PRELIMINARY CLASS SYLLABUS  
ART 62  
Beginning Acrylic Painting  
Instructor: Jim Caldwell

To receive a letter grade you must:  
Attend most of the classes, participate in discussions, and make a reasonable effort  
at painting. 

Note: This class is designed to be a cumulative learning process, each class building on the  
last one. It is understood that we are all busy, and a few missed classes will not ruin the  
educational experience. However the first few classes are very critical in that learning  
process. Best not to miss them.

**Class 1**

Class goals.  
Brief history of my painting career and how it might relate to yours. 
Discussion of Oils vs. Acrylics  
Review of Class Structure  
Starting on time,  
Slides of great paintings of favorite artists,  
theory, demo,  
paint  
Break (with snack) we look at what our fellow students have done.  
Paint,  
group crit, clean up.  
No homework  
Review the Artistic background and Goals of each student  
Importance of drawing skills.  
Review of Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain Betty Edwards,  
Discussion of Color, a primary component of painting.  
Color wheel the structure of color  
Discussion of equipment,  
Palette box. Insert.  
Brushes, water bottle, spray bottle  
texture of canvas, grey gesso. Wrapped edges, painting over  
Demonstration use of brushes, paints  
Class exercise – abstract painting, using all of the colors and brushes  
Break, Crit, Clean up.  
Note: Subject of Still Life for each class is subject to change.  
Date set for visit to Jim Caldwell’s studio in Woodside.

**Class 2**

Review of first class  
Review of Wayne Theibot’s paintings  
Discussion of Perspective  
Demonstration. Use of Mask for composition  
Still Life – colored Blocks.  
Paint, Break paint, crit.  
Clean-up.

**Class 3**

Discussion of paintings by Mark Adams.  
Three things which are essential for a successful painting  
1. Why you want to paint your subject. What is your message?  
2. analytical grasp of what you see. The ability to see what is there’  
3. skill to control the process of painting  
Still Life – different types of Onions

**Class 4**

Discussion of 4 paintings in 1880’s – Differences in style  
Homer  
Monet
Van Gogh
Sargent
Still life - Hats

**Class 5**
Discussion of paintings by Jan Vermeer
Still Life - Shoes, white bucks

**Class 6**
Discussion of John Singer Sargent
Still Life - Billiard Balls

**Class 7**
Discussion of Claude Monet
Still Life - Wine bottles, wine glass, white wine, cork screw, cork.

**Class 8**
Discussion of Vincent Van Gogh
Still Life - Tulips

**Class 9**
Slides of Class work
Still Life - Yellow Rose and ornaments

**The Take away**
1. Importance of drawing
2. Developing your ability to see
3. Confidence with eye hand coordination, mixing colors
4. Decision to make your creativity part of your everyday life.
5. Paint from the heart
6. Believe in yourself
7. Paint Alla prima