ART 187 Painting from Observation
Instructor - Katie Hawkinson
Virtual Format on Zoom
Tuesdays, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
September 21 - November 16, 2021

Course Summary:
Learning to paint consists of two main endeavors — first knowing how to manipulate the medium and then knowing what subject to paint. These two aspects are best learned in tandem, and the best way to do this is to dive right into the process and paint. In this course, we will paint from in-studio still-lives or installations; the built and natural environment. Students will explore and gain facility with the paint while finding their voices through the choices they make along the way. We will discuss color, shape, line, composition, light, texture, and how these affect the feeling of the painting.

Each class will begin with a half hour of either a slide lecture or demonstration introducing the focus for the week. There will then be two hours to paint. The final half hour we will look together as a group at the work done in class as well as any homework. Class sessions will be recorded for students who miss a class, but live attendance is highly recommended.

Grade Options and Requirements:
- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Score will be determined by student attendance and participation.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  - Homework, as assigned by the instructor, will determine a student’s grade.

*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.

Tentative Weekly Outline:
Week 1, September 21
Video: How to begin a painting working with simple forms and layering
In Studio:
Still Life – Objects in Composition
Homework:
Arrange and paint a simple still life carefully considering the composition.

Week 2, September 28
Video: Color Mixing, Primary, Secondary, Complementary, and Neutral colors, light and dark
In Studio:
Still Life in a Room – Composition, Light and Dark
Homework:
Arrange and paint a still life in a room in your home paying close attention to quality of light and shadow

Please contact the Stanford Continuing Studies office with any questions.
365 Lasuen St., Stanford, CA 94305
continuingstudies@stanford.edu
650-725-2650
Week 3, October 5
In Studio: Still Life in a Room
Objects in Composition, Form & Space, Color, and Light & Dark, Portrait / Story
Our surroundings often tell a story about us, our objects and interiors can be portraits without figures
Homework:
Paint a self-portrait or portrait of a family member or friend through objects and interior space

Week 4, October 12
In Studio: Nature
Moving to landscape we first focus on details such as cloud studies, botanical details, and garden still life’s
Homework:
Paint from nature focusing in on a close-up or detail in the garden or clouds

Week 5, October 19
In Studio: Texture, Quality of Light
Landscape – include water, mountains, forest, spatial depth, pan out to a wider view
Homework:
Landscape – continue working on the painting started in class or begin a new landscape

Week 6, October 26
In Studio:
Landscape – Paint a landscape that includes people or animals
Homework:
Landscape – continue working on the painting started in class or begin a new landscape

Week 7, November 2
In Studio: Quality of light
Interior / Exterior, Inside looking out or vice versa, a window, door, or archway will frame your view
Homework:
Interior / Exterior, continue working on the painting started in class or begin a new painting

Week 8, November 9
In Studio:
Interior / Exterior – frame a view, composition, form & space, color, light & dark, and texture.
Homework:
Interior / Exterior, continue working on the painting started in class or begin a new painting

Week 9, November 16 - Final Class
In Studio:
Your choice of any of the subjects we've covered this quarter.
Homework: Keep Painting!
Materials List

Please note that if we were holding this course on campus we would be restricted to using water-based paints due to the guidelines of the Department of Art. Since you will be working in your own homes / studios, you may use oil paint if that is your preference. Additionally you may choose to use water-color or something else. In keeping with my on-campus classes I’ve kept the materials list as is assuming most people will use acrylic paint. This list is meant as a good starting point but I do not require you to get these exact colors if you already have your own paints. Your canvas may change depending on your medium. It is fine to paint on paper, cardboard, stretched canvas, panel, or any other surface you wish to paint on.

Acrylic Paint – 2 oz. Tubes – I like Golden Paints (brand)
  _ Cadmium Red Medium Hue
  _ Cadmium Yellow Medium Hue
  _ Yellow Ochre
  _ Ultramarine Blue
  _ Manganese Blue
  _ Hooker’s Green
  _ Green Gold
  _ Permanent Green Light
  _ Alizarin Crimson
  _ Burnt Sienna
  _ Raw Umber
  _ Paynes Gray
  _ Zinc White
  _ Titanium White

_Acrylic Medium (Gloss, Satin, or Matte)

_Brushes (for acrylic)
  _ 2 Round: one small (fine) round and one 1/2 inch round
  _ 2 Flat: one - 1/4 inch and one - 3/4 inch flat
  _ one @ 1.5” Gesso Brush

_Palate Knife
_Disposable Paper Palate Pad
  _ 1 - 5-pack - Canvas Boards 5” x 7”
  _ 1 - 5-pack - Canvas Boards 12” x 16”

Apron or old shirt, paper towels, rags, pencils, charcoal, water container, etc…

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