canvas or heavy paper.

Portable easel (French easel or light collapsible aluminum)

Small backpack for supplies

sketchbook and drawing materials

3 or 4 prepared canvases or boards

20X24" or 16X20" are good typical sizes. If you wish to work in acrylic, watercolor paper is fine.

1 Quart odorless mineral spirits (for alkyds or oils)

Liquin or other alkyd medium for alkyds if so desired

2 small cans for medium or water for brush cleaning

2 each Bristle Brushes: #1 and #3 rounds, #6 and # 12 flats

palette

hand cream

palette knife

a small tarp could be useful if the weather is rainy

Cotton Rags

2 jars or cans with tight lids