

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of Visual Arts**

Course:	Visual Arts Studio 2216B	Title:	Introduction to Painting
Section:	001	Time:	Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30 to 5:30 pm
Term:	Winter 2016	Location:	Room 230
Instructor:	Kim Neudorf	E-mail:	kneudorf@uwo.ca
Office:	VAC 222	Phone #:	661-2111 ext. x 86835
Office Hours:	1:30-2:30 pm on Mondays		

Course Description:

VAS 2216B will explore the expressive and creative potential within the languages of painting and introduce important conceptual and theoretical ideas related to contemporary art. Students will be exposed to a variety of materials and working methods and engage in rigorous experimentation with the physical and critical processes of producing paintings. As an introductory course, emphasis will be given to perceptual development. As the term proceeds theoretical and critical issues will be integrated into the assignments. The course materials will be shared through instructor presentations, group critiques and discussions, technical demonstrations, assigned readings, and studio projects.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate technical, analytical and critical awareness of a wide range of material and conceptual problems specific to the visual arts
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of historical and contemporary issues relevant to the development and evaluation of a visual arts practice specifically within the field of painting
- Demonstrate technical and analytical competence necessary for continued development within the program

Course Requirements

- **Attendance:** Students are expected to punctually attend *all* class sessions and come prepared to participate in all class activities and critiques. This is a Studio course, and great emphasis is placed upon in-class work, feedback and discussion. Under university regulations, students who miss more than 15% of the course hours (4 classes per semester) without prior consultation or documentation (medical or bereavement vetted through student's faculty academic advisor) can be debarred from final studio critiques and examinations. Note that if a student is consistently absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cut-off and be debarred. **Students arriving unreasonably late, or leaving early, will be marked as absent. Students arriving to class without required materials or arriving unprepared for critiques will receive reduced marks. Texting or otherwise using media in class with no relation to a specific activity will result in reduced marks.**
- **Materials and Sketchbooks:** It is expected that students will take notes on all lectures, presentations and class discussions. A journal or sketchbook should be brought to every class.
- Unless specifically given as a homework project, all assignments must be worked on in class. **Assignments not seen in progress by the instructor will not be accepted for grading**, resulting in a loss of a project's percentage in the year end mark.
- **Assigned Readings:** Course readings will be made available on OWL. They should be read before each discussion.
- **Critiques:** There will be a critique for each of the main projects. A significant part of each student's mark will be decided by the effectiveness of the approach they employ to present their work at their critique. The critiques are intended for you to respond to your peers' work and to your own. It is not a platform for the instructor to speak solely, everyone is to be involved. Learning to analyze one's own work and the work of others is an extremely important skill for any student/student artist to develop. **ATTENDANCE AT ALL CRITIQUES IS MANDATORY.** Missing a critique without prior consultation will automatically result in a 0 (zero) grade for that Project.

- **Due Dates:** Students are responsible for making themselves aware of all assignments, procedures and due dates. It is the student's complete responsibility to keep informed of any such changes. Students are expected to complete all assignments by due dates for critique. Failure to complete assignments or present completed work in scheduled critiques without prior consultation with the instructor will result in a failing grade. With prior discussion, students can hand in late work with 2% per day deducted from the assignment (Monday to Friday, weekend considered one day). No late work will be accepted 3 weeks, or later, after the assigned due date (grade = 0). Work handed in on the due date can always be reworked after it has been graded to be reconsidered for a grade. Resubmission will not be accepted on work that was handed in after the due date.
- Students are expected to spend a minimum of one hour outside of class for every one hour in class towards fulfilling course requirements.
- Students must adhere to health and safety guidelines in accordance with departmental regulations, failure to comply could result in removal from the course with a failing grade.
- **Lockers:** Students will be assigned shared lockers for use during the term. It is important for students to be respectful of their peers by keeping the work and supplies safe and in an orderly fashion. Students are required to clean out their belongings at the end of the term. The department cannot be held responsible for any materials or work left after this time.
- **Email correspondence and OWL announcements:** Students are expected to regularly check their UWO email for class announcements. Please make sure that your mailbox is not full! If students have concerns or questions regarding this course they should contact me by email Mon-Fri 9-5 pm, or visit during office hours.
- **OWL Training (in Sakai) – Registration Required** <https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/owldocs>

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments. The instructor will NOT accept any missed assignments, whether totaling more than 10% or less than 10%, unless the student has arranged accommodation through the Dean's Office.

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

[downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading]

Mental Health:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/ for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Evaluation:

Studio Assignments	80%
Participation in discussion of assigned readings and in critiques	10%
Professionalism: attendance, punctuality, conduct and professionalism	10%

Professionalism: (includes attending and participating in all classes and workshops, coming to class with the materials you need to work that day, cleaning up after yourself and treating other students and their artworks respectfully). Students arriving unreasonably late, or leaving early, will not be considered as having participated in a class.

Students may contact the instructor for additional assistance or critique of work, either in class, or outside class in my office hours, or by appointment.

Unless specifically given as an entirely homework project, all assignments must be worked on in class. Assignments not seen in progress by the instructor will result in a loss of marks.

*Studio assignments will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
- innovation and originality;

- technical proficiency and creative use of materials;
- demonstration of a clear understanding of the goals of the assignment; and
- presentation, organization, and clarity of intent.

Materials:

Specific materials needed for each in-class assignment will be discussed well in advance so students have enough time to purchase what is required. Specific materials needed will vary from student to student based upon specific responses to class assignments. Please refer to the list below for a basic assortment of painting tools that should be brought to class as needed.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Students will use only non-toxic materials in the studio; no solvents or solvent-based materials are permitted. ALL aerosol sprays must be used only in department spray booths and only after students have received proper training in its use by the instructor or department technical manager.

Suggested materials:

Sketchbook (9" x 12" or 11" x 14" is preferred)
 Three store-bought canvases 30 x 30 inches
 Two store-bought canvases 24 x 30 inches
 Three store-bought canvas boards 11 x 14 inches
 Pad of 10 x 14 inch watercolour paper (any weight)
 Piece of 15 x 20 inch corrugated plastic board (for a support)
 Metal palette knife for paint mixing
 Large palette tray with sides (11 x 17 inch or 13 x 17 inch Pro Art Butcher Tray from Bijan's is preferred)
 + palette paper or wax paper
 Small watercolour palette tray
 Sealable containers (\$ store)
 An apron or painting clothes are recommended
 Re-useable rubber gloves (dish-washing gloves)
 Tin cans or plastic containers for water and mixing
 Regular masking tape
 Large mirror (not a make-up mirror) big enough to see your head + shoulders

Dish soap for washing brushes
 Paper towels/rags
 Hammer + nails for hanging work
 Scissors
 Collage materials
 Glue stick

Acrylic Paint: Cadmium Red, Alizarin Crimson, Ultramarine Blue, Pthalo Blue, Cadmium Yellow, Azo Yellow, Yellow Ochre, Burnt Umber, Titanium White, Viridian Green, Quinacridone Violet
 Container for water
 Spray bottle for water
 Paper towels and rags
 Metal palette knife

Oil Paint: Cadmium Red, Cadmium Yellow Medium, Azo Yellow, Burnt Umber, Burnt Sienna, Alizarin Crimson, Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue, Viridian Green, Titanium White. (you must have these colours, others will be suggested.)
 Linseed oil or Walnut oil
 Rags
 Metal palette knife

Watercolour: Alizarin Crimson, Ultramarine Blue, Azo or Cadmium Yellow
 Pad of 10 x 14 inch watercolour paper (any weight)
 Piece of 15 x 20 inch corrugated plastic board (for a support)
 Regular masking tape
 Paper towels

Brushes: (for watercolour and acrylic): selection of #8-12 flat and rounds in soft synthetic

(for oil and acrylic):

#8, #10, #12 round bristle

#8, #10, #12 bright bristle

Instructor may ask for particular additional materials relative to specific assignments.

Visual Arts Studio Grading Rubric

90-100 (Outstanding, A+) - The studio work shows significant originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. Sophisticated analysis and synthesis involving complex theoretical and conceptual thinking are demonstrated. Mastery of complex ideas is immediately evident. The studio work has originality, clarity and ambition. The project is treated with sensitivity and subtlety of thought. The quality of the background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is exemplary.

80-89 (Excellent, A) - The studio work shows originality and exhibits a high degree of critical engagement. The work is clearly focused and intelligently presented. Mastery of complex ideas is demonstrated. The studio work has clarity and ambition. The quality of the studio production immediately engages the viewer. The studio work has been sufficiently developed and demonstrates mastery of techniques so that results are compelling. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is impressive.

75-79 (Very Good, B+) - The studio work shows above average analysis, critical thinking and independent thought. It demonstrates a clear awareness of the parameters of the assignment and a very good attempt to respond creatively to them. The work demonstrates reasonable depth and/or breadth and engages in a production that is appropriate to the level of the course. The quality of studio work engages the viewer and demonstrates above-average mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is very good.

70-74 (Good, B) - The studio work shows a satisfactory attempt at analysis and critical thinking. It shows a good attempt to respond to assignment parameters. The work demonstrates some depth and/or breadth, making references to appropriate course material/art context. The studio production engages the viewer and demonstrates a sufficient mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is satisfactory.

60-69 (Competent, C) - The studio work demonstrates adequate engagement with the project. It shows an attempt to respond to assignment parameters but does so at a very basic level that lacks creativity. Engagement with studio production demonstrates basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is competent.

50-59 (Marginal, D) - The studio work shows less than adequate engagement with the topic and with the material covered by the course. The studio work waivers in its attempt to respond to assignment parameters and tends to be simplistic. Engagement with studio production demonstrates less than a basic mastery of techniques. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is less than satisfactory.

Below 50 (Unacceptable, F) - The studio work demonstrates a failure to comprehend/engage the topic. The studio work is incomplete and lacks redeeming creative merit. The work clearly does not meet the minimal requirements of the assignment. Background preparation and research, engagement with process and outcome of the studio production is unacceptable.

The University of Western Ontario Visual Arts Department

POLICIES

Student Conduct:

All students will conduct themselves in a manner that will be consistent with the maturity and academic integrity expected of university students. Student conduct shall be consistent with the general laws of the community and with University regulations. Students shall show regard and respect for the rights, safety, and property of all members of the University community and are expected to act in a responsible manner within the University and the community at large.

Attendance:

A student who misses more than 15% of the course hours, without written corroboration for health or bereavement, can be debarred from writing final exams, or participation in final studio evaluations. Note that if a student consistently is absent from a 3-hour class for 1 hour, they will exceed the 15% cutoff and can be debarred.

Prerequisites:

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that you have not taken an antirequisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as basis of appeal.

If you are not eligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time, and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. These decisions cannot be appealed.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism, which may be defined as "The act or an instance of copying or stealing another's words or ideas and attributing them as one's own," will not be tolerated. (Citation excerpted from [Black's Law Dictionary](#), 1999, 7th ed., p. 1170). (Refer to <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2015/pg113.html> or the 2015/2016 Western Academic Calendar, with regards to academic penalties for plagiarism.)

Medical Policy:

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. See course outline for specific arrangements regarding less than 10% of assignments.

Building Access:

The John Labatt Visual Arts Centre will be closed at 10:30 pm each night. There will be no after-hour access for undergraduate students. The Centre is open weekends 12:00 noon-5:00 pm. Students should be prepared to vacate the building promptly at 10:30 pm and 5:00 pm. You must also sign-in with the building monitors when working in the workshop areas outside of regular office hours.

Please remember:

One of the most important resources for course counselling, special permissions, course changes, grade appeals, etc., is the Undergraduate Chair of Visual Arts, Prof. David Merritt (tel. 519-661-3440; vaugc@uwo.ca). Please note, however, that should you encounter any serious difficulties due to illness, family emergency, etc., you should consult the Academic Counselor for your Faculty, IGA Building, Room 1N20 (Ms. Amanda Green and Mr. Ben Hakala are the counselors for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities).

The Student Development Centre (WSS room 4111; tel: 519-661-3031; www.sdc.uwo.ca) offers a wide range of useful services to students including workshops on learning skills, career and employment services, and an effective writing program, amongst many more.

The D.B. Weldon Library offers orientation tours from the first week of classes until Thanksgiving, where you will get acquainted with the numerous research resources available. As well, the University libraries have an extremely useful website where you can search the library system, the databases, view your circulation record, renew materials, access your UWO e-mail account, and much more. Check it out at: www.lib.uwo.ca.

Financial Aid Services is your main source of information for OSAP, bursaries, loans, scholarships, and the work-study program which offer part-time positions on campus for Western students.

Tel: 519-661-2100; e-mail, finaid@uwo.ca; or check out their website at

http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/financial_counselling.html

June 17, 2015

**The University of Western Ontario
Visual Arts Department**

**Safety and Maintenance Sheet
Painting Studio, Room 230**

Faculty Responsibilities:

- Inform students about safe use of toxic materials and solvent storage and ensure that students are following safe procedures. In case of an emergency, call 911.
- When using solvents, open the porthole windows, turn on the fan in the spray booth and **close** the spray booth door.
- The fan in room 230C should also be turned on. See Marlene Jones in the Main Office for the key to room 230C, in case it is locked.
- If a solvent spill occurs, pour sawdust from the container in the spray booth onto the spill to absorb it. Notify Marlene Jones who will ask the maintenance staff person to sweep it up when he does the regular cleaning.
- At the end of each class, return props and drapes to the model closet.
- At the end of each class, return space heaters and skeleton to room 206A, and opaque projectors, slide projectors, etc. to room 244. In the case of evening classes, equipment may be stored in your office and returned the next day.
- Notify Marlene Jones of any burnt-out bulbs, broken or missing furniture, broken window blinds, etc.
- Inform students about general cleanup, storage of work in progress, and removal of completed marked work.
- Supervise students' adherence to the maintenance requirements listed below, under the heading "Student Responsibilities".

Student Responsibilities:

- When using paint, the primary dangers involve the accidental ingestion of pigments and the inhalation of fumes from solvents such as turpentine and mineral spirits. Skin contact with these solvents is also a problem. Some pigments are more hazardous than others. Take special care with cadmium colours, cobalt colours, manganese colours, zinc white, flake white, cerulean blue, vermilion red, burnt and raw umber.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while painting since these activities may lead to accidental ingestion of paint.
- Use aerosol fixative only in the spray booth or outdoors. Fine mists from these sprays can penetrate deep into the lungs.
- Do not pour solvents down the sink. Dispose of used solvents in the metal container in the spray booth. Never leave open solvent containers in the studio.
- Throw used jars and other containers, and dirty rags and paper towels, into the garbage containers.
- At the end of each class, remove work-in-progress from easels and store these works in the painting racks.
- Take home all completed graded work.
- Replace drawing boards in the model closet.
- Wash your hands thoroughly when you are finished working. Use a good hand cream after washing with soap, in order to prevent damage to your skin's natural defensive barrier.

Please note: According to University regulations guiding "Laboratory Use," students who fail to respect the responsibilities listed above will not have their final course grades sent to the Registrar.

VAS 2210, VAS 2216 & VAS 3310