ART 104  Beginning Oil Painting  2-3:30 Tues Thurs.  Spring 2018

Instructor:  Peggy Cox, Professor
Office: Thompson Clark 301
Office Hours: M. W 8:30-11:00 Friday by appointment only.
Communication: campus email only pcox@westminster.edu  phone: 7266 TC office

Appointments: make 24 hours in advance and I will confirm. Use email for all communications.

READINGS/HANDOUTS will be your reference materials for design concepts, terms, techniques on D2L

Final: DEC. 14, Wed. 8-10:30

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to introduce and/or enhance all painting skill levels of students. Assignments will emphasize a variety of imagery and design concepts. We will be using water-based oils and employing direct and layered techniques.

COURSE OUTCOMES
By the end of this course, a student should:
A. Demonstrate knowledge of compositional design and color theory through their projects.
B. Be able to analyze and critique paintings using the concepts and terms of the discipline
C. Demonstrate use of two basic painting methods through completion of projects
D. Demonstrate improved skills

COURSE STRUCTURE and SCHEDULE
Class time will consist of work sessions for demonstrations, learning techniques through required exercises, planning compositions, and critiques. Projects will be discussed in group formats as well as individually. There will be class time allocated to work on your assignments. However, most of the work must be completed outside of class. Do not rely upon class time to get assignments completed. Expect to work outside of class a minimum of 3 hours a week or more to achieve improvement and success. You will have exercises and studies that must be completed as preparatory work before beginning each project. They will be a part of an accumulated point system for each project. Points will be earned only if they are completed by the due dates with few exceptions.

When a new technique or media is introduced, we use class time for trial and error. Students must allow for adequate time to explore an idea, try techniques, and rework unsuccessful attempts.

TOPICS and TECHNIQUES
Areas that will be covered, (but are not limited to), are art elements: Color, Line, Shape, Texture, and Value with an emphasis upon color theory. Subject matter will be presented as a series of options for each project. We will cover abstraction, interpretation, and representation. However, beginning painting classes will have an emphasis upon abstraction to facilitate learning design basics. Classic layering methods will be contrasted with standard direct or “alla prima” methods. A final project will combine both methods.

STUDIO ETIQUETE
Studios and common supplies are for course work only. Students are not permitted to use the facilities or supplies for extra-curricular organizations. Students are expected to maintain their work and storage areas. Common areas are to be kept clean. Shared Class materials must be returned to their storage locations. Abuse of the space or materials will result in your course grade being lowered a full grade.
CRITIQUES, PARTICIPATION, EFFORT
Class discussions and critiques are critical to the success of your coursework. Critiques are analytical discussions about your projects in terms of understanding the assignment, skill sets, and problem solving. These discussions will introduce art vocabulary for which you will be responsible. Students will present critiques of their own and other students’ work.

Art criticism is an organized system for looking at and talking about art. If you look at a work of art without thinking, little can happen. If you think carefully and consider what you see, perceptual skills will be enhanced. Individual life experiences will affect how you respond to art. Because of the diversity of backgrounds and experiences, no two people will have a similar response.
Successful critiques incorporate both positive and negative statements. Strong critiquing skills requires a suspension of personal taste. Prior to a critique you should consider your own work, analyze the aesthetic decisions you make, and be ready to answer questions or consider other possible directions for your work. Some critiques will be written.

ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all sessions.
You will be allowed 2 missed days, excused or unexcused.
**After missing 2 classes, your final grade will be lowered by 5% per day missed up to 5 misses.

After missing 6 unexcused classes, you automatically fail the course.

If you are late or leave early by 30 minutes, you are considered absent. Attendance is taken randomly.

In the case of illness, it must be documented by the campus nurse or other professional and presented to me immediately upon returning to class or it will not be accepted. If you are legitimately ill, I will get you caught up with class work. If you are attending conferences with other professors or interviewing for graduate school, please have your professor or advisor notify me.

Sporting events: are excused if your coach has notified faculty of a game. PRACTICES are not excused.

Do NOT ask if you may be excused or email me that you are going to miss a class. Do NOT email me to send you information about missed work or ask for project information in advance because you plan to miss a class. If you had an unexcused miss, it is the student’s responsibility to contact another student about material covered.

At the beginning of class you should be in the studio with the necessary materials out and ready to work.

GRADES and ASSESSMENT
All studio activities are equally weighted. Each will have a simple rubric. Preparatory work is required for each project. Critique grades are derived from written and oral components. The course will include:

1000 points possible
4 Projects with related preparatory exercises 850 points
2 working oral critiques (while paintings are in progress) 40 points
2 written Critiques 100 points
1 Final portfolio (review of all the semester’s work to demonstrate level of improvement in technique, design, and use of color theory. A one page typed analysis of your work will be required.) 10 points
HOW A PROJECT IS ASSESSED

For each project, I will make assessments based upon how effectively you have addressed the following areas. Grade sheets are returned with comments in areas that need attention.

**Design and Presentation:** the assigned formal design elements and principles of organization are effectively/creatively integrated to maintain the unity of the artwork.

**Concept:** the design and technique work in unison to convey your idea or the projects’ assigned goals

**Craft:** a clear proficiency of required techniques, level of completion, the project’s condition/presentation is neat and professional

**Commitment and effort:** a demonstration of self-motivation, perseverance, analysis and revision demonstrated. A willingness to explore critical comments, pushing beyond requirements, level of improvement (after the first project). This can be demonstrated by your response to working critiques prior to grading and keeping a visual record of your work

**Things that will affect grades**

⇒ Turning in late work. The grade will drop one full letter for **DAY**, not class period, that it is late. **EX:** A drops to A-
   Exceptions are if you have a documented excuse.

⇒ No project will be accepted for a grade after **two class periods** past due date
   Exceptions are if you have a documented excuse.

⇒ Plagiarism will result in project failure.

⇒ Having a classmate do your work or putting your name on someone else’s work is considered cheating. It will result in project failure and will be reported to Dean of Students.

⇒ Work done in or for other courses will not be accepted.

**Accessibility Statement**
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers, should contact the Director of Disability Resources, located in 209 Thompson-Clark. phone: 724-946-7192

Students are responsible for maintaining their supplies. If you run low, expect to purchase replacements at local Art supply stores. Westminster College is not responsible for lost or damaged items.