

Plein Air In Oils
May Class Studio School VMFA
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This is an extensive list but please feel free to edit and improvise with what you already have and to email me if you have any questions. I am really looking forward to working with you in this class.

Strongly recommend that you have at least one practice run of packing up your plein air painting kit and walking around with it to see how it feels. Also figure out the best way to pack it in your car

Recommended Art Suppliers:

Locally
Plaza Art on West Grace
Michael's Art Supply Stores (several locations)

Online
Blick.com
CheapJoes.com

Definitely Need

Ground (the surface you are painting on). Can be stretched canvas, canvas board, canvas paper- taped onto a solid board like masonite, or gessoed board. Can even be gessoed or shellacked thick paper (prepped ahead of time). *Dimensions will vary based on what you want, but I would recommend keeping it manageable, in between 7"x10" to 16"20"*

Palette- can be paper from a palette pad, a plastic, glass or wooden surface that can hold paint and then release it when it is cleaned with turpenoid or other oil cleaner.

Saran wrap - to cover your wet palette to use later OR **a palette seal plastic box to place palette inside**

Brushes- Do not bring alot, part of plein air is traveling light, maybe 4-8: but you want a variety. 1" to 2" flat down to a fine liner, and then a couple in between that you like or use often.

Paints-Again, do not bring a great deal, about 12 tubes max. At the very least a white, a black and a set of primary colors that you feel very comfortable mixing. *A good basic set to start off with includes white, black, red, yellow, blue, green, violet and orange, burnt umber, burnt sienna and yellow ochre.*

(Dick Blick has a great starter set of 10 Georgian Oil Paints, Item #:00485-1069)

Palette Knife - metal with wooden handle. Maybe painting with this later. Small towel works well. Would avoid a completely flat one

Cleaner-something non/low-toxic like Gamsol or Turpenoid Natural (at least a pint)
Stainless Steel Brush Washer with a sealed clamp down lid.

Medium- a combination of linseed oil and cleaner (I use 1:1) or a pre-made one. Small amount needed,
Small, sealed container (can even recycle a used container)

Vinyl or latex gloves to wear while painting

Paper towels and/or cotton rags

Small Rolling or Carrying Bag for supplies. I usually use a rolling tool kit if I am not hiking or going over hilly/rocky terrain to get to my painting site. Also one of those big Ikea blue bags works. ANd of course a backpack

A small plastic bag to collect dirty rags any other trash

Extras: Sketchbook, Pencil, Black Sharpee Marker, Apron

Personal Extras: Hat with a visor, sun screen, bug spray, sun glasses, light jacket, comfortable shoes, baby wipes, water bottle, a snack.

Helpful but not Essential
(can also wait after first week before deciding to purchase)

Easel Options include: French, Half French, Pochade Box or really anything that can set your canvas (ground) at an upright angle. Having a shelf to place your palette is an added plus. Not absolutely essential. *You can even wait a week or so to see what other people are using and I bring in*

Small, Lightweight Stool or Chair if you do not want to be standing the whole time

Umbrella- attach to easel or stand alone