



FA-108 – Introduction to Painting

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Course Outline Review Date: 2031-03-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

Students will develop foundational skills in colour mixing, composition and experimentation with painting materials on canvas. The course encourages curiosity, creative risk-taking, and reflective thinking in the development of ideas and concepts.

Program Information:

This course can be used as an elective in the Fine Arts Certificate or other COTR University Studies programs.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face)

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Course type/s: Fine Arts, Humanities

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	15
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	45
Practicum/Field Experience	

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	60

Course Requisites:

None

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy [2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Jennings, S. (2014). *The Complete Artist's Manual*, Chronicle Books. LLC, San Francisco, CA, USA.

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

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

- apply various painting techniques to represent multiple perspectives using colour and design elements effectively;
- recognize Indigenous Peoples' design principles in painting, including that of Ktunaxa Peoples;
- critique their own and others' artwork considering aesthetic value;
- articulate artistic intentions and influences through written and oral reflection; and
- assemble a portfolio of original artwork, including an artist statement, that demonstrates their development of skills and concepts.

Course Topics:

- Safety Issues
- Historical Perspectives
- Beginning Approaches
- Thematic Development and painting styles
- Composition
- Colour Mixing
- Figure Painting
- Acrylic on Canvas
- Contemporary Art Considerations
- Gallery Installation and Critique

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Theory Assessments – Research essay	15%
Theory Assessments – Portfolio Assembly and Formal Critique	10%
Studio Assessments – In class assignments	50%
Studio Assessments – In class activity	5%
Studio Assessments – Final project	15%
Studio Assessments – Gallery preparation and installation	5%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements:

A passing average (50% or higher) in both the theory and practical components.

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.

