Watercolor Painting

Summer Session II
July 2-August 6 2019
M/T/W/TH 6pm-9pm  Keating Hall
Instructor: Rachael Grimm
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Office hours:

Course Description

This course is an exploration of the processes, materials and techniques of watercolor painting. We will learn basic principles such as tonal value, how to interpret subjects as shapes, and the importance of composition. Through exploring color mixing, brushwork and texture, we will discover how versatile the medium is and how it can lead to unexpected and exciting results. This course requires no previous experience in watercolor.

Schedule

Week 1 (July 2-July 3 NO class on July 4, Independence Day)
Introduction and an overview of materials, course expectations, and a brief history of watercolor. Techniques explored: flat washes, layering, wet in wet, dry brush, value studies, color mixing. Homework related to studio work will be assigned on Wednesday to be handed in the following Monday.

Week 2 (July 8-July 11)
Theme: tonal value relationships and composition. Building on techniques learned in week one, the theme will be explored through still life set-ups in the studio, photo references, and working directly from nature outside the studio. Homework related to the theme will be assigned on Thursday to be handed in the following Monday.

Week 3 (July 15- July 18)
Theme: landscape. Working primarily outside the studio at the Rose Hill campus, we will simplify the complexities of landscape painting using techniques learned in weeks 1 and 2. Homework related to the theme will be assigned on Thursday to be handed in the following Monday.
Thursday – short portfolio reviews.

Week 4 (July 22-25)
The theme: texture, form and the figure. Using skills learned in weeks 1-3, we will learn how to convey dynamic textures and forms in watercolor. We will spend some time working with a live model and learn how to simplify the human form by interpreting
the subject as a pattern of shapes and tonal values. **Homework** related to the theme will be assigned on Thursday to be handed in the following Monday.

**Week 5** (July 29-August 1)
Theme: individual expression. Using all of the techniques learned in weeks one through 4, you will explore your own ideas and use your own reference material to create artworks in watercolor. **Homework** related to the theme will be assigned on Thursday to be handed in the following Monday.

**Week 6** (August 5-August 6)
Monday: **Portfolio review.** You must bring in all work completed in the session, including sketchbooks, to show evidence of progress and development. I will meet with each student to discuss work completed in the course. You will work on still lives or from your own reference material while the reviews are being held.
Tuesday: **Class show!** Students may invite friends and family to view a selection of their work displayed in our studio gallery. Light refreshments will be served.

**Critiques**

At the end of each class, we will pin work up in the studio and spend about 15 minutes discussing work completed that day. Critiques are a way for students to give and receive valuable feedback that will help to develop ideas and practices for the future.

**Attendance and Grading**

Attendance and being on time is an important part of being successful in this class. New skills will be learned daily and build upon one another so absence and lateness will hinder progress and will be reflected in your final grade. Satisfying course requirements and completing work well will result in a ‘B’ grade. Putting in extra effort on assignments and challenging yourself in your work and ideas are required for an ‘A’ grade.

You can discuss your progress in this class with me during office hours or by appointment. If you are concerned about your grade in this course, the proper time to discuss it is before the final grades are submitted at the end of the semester.