

THE (SHORT) EVERYTHING (*BUT PAINTING*) COURSE DESCRIPTION

This comprehensive course is intended to cover **the main 'mechanics' of art** necessary for the creation of a successful painting. These fundamental skills will help bring confidence and success to your creative vision.

I based this course on the various challenges I've found to be common to many beginning and developing artists.

Drawing Accurately (the Secret of ...): Shapes, not things! (1 week)

Light and Shadow for 3D shape and compositional patterns of light and dark (1 week)

Perspective - Linear and Aerial: buildings, still life and landscape; reflections vs shadows (2 weeks)

User-Friendly Colour Creation, Colour Temperature, and Colour as Value (2 weeks).

Composition Made Simple, and working with photo-references (2 weeks)

Drawing For Painting: Transferring the image to the painting surface (1 week)

WHAT YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH: The basics of course – sketch pad, pencil, eraser and ruler. As well, you can bring any paintings you'd like critiqued, and especially photo-references you plan to work from. The following will also be needed for the various classes:

Week 1 (Shapes) – A MAGAZINE with lots of pictures and adds (if you can, please bring several, as some folks might not have any); piece of lightweight CARDBOARD (such as a cereal box) and CRAFT KNIFE

Week 2 (Light & Shadow) – Vine or willow CHARCOAL; larger sheet of light paper (at least 12" x 16"); kneaded eraser

Week 3 (Linear Perspective) – PHOTOS of houses and buildings, interiors as well as exteriors. Real estate calendars are a good source. BRING AS WELL – glue stick, longer ruler (at least 18"), large sheet of paper (20" x 30" -sh) if you have it

Week 4 Aerial Perspective) – 2 LANDSCAPE PHOTOS, one with receding hills, shorelines etc.; one with reflections (again, check your calendars). We'll also be rendering a picture, so bring whatever MEDIUM you like – watercolours, acrylics, pastels, coloured pencils, charcoal, graphite pencils etc. Oils (with odourless thinner) are

also fine, but take longer to dry. Bring the LONG RULER for this session too

Weeks 5 & 6 (Colour) – MIXABLE PAINTS will be required (I suggest watercolours or acrylics); medium quality (not lightweight) sketch pad paper will be adequate for the exercises. MAGAZINES or CALENDARS with lots of colourful pictures. Bring all your usual supplies, being sure to have a 'warm' and a 'cool' of each of the primary colours. Suggested hues (some substitutes will work):

- Alizarin Crimson (cool red)
- Cadmium Red medium or light (warm red)
- Cadmium Yellow medium or New Gamboge (warm yellow)
- Lemon Yellow or Cadmium Yellow light (cool yellow)
- Sap or Hooker's Green (opt'l)
- Viridian or Thalo Green
- Thalo Blue (o.k.a. Winsor or Intense Blue) or Prussian Blue (cool blue)
- Ultramarine Blue (warm blue?)
- Neutral Tint (violet-grey) or Payne's Grey (blue-grey)
- Burnt Umber
- Burnt Sienna
- Yellow Ochre
- Other earths (opt'l)
- Ivory or Mars Black
- Payne's Grey or Neutral Tint (W/C).

Oil and Acrylic painters of course will need their whites (Titanium and/or Zinc). Also, a short (1"-2") painting knife makes paint mixing easier and faster (less brush cleaning). Plus you'll want inexpensive canvas boards (\$Store) or 'canvas' paper for the exercises.

Week 7 & 8 (Composition) – Lots of pictures: ones you might be considering as PAINTING REFERENCES; at least one LARGER PICTURE with lots going on in it (e.g., street scene, room interior, maritime shore scene, people on a beach ...); two L-SHAPED pieces of paper (approx. 8" x 10"); PICTURES – paintings or photos you consider well composed or engaging. *For longer course:* CAMERA, tablet etc. with larger viewing screen (your cellphone if you have nothing else)

Week 9 (D for P) – A PHOTO REFERENCE that you'd like to enlarge to painting size. THIN PAPER, the same size or larger than your chosen painting size; the CANVAS OR PAPER you'll be painting on; longer and shorter RULERS