# Color Theory

Instructor: Robert Watkins

**ROOM**: 112 (Art Hall) **TIME:** Friday 8:50 - 1:10 **PHONE**: 042.520.5109

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## Syllabus

#### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of color, the different systems designed to describe it and the various ways it is employed in the arts. Students will not only replicate basic color models but more importantly use their understanding to create unique designs illustrating different color theories.

## MATERIALS

portfolio binder

• 50ml tubes of gouache paints:

· drafting tape

 6-inch basic compass • 18-inch stainless steel ruler • 10-cup palette tray & water cup

• #2,6,8,12 water-color brushes

· eraser & pencil illustration boards ivory black permanent white ultramarine blue cvan-blue Persian red

magenta

primary yellow (or Hansa yellow)

### GRADING

Attendance (more than 3 unexcused absences will result in a failing grade)	10%
In-class assignments (9 in-class projects)	20%
Homework assignments (6 take home projects)	30%
Midterm project (painting project)	20%
Final project (painting project)	20%

## **EVALUATION**

- Class projects are graded on accuracy of color mixing, neatness and overall design.
- The final portfolio must contain work collected and created throughout the guarter.
- You are responsible for all material covered in lectures, readings and discussions.
- Arrive on time lectures and demos will take place at the beginning of each session.
- All are required to participate in critiques, missing critiques will lower your grade.
- You are responsible for any work missed due to absences.
- All work must be received by the set deadlines, NO LATE WORK will be accepted.
- On-time projects may be redone with instructor approval.
- Midterm and final projects CANNOT be made up and must be completed by the assigned day.
- Make up assignments must be completed by week 12.

#### ETIQUETTE

- · Please inform the instructor in advance if you must miss class. You are responsible for making up work.
- No food allowed in the computer lab at any time. Water in recloseable bottles is allowed.
- Break times are scheduled by the instructor at appropriate intervals.
- Please turn off all electronic devices during lectures.
- Music will be allowed in the classroom at the insturctor's discretion.
- Please respect other students and their work. Inappropriate behavior will result in a lower grade.
- · Any student who has special needs that may affect his or her performance in this class should discuss them with the instructor.

<sup>\*</sup>additional materials may be introduced by the instructor in advance as the need arises

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## Class Schedule

WEEK 1 **Course Introduction** - Review of syllabus, grading procedure and materials.

**homework** - Students are responsible for bringing the necessary materials to class the following week see examples of color wheels at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week1.html

WEEK 2 **lecture** - Primary, secondary and tertiary colors. Tints, tones, shades. Additive/Subtractive color, Itten and Munsell **lab** - create a color wheel

**homework** - create a unique pattern using primary colors (black and white optional) see examples of grissaile paintings at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week2.html

WEEK 3 lecture - grayscale and color values

lab - create a gray scale and a grisaille painting of a still life in class

**homework** - create a monochromatic painting of a still life using one color and white.

see examples of monochromatic paintings at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week3.html

WEEK 4 **lecture** - color schemes (color harmonies) analagous, complementary, triad, split complementary, Albers, Chevreul **lab** - 3 color scheme assignment (due in class next week)

**homework** - complete 3 color scheme assignment see examples of monochromatic paintings at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week4.html

WEEK 5 **lecture** - color contrasts (hue, light/dark, cold/warm, complements, simultaneous contrast, saturation, extension) **lab** - 3 color contrast assignment (due in class next week)

**homework** - complete 3 color contrast assignment see examples of student work at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week5.html

WEEK 6 **lecture** - local color, Monet, Impressionism

lab - flickr photo project introduction, midterm painting project introduction (due in class week 8)

**homework** - flickr photo project find links to student work at www.robertdwatkins.com/colotheory/week6.html find examples of midterm projects at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week7.html

WEEK 7 **lab** - work in class on midterm painting project (due in class week 8)

homework - complete midterm painting project and flickr photo project

COMPLETED MIDTERM PROJECTS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT CLASS

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## Class Schedule

WEEK 8 lecture - optical color, Seurat, Divisionism

lab - magazine collage

**homework** - complete work on magazine collages see an example of magazine collages at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week8.html

WEEK 9 lecture - arbitrary color, Fauvism, Matisse

lab - Albers exercises, complete exercises in teams of 2 or 3, 3 exercises/team

**homework** - complete Albers exercises see demonstrations and examples of Albers exercises at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week9.html

WEEK 10 lecture - Additive color (Photoshop demonstration)

lab - Photoshop basics, create a color wheel using Photoshop

**homework** - complete artist palette photo assignment, bring image to scan next week for "pop art" assignment see examples of pop art at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week10.html

WEEK 11 lecture - Warhol, Pop Art, Op Art (Photoshop demonstration)

lab - Photoshop tutorial

**homework** - complete "pop art" assignment, bring natural object for color proportion studies find links to photoshop tutorial at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week11.html

WEEK 12 **lecture** - Color proportion studies, replicate colors found in nature/media, Abstract Expressionism **lab** - painting, Photoshop tutorial (time permitting)

**homework** - work on color proportion studies, bring samples (images, sketches) of personal palettes to class next week see examples of color proportion studies at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week12.html

WEEK 13 **lecture** - Personal palettes, final project introduction

lab - work in class on final painting projects (due in class week 15)

homework - see examples of final projects at www.robertdwatkins.com/colortheory/week13.html
NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS OR MAKE UP WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER WEEK 13

WEEK 14 lab - work in class on final projects (due in class week 15)

homework - work on final project and final portfolio
FINAL PROJECTS ARE DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT CLASS WEEK 15

WEEK 15 FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATION - Bring completed final projects and final portfolios to class.