

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for ARTS 7A

INTRODUCTION TO WATERCOLOR PAINTING

Effective: Fall 2018

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

ARTS 7A — INTRODUCTION TO WATERCOLOR PAINTING — 3.00 units

Introduction to principles, elements, and practices of watercolor painting. Focus on exploration of painting materials, perceptual skills and color theory, paint mixing and technique, as well as creative responses to materials and subject matter.

1.50 Units Lecture 1.50 Units Lab

Strongly Recommended

ARTS 2A - Introduction to Drawing
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter or P/NP

Discipline:

- Art

Family: Art Watercolor Painting

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	27.00
Expected Outside of Class Hours:	54.00
Lab Hours:	81.00
Total Hours:	162.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering this course, it is strongly recommended that the student should be able to:

A. ARTS2A

1. Accurately render three-dimensional objects on a two-dimensional surface from observation
2. Create drawings and demonstrate the basic principles of spatial illusion through the application of linear, atmospheric, and other perspective systems
3. Organize spaces and objects within a drawing according to basic principles of design and composition
4. Accurately describe forms and space through gradations of value
5. Evaluate and critique class projects using relevant terminology in oral or written formats

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Demonstrate the handling of watercolor painting media
- B. Demonstrate specific techniques and concepts relative to watercolor painting
- C. Explain the use of various water media on a variety of traditional and non-traditional surfaces
- D. Produce finished paintings demonstrating a variety of technical skills and utilizing a number of art concepts appropriate to the beginning level
- E. Express a critical view of their own work and the work of others
- F. Develop expressive content through manipulation of mark, color, value and composition
- G. Examine and describe historical and contemporary developments, trends, materials, and approaches in painting
- H. Assess and critique paintings in group, individual, and written contexts using relevant critique formats, concepts and terminology
- I. Safely handle and use studio painting materials and equipment

V. CONTENT:

- A. Exploration of physical properties of watercolor painting materials.
- B. Organization and application of the basic formal elements and principles of design as they relate to water color painting
- C. Observationally and theoretically based investigation of color theory, as it relates to painting practice
- D. Construction and preparation of painting surfaces and supports

- E. Use and application of materials and tools of water color painting
- F. Development of expressive content through manipulation of mark, color, value, and composition
- G. Historical and contemporary developments, critical trends, materials, and approaches in water color painting, including representational, expressive, abstract, or non-objective approaches
- H. Critical evaluation and critique of class projects using relevant terminology in oral or written formats
- I. Studio, equipment, and material use and safety

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Lecture** -
- B. **Demonstration** -
- C. 1. Specific techniques and concepts of watercolor painting will be demonstrated 2. Examples of how each technique/concept may be utilized in a finished work will be provided 3. Discussion of specific techniques and concepts in finished work
- D. **Critique** - Constructive classroom critiques in a supportive environment that reinforce skills and concepts
- E. **Field Trips** - Field Trips to observe works of Masters and contemporary artists
- F. **Individualized Instruction** -
- G. **Audio-visual Activity** - Slides, videos, books, and periodicals will be used to illustrate techniques and concepts presented in class

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

- A. Paint a simple still life using two different watercolor techniques
- B. Draw with watercolor pencils or crayons on damp paper to produce blurred lines and tints

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Quizzes
- 2. Portfolios
- 3. Projects
- 4. Class Participation
- 5. Class Work
- 6. Home Work
- 7. Lab Activities
- 8. Other:
 - a. One Final Project

B. **Frequency**

- 1. Two to four quizzes
- 2. Weekly critiques of studio work
- 3. One midterm project
- 4. One portfolio of completed work
- 5. Daily class participation
- 6. One Final Project

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Hoffmann, T *Watercolor Painting: A Comprehensive Approach to Mastering the Medium.*, Watson-Guptill, 2012.
- 2. Rainey, Jenna. *Everyday Watercolor.* 1st ed., Watson-Guptill, 2017.
- 3. Frontz, Leslie. *The Watercolor Course You've Always Wanted.* 1st ed., Watson-Guptill, 2015.
- 4. American Watercolor Websites

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. As required: various brushes, paints, inks, pens, papers, and boards