

VMFA Studio School

Introduction to Painting

Instructor: Joan Elliott

I would like for everyone to paint during the first class. For those of you who have been in the class previously, or those with experience-please bring along sketches, printed images, objects or ideas that you want to work with this semester.

If you are an absolute beginner, the first class will be devoted to working on a black and white painting- this will familiarize you with the materials of painting before complicating matters with color. For this exercise it would be best to work from life rather than printed images. The studio has a supply of still life objects, but you may want to bring something of your own (its more fun that way, pick simple shapes and surfaces- transparent objects are very difficult). Try to keep it simple, one to three objects. If possible, I'd like for the painting to be completed in one class.

I am also including the materials list for new students. You will probably want to ask questions during the first class before purchasing the entire setup. If you have any questions, my phone number is 261-1768.

For Beginners Only- Materials for black and white painting:

- Titanium white oil paint
- Burnt umber oil paint
- Ultramarine blue oil paint
- Flat bristle brush, sizes 2 & 4 (long handle-for oil painting)
- Odorless Turpentine or Odorless Mineral Spirits
- Canvas panel approximately 11x14

If you have more brushes or other supplies, please bring them. This list is a minimum outline of what can be used.

Intro/ Intermediate Level Painting Studio Supply List

(Intro students: will only need the above short list for first class)

PAINTS:

(Please do not buy water soluble oil paints)

Cadmium Yellow Light

Yellow Ochre

Cadmium Red Medium

Alizarin Crimson

Ultramarine Blue

Turquoise or Cerulean

Violet (Manganese or a reddish violet)

Chromium Green Oxide

Viridian

Cadmium Orange (optional)

Burnt Sienna

Burnt Umber
Titanium White or Mixed White

BRUSHES FOR OIL PAINTING:

Bristle: Most versatile and durable oil brush, made from bleached hog hair (synthetic blends not recommended)

Flat style is most versatile: sizes 2, 4 and 6.

Mongoose or Sable: Mongoose hair is durable, versatile and economical (highly recommended) Sables are finer, but more expensive and require more care. Both used for smooth, flat or precise strokes.

Flat or Bright: size 2, 4, 6 (rounds are not recommended)

MEDIUM:

Many premixed mediums work well, select one with a regular drying time, low odor.

Recommended: Gamblin brand "Galkyd Lite Low Viscosity" *Please avoid Liquin.*

CANVAS:

Beginners: will need 4 canvas panels, 11x4 size for exercises

For paintings: prestretched, preprimed canvases work well.

Gessoed paper, primed masonite or wood panels are also excellent supports.

PALETTE:

Disposable palettes, size 12"x16" are the easiest solution.

Or a sheet of 16x20 plexiglass, taping a white sheet of mat board to the base, covering all edges with tape. A window scraper can be used for clean up.

ALSO NEEDED:

Odorless Turpentine (Turpenoid or Gamsol recommended)

Palette Knife: small diamond style for mixing paints

Clean Cotton Rags: old tee shirts are best

Glass Jars with lids: to store Turpenoid while painting