

ART 14A Course Outline as of Fall 2001

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ART 14A

Title: BEGINNING PAINTING

Full Title: Beginning Painting

Last Reviewed: 1/9/2024

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	1.50	Lab Scheduled	4.00	3	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: 03 - May Be Taken for a Total of 3 Units

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
An introductory course in painting involving the basic elements and dynamics of art such as value, color, texture and space, as well as compositional factors and an introduction to the various problems and potentials of painting. (Acrylics or oil paints).

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Course Completion of ART 7A

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: An introductory course in painting involving the basic elements & dynamics of art such as value, color, texture & space, as well as compositional factors & an introduction to the various problems & potentials of painting. (Acrylics or oil paints). (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:  
Recommended: Course Completion of ART 7A  
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC. (CAN ART10)  
Repeatability: May Be Taken for a Total of 3 Units

## **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:**  
CID Descriptor: ARTS 210      Introduction to Painting  
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):      ART14A

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**  
Certificate Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

1. Sharpen and stimulate visual perception.
2. Engage visual thinking.
3. Develop awareness of the pictorial elements: Shape, volume, value and color contrast, light, space, etc.
4. Become familiar with and able to describe and analyze paintings both verbally and in writing using vocabulary of terms pertaining specifically to painting.
5. Practice and develop hand skills necessary for basic mastery of the control of acrylics and/or oil paint and tools such as brushes and palette knives.
6. Exercise ability to make critical aesthetic judgments through class critiques.
7. Foster good habits of "pacing" a painting by building it up progressively.
8. Develop compositional skills.
9. Become exposed to the creative process, its potentials and pitfalls, the development of discipline, experiencing the role of risk-taking and experimentation.
10. Cultivate and understanding of the creative process which includes both the development of disciplined work habits and the practice of hand skills, as well as risk-taking and experimentation.
11. Develop an ear for the dialogue that occurs between the painting and the painter.
12. Cultivate an open receptivity to the many possible resources for ideas, information and inspiration.
13. Learn the basics of color dynamics, color mixing, and paint characteristics.

14. Exercise the essential craft of using the tools and materials of painting and the preparation of supports and grounds.
15. Relate pictorial problems to good examples of painting of the past and the present (Western, Asian, Primitive, Outsider art, etc.).
16. Define health and safety issues that can arise from the use of paints and mediums and solvents. Train students to clean palettes and brushes and dispose of waste safely.

## **Topics and Scope:**

The primary intent of Art 14A is visual literacy and performance using specific media in a studio setting. This includes:

1. The ability to understand the basic pictorial elements of painting: the picture plane, two and three-dimensional movement in space, proportion, scale, orchestration of darks and lights, negative space, figure/ground relationships including reversals and ambiguities.
2. The ability to make aesthetic decisions and judgments about these elements in painting.
3. The ability to perform specific techniques to demonstrate these elements using "short" and "long" paint, staining, glazing, scumbling, dry brush, palette knife, various mediums, brushes and other implements.
4. The ability to intelligently use and care for the tools of Art 14A: brushes, palette knives, rags, solvents, mediums, palettes, etc.
5. The ability to distinguish basic and subtle color differences, work with their contrasts and learn about color mixing and the characteristics of oil and/or acrylic paint.
6. The ability to work with a variety of sources: drawings, color sketches, photographs, media images, memory, etc.
7. The ability to work from a variety of subjects: still life, landscape, the figure, invented shapes, gesture, etc.
8. The ability to use a variety of supports for painting, to become familiar with the proper grounds for priming these supports, the ability to apply these primers.
9. The ability to assemble stretchers, become familiar with the tools involved in the process, and learn the technique of stretching canvas.
10. The ability to analyze reproductions and/or slides of master paintings, past and contemporary, for value contrasts, spatial solutions, color dynamics, compositional elements, figure/ground relations, paint handling, expressive means, emotional and conceptual content.

The scope and sequence of the course will be presented as follows:

1. Through lectures concerning the concepts, elements and art historical precedents of painting.
2. Through lecture/demonstrations of the proper use of materials and techniques.
3. Through student practice and demonstration of compositional, expressive and technical concepts.
4. Through evaluative one-on-one discussions with individual students.
5. Through group critique discussions and presentations of in-class and homework sketches and paintings.

Specific areas of study within Art 14A include:

1. Shape: recognizing the essential shape of forms first before focusing on surface detail, using positive and negative shape rela-

tionships to strengthen compositional drama or unity.

2. Value: employing tonal contrasts and gradients to develop volume, depth, drama and movement.

3. Color: distinguishing basic and subtle differentiations of color and understanding the basics of the color wheel.

4. Line: using line to define contour as an expressive element in itself.

5. Proportion: analyzing the proportions of a single object and analyzing the proportional relationships between objects.

6. Scale: considering how size, scale and shape of format influence a painting. Considering how the size and scale of what is painting influences the impact of a composition on the viewer.

7. Texture: using textural contrasts and pattern to describe surfaces and to enrich or give visual weight to painting.

8. Edge: the edge as a different way to achieve contrast than line.

Varying soft and hard edges to create differing contrasts between figure and ground.

9. Abstraction: introduce the concept of abstraction through various means: extreme simplification of the elements of painting, (form, value, and color), alteration, and/or distortion. Show examples of 20th c. painting to demonstrate various expressions in this mode.

10. The Non-Objective: using the grid, gesture, accident, or other means to initiate painting that revolves around formal considerations and does not originate from a correlation to perceived or preconceived subject matter.

11. Content: recognize other-than aesthetic aspects of painting, such as metaphor, symbol, narrative, etc.

12. Process: introduce elements of improvisation, spontaneity, chance, and the mixing of media, drawing upon 20th c. precedents for inspiration.

### **Assignment:**

1. Still life set-ups for study of composition.

2. Still life set-ups for study of color relations: a) Achromatic tonal studies using only black and white and variously mixed grays.

b) Tonal studies using one primary color plus black and white. c) Analogous schemes involving one color mixed variously with its neighbor on the color wheel. d) Complementary contrasts stressing warm/cool interaction.

e) Complementary contrasts using two pairs of complements.

f) Painting limited to browns mixed from primaries plus black and white.

g) Study using only white with subtle hints towards the primaries.

h) Intense color contrasts without use of white or black in mixtures.

3. Look at objects and their surroundings to create effects of volume, space and light: a) cast shadow, b) highlight, c) reflected light and color, d) warm/cool contrast, e) varying saturation, f) value contrast,

g) blending and modulation, h) avoiding use of black and white, i) consideration of different treatment of contour edges and the use of outline.

4. Exercise and expand upon the basic concepts above in subjects such as

a) the urban or suburban scene, b) the self-portrait, c) the draped or undraped model, d) food as a theme, e) objects enlarged and/or isolated to give significance to their objectness and/or metaphorical meanings.

5. Abstract a subject by simplifying, altering, distorting, etc.
6. Exercise one's memory by painting a still life set-up which is viewed intermittently, rather than continuously.
7. Experiment with some of the dynamic interactions of formal compositional elements and surface treatment in a painting without objective subject matter.
8. Experiment with some of the dynamic interactions of formal compositional elements and surface treatment in a painting without objective subject matter.
9. Interpret an old or contemporary master painting to analyze its structure, value contrasts, color relations, paint handling.

## 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  
40 - 60%

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

Class performances, PAINTINGS & SKETCHBOOKS

Skill Demonstrations  
10 - 30%

**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.

A BODY OF WORK INVOLVING PAINTINGS & SKETCHES WILL BE THE MAJOR BASIS OF COURSE GRADE. OTHER FACTORS: ATTENDANCE, EFFORT, GROWTH, PARTICIPATION

Other Category  
10 - 30%

## Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Hawthorne on Painting, Hawthorne, Dover, New York, 1960  
Art and Fear, Bayles and Orland, Capra Press, Santa Barbara, 1993

An Artist's Notebook, Chaet, Holt, Rinehard and Winston, 1979  
Theories of Modern Art, Chipp, University of California Press, Berkeley,  
Los Angeles and London, 1968