

NEW YORK STUDIO SCHOOL

OF DRAWING, PAINTING & SCULPTURE

Spring 2023

Friday Evening Painting on Paper - VIRTUAL

Instructor: Kaitlin McDonough
Class Hours: Fridays, 6:30pm – 9:30pm ET
First Class: February 3, 2023
Last Class: April 14, 2023
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Course Description

With an emphasis on perception and materiality, this course is designed to help each participant identify the elements most important to them in their paintings and to create new paintings based on the criteria identified. Participants are invited to use a range of water-based materials such as ink, watercolor and acrylic, along with collage and/or other materials, to translate what they perceive (including, but not limited to, what one perceives through sight) into a visual system of organization, creating works that will range in duration and scale. Through painting, we will explore: relationships, looking and perceiving, light and value, mark-making and touch, color and vibration, scale and materiality, atmosphere and air, meaning, organization and mystery, tone and energy. We will work from a range of sources such as: observable spaces and objects in our respective locations, transcriptions, memories, invention, and from the various senses. This series will also focus on the cultivation of each participant's respective motivations, methods and subsequent meanings in painting.

Course Outline

Class meetings will present visual situations and themes and the majority of class time will be spent making paintings through a suggested strategy. Formal aspects of drawing and painting will be emphasized so as to better integrate these elements within the overall content and emotional tenor of the work. Works on paper will vary in size, media, strategy, duration and focus.

Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to heighten attention and sensitivity to one's actions during the act of painting on paper and to heighten attention and sensitivity to the viewing of works. Participants will learn to respond energetically as well as analytically to observed space and form; to cultivate studio habits that will lead to self-sufficiency; and to begin to recognize strategies for art-making which bring them joy and elicit a response of 'yes'.

Assessable Tasks

Paintings on paper will be developed during each class session; participants should expect to complete a combination of long works and/or multiple short works during each session. It is suggested that all students keep a sketchbook (or other format) in which they build, independently, upon the class strategies which they find to be the most useful to their own practice.

Evaluation and Grading

For NYSS MFA students, grading is on a High Pass/Pass/Low Performance/Fail basis. To achieve a Pass grade, students should demonstrate engagement with their work, strong participation and attendance, and a striving to find a balance

between effort and ease in making. A grade of High Pass will be reserved for students who demonstrate the above to an exceptional degree. Please refer to the Student Handbook for the attendance policy; three unexcused absences will result in a lower grade and possibly failure.

Suggested Reading List

- Writings of Bridget Riley
- Writings of John Berger
- Writings of Jan Verwoert
- Turps Banana Magazine

Materials and Supplies

***Each participant will come to identify the materials which best suit their goals in painting throughout the 11 weeks of this course. The following list is a suggested list of materials. Please feel free to add to this list any materials that you like to use + any materials that you are interested in trying.*

- A range of paper; please try to have approximately 2 to 5 sheets of paper on hand for each class. (Suggested weight 140lb. or more, suggested size (approximately) 18" X 24". You are encouraged to experiment with different types of paper during each class & throughout the course. Additionally, some artists may prefer to work on non-traditional supports such as plaster, cardboard, wood, etc – experimentation is welcome.)
- Containers for water, at least two (can be clean jars or other plastic cups).
- Black and white acrylic paint
- Please choose at least one of the following (you are welcome to use more than one):
 - o Watercolors (a tray set is great)
 - o Ink (black and/or colored)
 - o Acrylics (a range of colors, including black and white)
 - o Gouache
- Brushes for whichever material you will be using of those listed above (at least 2 or 3 brushes, if not more, of varying sizes, [one sable recommended for watercolor and/or ink])
- Artist tape or masking tape
- Paper towels
- Old magazines / scrap paper (or anything similar) to be used for collage
- Glue (Elmer's, a glue stick, matte medium – whichever you are most comfortable using)
- Drawing board and easel (not required, suggested if possible; alternatively, a work-table or floor space)
- As this is a virtual course, meeting on Zoom and utilizing Padlet, all participants should have reliable internet access, a way of photographing your work digitally, and a computer or other through which to access the class.

School, Department & Class Policies

Please refer to the Student Handbook for information regarding the School's policies on academic integrity and plagiarism. All students must abide by the general health and safety regulations laid out in the Student Handbook, as well as any specific instructions given by the Instructor.

NYSS Student Conduct for Virtual Learning

In order to maintain a virtual space wherein participants feel at ease to share and learn openly with one another, the New York Studio School prohibits participants in virtual classes from recording, taking screenshots, or otherwise copying any portion of New York Studio School's online courses. While participants are free to share images of their own coursework, sharing or posting images or recordings from a virtual class on social media is prohibited without the consent of the instructor, models, and students from class. Course content is solely for registered students of the class and cannot be shared with others. By participating in virtual courses, students are aware that the New York Studio School may record and archive Zoom meetings, Padlet pages, and other content from the course.