# WATERCOLOR PAINTING FUNDAMENTALS



#### NORTHEAST WI Technical College

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Miles Buss

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### **CLASS DESCRIPTION**

Learn the basics of watercolor painting in this class for beginners. Topics will include materials, blending, color mixing, layering, transparency, and techniques to highlight and enhance your paintings. Come discover what makes watercolor such a unique and compelling medium!

## **CLASS PLAN**

DAY	AGENDA	COMPETENCIES COVERED
1	<ol> <li>Welcome and Tour</li> <li>Palette Set Up</li> <li>Introduction to Properties of Watercolor</li> <li>Making: Sampler         <ul> <li>Use of Brushes/Mark Making</li> <li>Gradients and Blending</li> <li>Wet vs Dry</li> <li>Additives and Alternatives</li> <li>Masking Tape</li> <li>Fluids</li> <li>Crayon/Wax Resist</li> <li>Salt</li> <li>Ink Overlays</li> <li>Watercolor Pencils</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Students will be able to:  Identify the key materials necessary for approaching a watercolor painting project.  Explore differences of wet vs dry painting methods  Create a gradient
2	<ol> <li>Color Mixing         <ul> <li>Create color mixing chart</li> </ul> </li> <li>Blending vs Layering/Glazing         <ul> <li>Soft vs Hard lines</li> </ul> </li> <li>Making: Gradient Landscape</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Mix primary colors to make secondary and tertiary colors</li> <li>Discuss how to control the outcomes of a watercolor painting (i.e. blending vs layering to create soft and hard lines)</li> <li>Understand basics of composition.</li> </ul>

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3	<ol> <li>Introduce Simple Still Life         <ul> <li>Choosing Subject Matter</li> <li>Composition</li> <li>Lighting</li> <li>Mapping out color</li> </ul> </li> <li>Progress Check         <ul> <li>Successes, Discoveries, Struggles, Areas for Growth</li> </ul> </li> <li>Making: Still Life</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Explain how light affects a subject matter</li> <li>Discuss how to represent 3D form on a 2D surface</li> <li>Choose a color palette intentionally</li> <li>Critically reflect on their work and the work of others</li> </ul>
4	<ol> <li>Revisit Still Life         <ul> <li>Add enhancements (pen and ink, colored pencils, additional watercolor, etc)</li> <li>Or alternative uses for work (collages, mixed media, etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Traditional vs Contemporary Watercolor Styles</li> <li>Introduce and Discuss Final Project         <ul> <li>Taping/Prepping Paper</li> <li>Brainstorming, Thumbnails, and Color Sampling</li> <li>Sketchbook Examples</li> </ul> </li> <li>Making: Still Life, Thumbnails and Prep for Final Project</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Discuss how to reuse projects</li> <li>Explain the characteristics of traditional and contemporary watercolor styles</li> <li>Create thumbnails to plan a project</li> <li>Choose a color palette intentionally</li> </ul>
5 6	<ol> <li>Share Plans for Final Projects</li> <li>Discuss techniques that would be useful</li> <li>Work Time</li> <li>Progress Check</li> <li>Making: Final Project</li> <li>Work Time</li> <li>Share Final Work/Progress/Reflections</li> </ol>	Apply course topics to an original painting.     Critically reflect on their work and the work of others  Students will be able to:     Apply course topics to an original painting.
	<ol><li>Complete Course Evaluations</li><li>Making: Final Project</li></ol>	