



ART 3601

# Transparent Painting

Instructor: Clint Samples

Office Hours: MW 1-3pm or by appointment

Room 310

678-839-4949

[csamples@westga.edu](mailto:csamples@westga.edu)

For handouts and examples of student work: [www.clintsamples.com](http://www.clintsamples.com)

Left: UWG Student Work, Hannah Reece Spring 2006

## Course Description

This class is designed to introduce students to transparent painting or watercolor as it is commonly known. The semester is divided into two parts. The first is geared towards technique and color study. The second half consists of assignments that are more creative and concept oriented. Both framing and matting are requirements for the class. Demonstrations on matting and framing occur towards the end of the semester. This portion of the class is intended to help students acquire the proper skills in regards to presenting his or her work in a professional manner.

## Attendance, Class Participation and Grades

1. More than 3 absences may result in a full letter grade reduction for the semester.  
*More than five absences may result in a failing grade for the course. Any excused absence must be approved by the instructor.*
2. Being continually late or leaving class early constitutes a half absence.
3. Roll is taken at the beginning of class and at the end of class.
4. Develop good work habits inside and outside of class. You are expected to paint an hour to two hours outside of class each day.
5. Always come to class prepared with the necessary resource material (magazine images, books, etc) needed for the assignment.
6. There will be two group critiques this semester. You are required to participate and to attend both. The critiques are the equivalent of examinations and an absence will be treated the same.
7. The instructor will critique all paintings as they are completed. In addition, all work will be submitted into a portfolio for the final. *Five of the works submitted to the portfolio must be matted. In addition, one of the five must be framed. The matting and framing are requirements for the course.*
8. Matting and Framing are treated as individual assignments and must be completed by the student in order to receive a grade. **YOUR GRADE WILL DROP ONE LETTER IF YOU FAIL TO DO THE REQUIRED FRAMING AND MATTING.**
9. In addition to the matting assignments, you will be required to create a "digital portfolio" of the work you have created this semester. The instructor will provide a lesson and demonstration using both Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Power Point. The digital portfolio will be treated as an individual assignment and you are required to have a minimum of ten slides in your presentation.
10. Please be courteous to your fellow students and turn off your cell phones, beepers, etc. during class. Please go outside if you need to make a call.
11. Please activate your UWG email account. The official communication method for faculty/students is through campus e-mail. Please do not email me from your "stargazer12843@yahoo.com" or "jimmycrackcorn8910@hotmail.com" account. (Not actual email accounts but close to what I've encountered before!)
12. There is no required text for this course. However, I strongly encourage Michael Crespo's "Watercolor Class" if you wish to pursue further reading.

**Grades:** Grades are not the most important aspect of the course. Your work is. Please remember, as an art major, you will most likely be judged by family, friends and future employers by the quality of your work and not the grades you get. So work hard and take pride in what you do!

**A...**Strong work, attendance, participates in class

**B...**Above average work

**C...**Average, completes the minimum requirements of a problem. Shows basic skills and average attention to details

**D...**Work demonstrating basic problems with concepts, and craftsmanship. Also poor attendance, late work, etc.

**F...**Work deficient in all areas. Very poor attendance, etc.

Failure to do required assignments will result in lower than average grades.

**I do not expect masterpieces. I DO expect hard work.**

The form below is an example of the evaluation system that I use for this class.

<b>Watercolor - Assignment Evaluation Sheet</b>									
Clint Samples/Instructor									
Name _____					Assignment _____				
	Excellent	Very Good	Adequate	Fair	Poor				
1. Demonstrates good composition and drawing skills	5	4 ½	4	3 ½	3	2 ½	2	1 ½	1
2. Demonstrates a good use of color	5	4 ½	4	3 ½	3	2 ½	2	1 ½	1
3. The objective of the assignment was met.	5	4 ½	4	3 ½	3	2 ½	2	1 ½	1
4. Effort: Did you use time wisely in/out of class?	5	4 ½	4	3 ½	3	2 ½	2	1 ½	1
Total Score _____									
Grade _____									
Assignment Presented on Time _____yes_____no									
Scale: 20-17=A, 16-13=B, 12-9=C, 8-5=D, 4-0=F (½ points round up)									

# Watercolor Supplies

Art classes are expensive and unfortunately watercolor is no exception. The average price for supplies is around \$200 +/- in addition to the cost of paper for each assignment (\$6.00). You will also frame and mat your best work at the end of the semester. The average frame cost is \$50 +/- . The average matting cost is \$45 +/-.

## Paints:

(19 tubes total. If you can't find certain paints on the list, then substitute what you cannot find with a similar color.)

### Do not buy black paint or white paint!

#### Reds, Yellows, Orange

- Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium Red, medium or light
- Cadmium Orange
- Lemon Yellow
- Cadmium Yellow, medium or light

#### Blues, Purples

- Cobalt Blue
- Ultramarine Blue
- Pthalo Blue
- Cerulean Blue
- Prussian Blue
- Cobalt Violet

#### Greens

- Viridian Green
- Permanent Green Light
- Pthalo Green
- Hooker's Green

#### Earth Tones

- Burnt Sienna
- Naples Yellow
- Yellow Ochre

#### Grey

- Payne's Grey

## Pencils:

- Get several 2H or hard lead pencils. (not 2B's)

## Brushes:

1. 1" Flat with a Chisel handle
2. The largest round sable that you can afford\*\*  
\*\*If you can only afford a small sable, buy a large round brush of lesser quality- Such As Chinese bamboo-handled brush
3. Any other brushes you want to try out.



Recommended Paint Brands

One Inch Flat



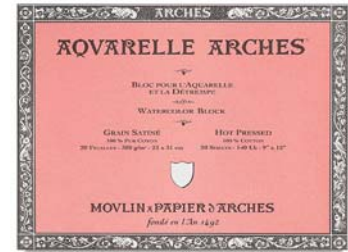
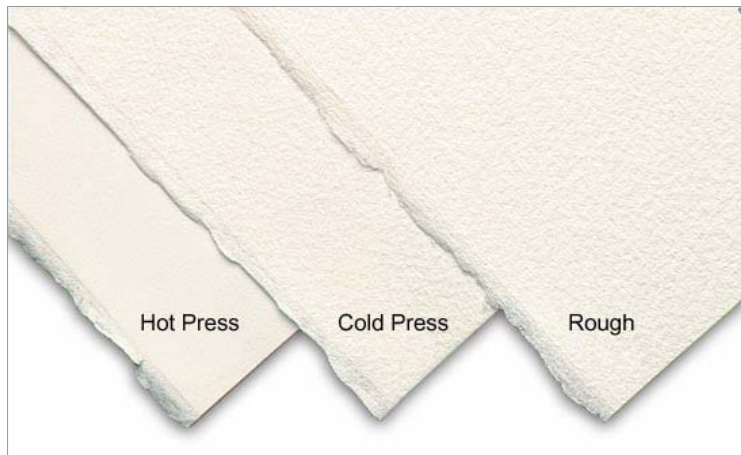
Rounds



Chinese Bamboo-Optional  
(Caution-The hairs fall out easily on cheap bamboo brushes)



## Watercolor Supplies- Continued...



Block Pads



### Paper:

1. **30x22"** 140lb watercolor paper (Nothing smaller!)  
 -As many single sheets as you can afford right now. Recommended Brands: Arches, Strathmore, Fabriano (Hot=smooth surface and Cold=rough textured surface. The surface texture is your choice. You might buy several of each to see which one you like best.)
2. 12x16" Hot Press Watercolor Block Pad

### Palette:

1. White enameled butchers tray, if not get a plastic one. (...But I highly recommend the enamel tray if you can get it.)

### Watercolor Pencils/Crayons: (OPTIONAL)

1. Staedtler Watercolor Crayons
2. Van Gogh Watercolor Pencils

### Other Supplies:

1. Tackle box...(a must)
2. 2 Water Jars...empty Mayonnaise, spaghetti jars will do

### Where can I get these supplies?

- **UWG Bookstore**
- **Brave's Bookstore**
- **Michael's-Douglasville**
- **Pearl's Arts and Crafts**  
3756 Roswell Road, Atlanta GA 30342 Phone: 404-233-9400
- **Utrecht**  
878 Peachtree Street NE Atlanta, GA 30309 (404) 347-9119
- **Sam Flax**  
1460 Northside Drive Atlanta, GA 30318 1.800.726.3529
- **Dick Blick (two Atlanta locations)**
  1. 2615 George Busbee Parkway Kennesaw, GA 30144 (770) 514-8456
  2. 1117 Alpharetta Street Roswell, GA 30075 (770) 993-0240

**Watercolor/Clint Samples**  
**COURSE OUTLINE (Subject to change)**

**Spring Semester 2006**

- Week One: **Color Charts**
1. **Transparency Overlaps/"Glazing"**
  2. **Greens Chart**
  3. **Neutral Chart**
- DEMOS: Watercolor Techniques
- a. Wet on Wet
  - b. Traditional, Wet on Dry
  - c. Dry Brush
  - d. "Gimmicks-Salt, Saran Wrap, etc."
- Week Two: **Techniques**
- DEMOS:
1. Stretching Watercolor Paper
  2. Watercolor Pencils
  3. Acrylic Paint to "Tone Paper"
  4. **Wet on Wet Painting** (In Class Painting)
  5. **Copy an Old Master's Painting** (In Class Painting/Homework)
- Week Three: **Mechanical Object**/Creating visual textures/Composition
- Week Four: **Plant Forms using Unnatural Colors**/Color & Composition/Mood
- Week Five: **Candy Wrappers**/Observation/Color
- Week Six: **Landscapes-Front Campus Drive- Three Zones of Landscapes**  
(Weather Permitting)
- Week Seven: **Landscapes-Buffalo Creek- Three Color Landscapes/12 Stroke Paintings**  
(Weather Permitting)
- Week Eight: **Still Life**/Drawing from Observation
- Week Nine: **Still Life**/Drawing from Observation
- Week Ten: **Biological Assignment**/Originality & Composition
- Week Eleven: **Algebraic Equation**/Content & Composition
- Week Twelve: **Cultural Statement**/ Content & Composition
- Week Thirteen: **Series #1-Variation of a previous assignment**  
\*\*DEMOS: Matting and Framing\*\*  
Open studio for matting, framing and painting in class.
- Week Fourteen: **Series #2- Variation of a previous assignment**  
Open studio for matting, framing and painting in class.  
**FINAL CRITIQUE**
- Week Fifteen: **FINAL CLASS**  
All work due in a portfolio plus frame and matted pieces.