

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Watercolor I, Adv.

Course Description:

An introduction to watercolor painting, with an emphasis on hands-on class exercises under instructor guidance. Learn to use the basic tools of watercolor to complete paintings of landscapes, simple buildings, and still-life compositions. Basic rules of design and composition will be emphasized, as well as basic sketching techniques of subject matter. Regardless of previous watercolor experience, you will learn at your own pace through one-on-one instruction during the hands-on period of each class. Both beginning and intermediate students are encouraged to enroll. Beginning students will be taught the basics of beginning watercolor, including how to work with materials. Intermediate students will be given the opportunity to explore design compositions and various color combinations.

Course Prerequisite(s):

Course Objectives:

1. Develop skills using tools and equipment.
2. Design composition
3. Discover the color wheel and how to choose warm and cool colors
4. Learn to sketch in perspective, patterns, and shapes.

Student Expectations:

Supply List:

Brushes – Good quality synthetic or synthetic/sable blend watercolor brushes:
#8 Round & #12 Round
1” Flat & 2” Flat wash brushes (synthetic, squirrel, or soft bristle)
Others as preferred – Optional choices include “Rigger” or “Liner” brushes.

Watercolor Paints – Select *Winsor & Newton, Holbein, Da Vinci, or Daler-Rowney* brands if available. The following is a basic palette that includes both cool and warm colors in the three primaries: red, blue and yellow. You may add others as you wish.

Essential Colors:

Ultramarine Blue	New Gamboge	Winsor Red
Antwerp Blue (Winsor & Newton)	Burnt Sienna	Alizarin Crimson
Brown Madder Alizarin	Raw Sienna	Winsor (Phthalo) Green
Winsor (Phthalo) Blue (red)	Lemon Yellow	Indigo Blue

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Additional Optional Colors:

Cobalt Blue	Sepia	Raw Umber
Permanent Sap Green	Burnt Umber	Cerulean Blue
Permanent Rose	Winsor Violet	Quinacridone Gold
Winsor Orange	Hooker's Green (Dark)	Payne's Gray

Other Supplies –

Paper –140 lb. cold-press, comes in 22" x 30" sheets. This sheet size can be divided into half sheets of 15" x 22" or quarter sheets of 11" x 15". Both are good class lesson sizes. Better brands include *D'Arches, Fabriano, Lanaquarelle, Strathmore, Saunders Waterford, etc.*

Sketchbook – Any size that works for you, with heavy white paper. I recommend a spiral 9" x 12" sketchbook or drawing pad. Brands include *Strathmore, Canson, etc.*

Water container – One or two round or rectangular plastic *Tupperware* containers are good, or even *Cool Whip* bowls. With lids, they are also good for storing sponges and tubes of paint.

Natural sponge – Natural cosmetic sponges work well, in various sizes.

Plastic or polystyrene watercolor palette with lid. I like the *John Pike* palette. Locally, *Jane Jones* also makes excellent lightweight palettes (medium size).

Facial tissues – Buy the cheap store brand, *without* lotion.

Toothbrush – Good for "splattering" paint on paper.

"Gator" Board or Foam Core Board, ¼" thick x 16" x 23" for half size sheets or 12" x 16" for quarter size. (Gator board is like foam core board, but stiffer.)

"Bulldog" clamps for holding paper to board

Sketch pencils – Soft lead, HB or B

Other - Paper towels, Masking tape, Small pocket knife or pen knife, kneaded eraser.

Recommended Supply Sources – Visit my web page at <http://mborne.home.att.net>

Certification Notes:

Next Class Possibilities:

Lesson Plan – by week or session

Session 1: Introduction to painting tools and equipment, design composition, how to begin a watercolor painting. **Exercise:** Floral

Session 2: Color: Working with colors, the color wheel, warm & cool colors, basic color palette, complementary colors, transparency of colors, and mixing various colors for desired effects. **Exercise:** Simple Landscape

- Session 3: Composing the painting, painting and drawing trees, cool and warm, shades and shadows, positive and negative shapes, painting behind. **Exercise:** Trees
- Session 4: Natural forms, silhouette, alternation, hierarchy, gradation, and texture. **Exercise:** Snow Scene
- Session 5: Sketching in perspective, patterns and shapes in watercolor painting, shades and shadows. **Exercise:** Simple Buildings
- Session 6: Controlling washes, painting textures, calligraphy. **Exercise:** Garden Landscape (Plant material, stone wall, fence)