
TOPICS: COLOURS OF THE MASTERS in Fall 2020 (AR2091)

Course Code	AR2091	Professor(s)	Stéphane Treilhou
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	06 89 62 54 36
Class Schedule	T: 09:00-12:25 in MN-16	Office Hours	Tuesday 4-5PM ; Wednesday 12:30-1:30PM
Credits	4	Email	streilhou@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2020	Office Tel. Ext.	

Course Description

This course offers a deeper approach into the main traditional techniques used for 2-dimensional representation in Western Art. This class will help students understand the possibilities and limitations of chosen techniques through exercises of reconstitution. Students will reproduce each different step for the making of a piece of 2-dimensional art, from preparing the support to the last layers of paint. They will also learn how to use an original source (with historic treatises) to experiment a methodology of the reconstitution.

These reconstitutions will be made from different treatises from the Middle Ages to the XVIIIth century. During the semester, she/he will have to use techniques and materials as similar as possible to those described in these treatises and used in the original artworks.

A large part of the teaching will focus on the interpretation of treatise and on the production of materials and the techniques : how to produce a pigment, how to grind it and paint with it. This practical, in-depth approach to learning traditional painting techniques will allow students to better understand the constraints and needs of selected Western artists active during different time periods. Further, students will gain a better understanding of the qualities and weaknesses of the painted works that have been left to us. Students will be more confident for choosing and using their own materials in creative works.

In the first part of the semester, students will work on a reconstitution of an Italian painting from

the XIVth-XVth century on a small wooden panel basing on the reading of the “*Libro dell’Arte*” by Cennino Cennini. Through these stages, they will learn how to prepare a panel for the painting, how to make relief and polish, how to make their own pencil, how to choose and grind the colours, how to draw and paint with this specific technique. A long part will be devoted to the gilding techniques. This class will be an opportunity to make a lot of different tests with different painting techniques and materials.

In the second part of the semester, students will produce an individual work of research. They will individually choose a colour in a painting from the Middle Ages to the Eighteen century. The project of this research will be to try to reconstitute the colour and the medium of this painting basing on the reading of a contemporary treatise of the painting.

At the end of the semester, they will use this material to produce their own painting. Students will be driven in this work by their professor (choice of the treatise, choice of recipes, choice of materials etc...).

Course Learning Outcomes

General Education

[PLEASE REMOVE THIS SECTION IF THE COURSE DOES NOT FULFILL ANY GLACC REQUIREMENT]

GLACC

The Global Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (GLACC) degree requirements include the following categories of courses:

- Integrative Inquiry (coded CCI)
- Experiential learning (coded CCX)
- Research, Interpretation, and Writing (coded CCE)
- Digital Literacy and Communication (coded CCD)
- Disciplinary Research Methods and Writing (coded CCR)
- Quantitative Reasoning (coded CCM)
- Experimental Reasoning Course with Lab (coded CCS)
- Expression Française (coded FR)
- AUP Capstone (coded CCC)

This course can be used to fulfill the [INDICATE THE REQUIREMENT(S) FULFILLED BY THE COURSE] requirement and as such has the following learning outcomes:

[INDICATE THE GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES]

- creating a process of work in an artistic project
- analysing and comparing different historical sources
- understanding how to manipulate materials
- writing and explaining a process
- learning how to prepare and use different materials for painting

Course Outline

Classes 1 - 6

Copy of an Italian painting from the XIVth-XVth century with gilding based on the Cennino Cennini treatise

Classes 7 - 11

Reconstitution of a colour and a medium from an historic treatise and using this colour in an original painting.

There will be a review of each student's work (copy and reconstitution) in lieu of an exam. During the exam, each student will present their work of the semester and explain the process of their reconstitution.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

September

Week I – 23rd – 25th

No class

Week II – 28th – 2nd

Tuesday 9th

Topics : Presentation of the class and of the different projects

Preparation of the hide glue.

First preparation of a wooden panel for painting.

Preparation of a paper for drawing.

How to cut a quill for drawing.

How to make an ink for drawing.

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

September 30th – last day to drop/add courses online

October

Week III – 5th – 9th

Tuesday 6th

Topics : Gesso making.

Medieval techniques of drawing and transfer. Making and drawing with a silver point.

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

Week IV – 12th – 16th

Tuesday 13th

Topics : Drawing and fixing the drawing on panel. Making a brush.

Preparation for the gilding.

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

Week V – 19th – 23rd

Wednesday 20th

Topics : Gilding

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

Week VI – 26th – 30th

Tuesday 27th

Topics : Painting technique of tempera with eggs. Technique of the sgraffito on gold. Grinding of colours.

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

October 28th, Mid-semester

November

Week VII – 2nd – 6th

Tuesday 3rd

Topics : Medieval technique of shading. Techniques of glaze. Prepare and use a gilding paste.

Reading : Cennino Cennini, *Il Libro dell'Arte*

Week VIII – 9th- 13th

Tuesday 10th

Topics : presentation by student of the chosen painting and the colour for the reconstitution.
Choice of the treatise with the professor in the proposed bibliography.

November 11th to 13th, fall break (no classes)

Week VIII – 16th- 20th

Tuesday 17th

Topics : Protocol for the reconstitution of the colour and the medium.

Reading : Treatise chosen in the bibliography.

November 16th, Mid-semester grades due

Week IX – 23rd – 27th

Tuesday 24th

Topics : Tests of colour and medium. Preparation of the support for the last project.

Reading : Treatise chosen in the bibliography.

November 27th, last day to withdraw from a course

last day to choose credit/no credit option

Week X - 30th – 4th

Tuesday 1st

Topics : Realization of the painting I/II

December

Week XI – 7th – 11th

Tuesday 8th

Topics : Realization of the painting II/II

December 11th, last day of classes,

December 12th - 15th, reading days

December 16th – 22th, Final Exam

January 4nd, all grades due

Please note that the program may change depending on the progression of the class.

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

In class work 40%

Homework 30%

Final project 30%

Other
