

ASPT 1300: Introduction to Painting

Instructor: Anna Membrino

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office hours: by appointment

SYLLABUS

Class Description: This is an introductory level course for art majors or non-art majors. Painting experience is not necessary for this course. We will be studying the physical properties of paint, as well the concepts involved in painting today. We will study various methods of paint handling and explore the properties of several mediums. This course will also focus on color theory and the construction of spatial relationships on a 2-dimensional surface. We will take full advantage of the fact that this course is taking place in Taos, New Mexico. We will study the flora and fauna of the area and also the rich history of art that has been produced in Taos and Santa Fe.

Rationale for this class: Painting enables us to recreate, understand, and reinterpret the world around us.

“I never finish a painting...I just stop working on it for a while.” Arshile Gorky.

Course Goals:

1. heighten ability to observe and translate observations into paint
2. develop a vocabulary to properly analyze a painting
3. to find the historical and social context evident in certain paintings and painting methods

Course Requirements:

***You will need to check Blackboard for upcoming assignments and due dates**

***Paper and Presentation:** Each student will choose an artist who has produced, or is currently producing art in this region. You will give a presentation on this artist and turn in a three to four page paper.

***Trip to Santa Fe:** We will spend one day in Santa Fe visiting galleries. Attendance is required.

Grade Breakdown:

Sketchbook-20% (you will turn in your sketchbook for a grade on 5 occasions)

Participation-20% (fieldtrips, critiques, promptness, preparedness)

Presentation and Paper- 40%

Work produced in class- 20%

Grading: Work will be graded based on the objectives discussed for each assignment:

A=Excellent Quality-superior grasp of concepts: high quality work, exploration and presentation, serious and consistent effort, commitment and participation.

B=Commendable Quality - strong effort; evidence of growth; good quality work (above average), good participation.

C=Acceptable Quality - This is the norm and requires coming to class and doing the work; average quality work; some technical problems or trouble with concepts; participation average, average enthusiasm, acceptable work but not distinguishable among peers or university level work.

D=Poor Quality-poor/under average work, incomplete work or repeated issues of completing work on time, little participation, attendance issues

F=Unacceptable Quality-work not completed, missing more than 10% of class (at least 5), poor attitude, disruptive, disrespectful to learning environment

Rules: Turn off all cell phones, laptops, and other distractions for the duration of class. Do not miss a critique.

Attendance/Tardiness:

Attendance will be taken for every class. You can have up to three unexcused absences but no more. If you exceed this number your final grade will drop one letter grade. Excused absences (as defined by SMU policy) include observation of a religious holiday, a medical emergency, and participation in a university sponsored event.)

Tardiness will affect your grade. Three tardies equals one unexcused absence. If you are more than 3 minutes late, you are tardy. Leaving class early will also be considered a tardy.

Recommended Texts:

Vision and Art: The Biology of Seeing, Margaret Livingstone

The Invisible Dragon: Four Essays on Beauty, Dave Hickey

Point and Line to Plane, Wassily Kandinsky

Academic Honesty and Misconduct

You are bound by the Honor Code and the SMU Student Code of Conduct.

For complete details, see: http://www.smu.edu/studentlife/PCL_01_ToC.asp

Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first contact Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) at 214-768-1470 or www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. They

should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements. (See University Policy No. 2.4; an attachment describes the DASS procedures and relocated office.)

Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

Excused Absences for University Extracurricular Activities: Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled University extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work. (University Undergraduate Catalogue)