

## **Drawing and Oil Painting**

## Tuesdays, 1:30-4 pm, Instructor: Mike Northuis

The problems and concepts of painting (i.e., techniques, composition, color relationships, surface, and possible stylistic avenues) do not change as an artist moves through the ranks from "beginner" to "master." A beginner may wrestle with how to use the mediums associated with painting, how much white to add to a color, which brush is best, etc., but the problems of defining (or negating) light, form, and space are the primary objectives of most painters regardless of "rank." In this class we will discuss and actively pursue the basic concepts of "constructing" a painting. As most paintings are an interpretation of either reality or an idea, we will deal not only with technical problems (how to use paint) but interpretive/poetic approaches as well. Beginning students may want to start with "still life" studies, "copying" real objects, and more advanced students may have their own Ideas of what to use as "subject."

The class meets in room 127 on the first floor of the Greensboro Cultural Center. Parking is available in the Church Street Garage (first hour free, 75¢ per hour thereafter) or there is metered street parking nearby. Parking is free after 6 p.m.

## Supply List:

- Sketchpad, pencils, charcoal, conté crayon and erasers for drawing
- Smallish canvases, pre-stretched and pre-primed, 10"x16" to 16"x20" good for beginners
- Clean up rags and paper towels
- A few bristle or nylon brushes ranging in size from 1/8" to 1/2"
- Odorless mineral spirits (no Turpentine!) plus a small bottle of Painting Medium (Alkyd preferred) if using oil paints
- Portable palette to mix paints on, jars for thinners, a box to carry paints in, bag to carry supplies
- Paints—suggest student grade colors for beginners as they are cheaper. Here are a list of colors;
  \* means that they are necessary to begin class with for beginners just to get used to materials:
  - Mixed White (zinc + titanium)\*
  - Black\*
  - Burnt Umber\*
  - Raw Umber\*
  - Raw Sienna\*
  - Burnt Sienna\*
  - Permanent Green Deep
  - Ultramarine Blue
  - Thalo Blue
  - Hansa Yellow or other non-lead or cadmium yellows
  - Chinese Red or Cadmium Red Hue "non-toxic version"
  - Alizarin Crimson

**Note:** "Hue" at the end of a color name usually means it looks like that color but is non-toxic; "Cadmium Yellow Hue" for instance is usually cheaper than real cadmium yellow and non-toxic. These are all "safe" pigments with which one can mix almost any color, part of the class will be teaching good environmental habits so the artist learns to be "Green."

**Mike Northius** holds a BA from Hope College (MI), and both a BFA and MFA from UNC-Greensboro. Mike has taught all levels of painting and drawing at UNCG. Additionally, he has taught drawing, painting, etching and color theory at Guilford College. His work has been exhibited in many major museums and showplaces in the southeast.

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