

### Course Information

**PAINTING 1, SPRING 2018 / PNTG 2301 / CRN #22254**

**Course Location:** FFA Room 462

**Class Hours:** Monday/Wednesday 1:30 PM-4:20 PM

### Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Irene A. O'Leary

Office Location: FFA Room 461A

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursday by appointment

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### Instructor Introduction

Irene Agnes O'Leary received her BFA in painting and drawing from the University of Texas at El Paso in 2010, and her MFA in Multidisciplinary Art from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2013. Her participation in the arts have been recognized in the form of merit awards, scholarships, private collections and regional publications. She has shown her work in numerous solo and group public art exhibitions both locally and nationally. Irene currently teaches Painting 1, Life Drawing, Drawing 1 and Drawing II at UTEP.

### Course Description

**Painting 1** is an introduction to the fundamental principles, techniques and aesthetics of oil painting. Students will be engaged in the technical practice of using painting tools, color mixing, preparation of various supports and surface qualities. The majority of work will be based almost entirely on direct observation of nature, and instructional activities will include demonstrations, lectures, and presentations. Students will also learn to develop verbal, analytical and critiquing skills.

In the first part of this course we will focus on specific assignments that help develop a foundation of skills needed to paint. By building on basic drawing and design concepts, students will investigate color-value connections, articulation of form, composition, and spatial relationships through the medium of oil paint. In each class we will practice this through quick, small paintings from still life set-ups while focusing on application and color mixing techniques. During that time I will talk to each student individually about the progress of their work. In addition, we will have weekly homework assignments and group critiques. **You will be expected to work on paintings in class and at home.** The second section of the course is to help students develop a visual vocabulary and deal with expressive concerns. Students will be asked to research and respond to the work of a contemporary artist and produce a final, independently driven painting. In both paintings students will focus on technique, color, form, style and content.

### Course Prerequisite Information

The prerequisite for Painting 2301 is ARTF 1301, 1302, ARTF 1303, 1304 or instructor approval. ARTF 1303 and 1304 may be taken currently with PNTG 2301.

### Course Goals and Objectives

**The goals and objectives of Painting 1 include:**

- Further development of the ability to accurately see color and form, and the skills to render them 2-dimensionally.
- Experience in handling oil paint and application techniques.

- Development of strong compositions and a nuanced use of color, form and line.
- Exposure to art historical precedents and contemporary artists, particularly in painting.
- Consideration and development of personal imagery.
- Continued growth in the ability to think and speak critically about artworks.
- Development of work ethic and commitment needed to succeed.

### Course Outcomes

#### Students who complete this course will have:

- A basic level of experience and competency in handling oil paint.
- An acquired an ability to render visual experiences in paint.
- Will be familiar with color terminology and composition.
- An introductory level understanding about contemporary painters.
- Have the ability to critically assess their own and other's work.

### Course Requirements

All graded assignments will be announced at least a week prior to when they are due. The exact dates and pacing of the class will be the amount of time it takes us to complete each project.

#### **Classwork**

There will be an assigned problem for in class painting each week. **Classwork must be saved** and submitted along with homework for grading at midterm and final grading days. At the beginning of class you will be expected to be set up and ready to paint. Occasionally you may have home studio assignments that elaborate on topics being discussed in class. On average, you are required to spend a minimum of 5 hours on out of class work per week. Students are expected to have these assignments completed on time and be prepared to present them to the class for group critiques.

#### **Research**

Though not required, students are encouraged to supplement in-class learning through personal research and attendance of exhibitions. Students can further enhance their visual education by studying technical handbooks, reading contemporary art magazines, and looking at physical or digital collections of artwork. A few examples: Art in America, Art Forum, Art News, Frieze, Metropolitan Museum of Art Online Collection, etc.

#### **Grading Standards and Criteria**

Your grade is determined by the following factors for each assignment:

- Understanding of conceptual ideas and application of techniques discussed in class.
- Focus, composition, resolve of color and overall execution of paintings.
- Preservation and physical condition of work.
- Participation in group critiques and activities.
- Artistic level and concept: quality and depth of exploration.
- Completion of assignments by due dates.
- Attendance record.

The smaller paintings that we work on before mid-term will make up your mid-term grade and will count towards 40 % of your final grade. After mid-terms you will be assigned 2 larger pieces that will each count for 20 %. Together they will make up 40% of your final grade. Your participation in critiques, appropriate use of class time, and preparation will make up the remaining 20%.

#### **Midterm and Final Portfolio**

There will be a midterm critique where you will bring in all your in class and home studio work for an evaluation and discussion. At the end of the semester you will bring in all the work you have done since the beginning of the semester for a final evaluation and critique.

### **Grading Guidelines**

A= Exceptional projects that show substantial achievement in technical skill, visual strength and growth. The student has also gone above and beyond the expectations and requirements by pushing themselves formally and conceptually.

B= Very good. The student has completed all assignments on time and projects display excellent craftsmanship and degree of ambition. Quality of projects are above average in aesthetic strength and class work ethic is evident.

C= Satisfactory performance. Student has completed all assignments on time and has met the minimum requirements and outcomes of each project.

D= Poor performance. Assignments have not met the deadlines and individual effort, class preparation, and participation in critiques is lacking.

F= Failing grades are given for required work that is not submitted, missed critiques and incomplete final projects.

## **Course Policies**

### **Classroom Etiquette:**

Please come to class prepared and with supplies. In general, if you have any questions, ask me a timely manner so we can be on the same page and stay on the right track. If you are sick or not feeling well, then you should not come to this class. E-mail me or call me and I will help you catch up when you have recuperated. If you want to know how you are doing at any time in the semester, schedule a time to meet with me at my office.

### **Attendance**

Attendance in this course is mandatory and equals being present for the entirety of every class session. There will be a fifteen-minute break during class. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of each class period. **Each student is permitted 3 absences during the semester without penalty, excused or unexcused.** A total of four absences will lower the final grade a full letter grade. Extenuating circumstances such as incapacitating illness, military service, accident, or death in the immediate family should be supported by satisfactory documentation and will be dealt with on an individual basis. Students with more than 3 class absences should consider dropping this course. Students hold full responsibility for withdrawing from the course after the fifth absence, failure to do so will result in a failing grade for the course.

### **Cell Phones and Music**

Please turn off your phones during class time. Ear phones are not allowed unless approved by the instructor, especially during critiques, lectures, or demonstrations.

### **Course Participation**

- Participation in all discussions, critiques and class days is required for this course.
- Appropriate use of class time is required and necessary.
- Projects executed solely out of class will not be accepted.
- Participation in the collaborative environment of the studio is essential to the successful completion of this course.

### **Studio Safety**

Some aspects of painting can be hazardous if proper precautions are not taken. All safety procedures will be explained to you throughout the semester, and every consideration has been taken to create a safe

environment for you to work in. If you have any medical issues that I should be aware of, please inform me of this immediately, and we will work to make you safe and comfortable.

### **Clean-Up**

You are required to clean up your work area when you are finished working in the studio.

Please put all of your tools, materials, etc. away in your lockers, and wipe down tables, easels and sinks. **Do not leave paint or mineral spirits on the floor. Clean your brushes and close all jars containing mineral spirits and store them away. Put all rags with solvent on them in the red, flame retardant trash cans with lids.**

### **Personal Safety**

It is highly recommended that you come to the studios with your peers. If you must work alone, late at night, please be sure to let someone know where you are, and please keep a cell phone with you. If you feel unsafe for any reason, you should call the UTEP police immediately (747-5611). Additionally, if you would like an escort to your car at night, please call the UTEP Police department, and they should accommodate your needs. Please inform me if there is a problem, and I will address it immediately with the proper authorities.

### **Work Removal:**

Finished works must be removed by the date set by the instructor of this course. In general I recommend taking work home sooner than later. All works left in the studio after this date will be disposed of. All materials, canvases, etc. will become the property of the studio after this date.

### **Late Assignments, Make-up Work and Exams**

Late assignments, make-up work, and make-up exams are only afforded in the case of an excused absence by arrangement and approval of the instructor.

### **Incompletes, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail:**

Incompletes or "I" grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All "I" grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department Chair.

Students hold full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a "W". Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for the performance in the course

This is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.

## **Materials and Personal Equipment**

Painting requires many supplies. Local stores such as Hobby Lobby, The Art Center and Michaels may carry these materials. Throughout the semester it may be to your benefit to order supplies online from a source such as Dick Blick, Pearl Paint, Utrecht, or any other art supply store to reduce costs. **Note:** Sign up for a locker in Art Office: Room 350 FFA

**Oil Paint:** Much of your time will be spent mixing colors. With more pigments to choose from you don't have to mix quite as much, so this is a minimum list. Other colors, as well as acrylics, may be added as we work.

- Cadmium Red
- Alizarin Crimson Red
- Ultramarine blue
- Phthalo Blue
- Viridian or Phthalo Green
- Cadmium Yellow Light
- Yellow Ochre

- Burnt Umber
- Winsor Violet
- Titanium White- buy the big tube as you will use far more white than other pigments.

**Bristle Flat Brushes:** To start, get two #4's, two #6, two #8 and two #10. Good quality brushes and different size variations as such are highly recommended. Having more brushes makes it easier to paint faster and more efficiently.

- A cheap 2-3" synthetic house painting brush
- 2 medium sized **palette knives** ( the kind where the wooden handle is raised up away from the metal blade is recommended)
- A **palette**- A large paper palette pad 11"x17"
- **Canvas Pad**, I prefer 18"x 24", but if you cannot find that 11"x17" will do.
- **Canvas and wooden stretchers** will be added as the semester progresses.

Oil Paint is thick out of the tube so it must be thinned with a solvent and/or medium.

- For your **Medium: Linseed Oil**. Linseed Oil increases flow and slows dry times. Use sparingly or mix with an equal amount Gamsol to create a traditional slow-drying painting medium.
- For your **Solvent** (to thin oil paint and mediums)- **Gamsol** (pint size). Adding Gamsol to oil painting mediums modifies the oil ("fat") content which also allows for glazing techniques. Gamsol is also good for general studio clean-up of brushes, palettes, palette knives. As a brush cleaner, it removes oil colors from brushes to allow for clean mixing and application of color during painting sessions.

#### **Other Materials**

- Roll of masking tape
- **Jars with lids** (several)
- **Cans**, soup, coffee or tomato cans, etc. (several)
- **Rags** (you don't have to buy them. Various fabric, towels or clothes that are no longer needed can be used for this). Start collecting today!
- **Acrylic Gesso** (your ground upon which you paint)- get a least a pint size jar.
- staple gun and staples
- A couple rolls of Bounty or Viva brand paper towels
- hand soap (like Ivory Soap) for cleaning dirty paint brushes.

#### **Additional Optional Materials**

- masonite panels (available pre-cut at art supply stores)
- disposable rubber gloves to keep paint and solvent off your hands.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

\*This schedule may be subject to change according to the needs and pace of the class.

### **January**

#### **W- 17- Classes Begin/Syllabus**

M- 22- work day  
W- 24- Painting Demo  
M- 29- Still Life 1  
W- 31- work day

### **February**

M- 5- work day  
W- 7- Still Life 2  
M- 12- work day  
W- 14- work day  
M- 19- Still Life 3  
W- 21- work day  
M- 26- work day  
W- 28- Still Life 4

### **March**

M- 5- work day  
**W- 7- Midterm critiques/portfolios Due**  
**12-16 Spring Break (No Classes)**

M- 19- Safety Workshop  
W- 21- Stretcher Building Workshop  
M- 26- work day  
W- 28- work day  
Fri- 30- **Course Drop Deadline**

### **April**

M- 2- Canvas Stretching Demo  
W- 4- work day  
M- 9- work day  
W- 11- work day  
M- 16- work day  
W- 18- work day  
M- 23- work day  
W- 25- work day  
M- 30- work day

### **May**

**W- 2- Final critique & portfolios due**  
**Wednesday, May 9th, 4:00 pm- 6:45 pm—**  
**Studio clean up and portfolio return**

## **University Policy Statements**

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to <http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm> for further information.

**Disabilities:** I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached in the following ways:

Web: <http://www.utep.edu/dsso>  
Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY  
Fax: (915) 747-8712  
E-Mail: [dss@utep.edu](mailto:dss@utep.edu)

**PNTG 2301** syllabus acknowledgement and course contract acceptance.

I have received and reviewed the attached syllabus. I have had the opportunity to ask questions for clarification and I understand and agree to the conditions of this syllabus.

Course # -**PNTG 2301/ CRN #22254** Semester Date – Spring 2018

Name (print)

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Signature

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UTEP Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_