

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ART 13

Title: WATERCOLOR

Full Title: Watercolor

Last Reviewed: 12/12/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	4.00	6	Lab Scheduled	70.00
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	6.00		Contact Total	105.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 175.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
In this painting course, students will use watercolor to explore light, color, form, and composition as drawn from still life, landscape, the human figure, and non-objective subject matter. Cross-cultural and international explorations of watercolor will also be explored.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Course Completion of ART 3 or ART 4 or ART 7A

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: In this painting course, students will use watercolor to explore light, color, form, and composition as drawn from still life, landscape, the human figure, and non-objective subject matter. Cross-cultural and international explorations of watercolor will also be explored. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended: Course Completion of ART 3 or ART 4 or ART 7A

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>	Effective:	Inactive:
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<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:
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**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Constructively analyze compositional design elements and be able to effectively articulate correct art and design terminology during critique settings.
2. Demonstrate proficiency of watercolor painting techniques and compositional organization evident within a portfolio.

### **Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Examine and resolve complex problems of shape, scale, value, color, and line
2. Demonstrate the proper use of the tools and materials of watercolor painting
3. Employ and interpret the basics of color dynamics and color mixing using transparent washes
4. Relate pictorial problems to examples of watercolor painting of the past and present from cross-cultural and international traditions
5. Critique one's own painting and the paintings of others
6. Plan and execute paintings in stages
7. Improvise during the painting process
8. Create a range of hues, tints, tones, and shades using double primary colors, complimentary mixing, and earth tones
9. Utilize basic design principles as they apply to any given assignment

### **Topics and Scope:**

#### **I. Basic Pictorial Considerations**

- A. Composition
- B. Positive and negative shapes
- C. Orchestration of darks and lights
- D. Texture and edge characteristics

#### **II. Watercolor Methods and Materials**

- A. Paper stock: texture and absorbency
- B. Wetting, stretching, and taping supporting paper
- C. Use of and care for watercolor, sumi, and hake brushes
- D. Use of sponges, masking, and working around whites
- E. Flat washes
- F. Graduated washes
- G. Wet into wet
- H. Dry brush technique

### III. Color Dynamics

- A. Contrasts of values, of complements, saturation, and temperature
- B. Toning color with complementary colors
- C. Triadic harmonies
- D. Expressive aspects of color

### IV. Precedents in Watercolor Painting

- A. English watercolorists
- B. German Expressionist watercolorists
- C. American masters of watercolor
- D. Asian brush painting
- E. Contemporary approaches to watercolor painting

### V. Critique Lab

- A. Appraisal, technical, and formal analysis of masterworks incorporating art and design terminology
- B. Appraisal, technical, and formal analysis of student works lab incorporating art and design terminology

All topics are covered in both the lecture and lab parts of the course.

### **Assignment:**

#### Lecture-Related Assignments:

1. Homework problems
2. Paintings and sketchbooks
3. Assessment, analysis, critique and/or production of the following areas (both in-class and take home):
  - A. Still life and landscape compositions to investigate color relationships: primary, secondary, complementary, and triadic.
  - B. Series of exercises using transparent washes to explore effects of light, shadow, and color.
  - C. Color wheel in twelve steps.
  - D. Color charts varying the ratio of water to pigment.
  - E. Still life or landscapes in various watercolor painting techniques: flat wash, layered washes, and wet-into-wet painting.
  - F. Interpreting photographic images in watercolor.

#### Lab-Related Assignments:

1. Class performances
2. Paintings and sketchbooks
3. Assessment, analysis, critique and/or production of the following areas:
  - A. Mapping values in pencil prior to painting in order to analyze the overall pattern of light and dark shape areas.
  - B. Still life study of composition and value (monochromatic).
  - C. Still life study using directional light source to describe light and cast shadows.
  - D. Master copy watercolor paintings.

- E. Abstracting forms in nature through gesture and mark-making.
- F. Brush painting based on Asian masters.

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments and skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.

Writing  
0 - 0%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems

Problem solving  
25 - 40%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performances; paintings and sketchbooks; assessment, analysis, critique, and/or production across multiple areas in watercolor

Skill Demonstrations  
45 - 60%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

None

Exams  
0 - 0%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Attendance; participation; effort; growth

Other Category  
10 - 15%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

The Art of Watercolor. LeClair, Charles. Watson-Guption Publications: 1994 (classic).

Basic Watercolor Techniques. Albert, Greg and Wolf, Rachel. North Light Books: 1991 (classic).

The Complete Watercolorist's Essential Notebook: A treasury of watercolor secrets discovered through decades of painting and experimentation. MacKenzie, Gordon. North Light Books: 2010 (classic).

Mustard Seed Garden Manual of Painting. Sze, Mai-mai. Princeton University Press: 1978 (classic).

Watercolor Techniques for Artists and Illustrators, 1st. ed. Booth, Graham. DK Illustrators: 2020.