INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING
10 SESSION COURSE

This course is designed to teach any beginner the art and science of painting. These simplified classes cover all you need to know to start an enjoyable and successful lifetime of painting for pleasure or profession. Each session will last approximately one hour after which you can work on your assignment or your own painting with instruction for an additional hour.

Supply list:

For OILS - For ACRYLICS -

Brushes (1 each): Brushes (1 each):
#10 flat #10 flat
#6 flat #6 flat
#2 flat #2 flat
#6 round #6 round
sable or synthetic round sable or synthetic round
Angle Shader Angle Shader
liner or stripper liner or stripper
Hake(or similar)blending brush Hake(or similar)blending brush
3” utility brush 3” utility brush

Paper palette pad Paper palette pad
Canvas pads or canvas board Canvas pads or canvas board
Odorless Turpenoid 2 plastic water containers
Linseed oil Rags
Metal cups for solvents Sketch pad
Palette knife (plastic is fine) Palette knife (plastic is fine)
Rags Sketching implements of choice (pencil, charcoal, etc.)
Sketch pad
Sketching implements of choice (pencil, charcoal, etc.)

Paint:

Oils – I recommend using traditional oil paints but if you have allergy problems there are water-based oil paints available. Since you are just starting out, I recommend using student grade paints at first. They are cheaper and you won’t feel so precious about them. Winton and Academy are perfectly fine and readily available student grade oils.

Most brands have the same colors and go by the same names with some variation. Ultramarine Blue is often listed as French Ultramarine Blue and they are usually identical. A number of manufacturers are getting away from using certain pigments for health reasons, especially the cadmiums. Cadmium yellow,
for example, is considered by some to be toxic. I don’t believe there is any danger in using these colors. It is mostly when used in pastels where you might inhale the dust that could be harmful. The solvents are probably more toxic than the paint which is why I recommend odorless Turpenoid.

You must have all your primary and secondary colors from the color chart. From these you can mix almost any color needed. However today there are so many excellent colors available right out of the tube that you will have a wonderful time in your local art store selecting the best colors for your painting!

Include a soft mixing white (I prefer Titanium White) and I would add to that a solid black such as Ivory Black. Many painters prefer to mix their own blacks but that can lead to inconsistency. Gamblin makes a Chromatic Black which is designed to mix with color.

The other colors I recommend are Raw Sienna, Yellow Ochre, Burnt Sienna, Burnt Umber, Lemon Yellow Hue, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Cadmium Red Hue, Permanent Rose, Alizarin Crimson, French Ultramarine Blue, Thalo Blue and Thalo Green. Also I prefer a Cad Yellow Deep which has more of an orange tone to Lemon Yellow. As I mentioned I keep Sap Green and Hookers Green in my paint box.

You can mix brands of paint but do not mix oils with acrylics or other mediums.

Acrylics – The same colors as required for oils but there are a wide range of acrylic mediums that allowed you to create textures and effects that made these paints very versatile. Liquitex and Golden make a wide selection of mediums that not only change paint consistency but also can extend your paints drying time. And today’s acrylic brands offer amazing colors in addition to your basic primary colors including many metallic and iridescents.

I recommend Golden Acrylic Paints, made in America to exacting standards. They come in regular and slow-drying. The slow drying, called Open, can take up to a few days to dry and therefore work more like oils. Note that once you mix slow-drying paints with regular drying paints they are no longer slow-drying.