

SYLLABUS Art 135: Digital Painting



Summer Session I 2024

University of California Santa Cruz

INSTRUCTOR: Kathleen Deck (kdeck@ucsc.edu)

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment, please email me or DM on Discord to schedule

SCHEDULE: Online (Asynchronous lectures and content, weekly *optional* synchronous Zoom meetings Wednesdays 4-5pm)

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Section A & B: Kelly Skye ksky@ucsc.edu

Section C: Alyssa Castaneda alccasta@ucsc.edu

Section D: Dima Mabsout delmabso@ucsc.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course gives students an understanding of digital painting, from basic techniques, to industry application, to how these programs operate. We will explore the elements of art and the principles of design and their application to this digital medium, all while practicing a variety of mark making techniques and unique digital painting features. We will apply and explore other applications of digital painting in industry and new media art. The studies and weekly homework assignments will encourage experimentation with the medium and help students practice and reinforce developing skills. With feedback through critique, students will be able to build upon their existing knowledge and expand into new territories. Students will build a cumulative professional digital portfolio of all of the studies and assignments completed throughout the course. This course satisfies an art major requirement, prerequisites for the summer course are waived, open to non-art majors.

Learning Outcomes:

- Gain an understanding of digital painting, from basic techniques, to industry application, to how the programs operate.

- Create digital paintings with a variety of techniques and “media” that synthesize fundamental and elemental concepts and techniques.
- Demonstrate a variety of digital painting and design approaches and visual organizational principles in order to explore methods of visual expression and the creative process.
- Use an academic vocabulary to identify and analyze historical painting and contemporary digital painting and design ideas and approaches.
- Engage critically with peers’ work in critique/discussion space to provide feedback for improvement.
- Gain a professional practice in digital painting and begin developing a digital tools portfolio.

Nature of Assignments/Assessments:

The course content included will not only provide you with the context behind what we are making, but also inspire your artistic practice and show you what is possible with the medium. The assignments give you the opportunity to apply what you have learned, therefore meeting the learning outcomes outlined above.

Course Schedule

There are a total of 5 modules in this course (not including module #0).

Each module (except modules 0 & 5) contains:

- 👁️ 1 Lecture (Video/Text-based)
- 🎥 1 Demo Video
- 📖 1 Quiz
- 🗣️ 1 Discussion
- 🖌️ 2 Studies
- 🖼️ 1 Project
- ★ 1 Submission (For the Studies + Project)

Each module (lectures, demos, and assignments) needs to be completed by Fridays by 11:59pm. The modules will not close, but the course moves very quickly, so it is important to stay up-to-date with the current module/deadlines at all times. There are quizzes that count towards your participation grade, that will help clarify key concepts and assignment requirements.

Schedule Breakdown

Week 1 (Module #0)- Welcome! (Due Wednesday)

- Syllabus
- Schedule
- Overview

Week 1 (Module #1)- Course Introduction, Technical set-up

- Lecture: Elements of Art and the Principles of Design
- Studies: Elements of art, principles of design application, Brushes
- Assignment: Abstract Painting

Week 2 (Module #2)- Traditional to Digital

- Lecture: Underpainting, Sketching, Historical to contemporary examples
- Studies: Sketches, Rendering Techniques
- Assignment: Recreate a pre-1900 traditional painting

Week 3 (Module #3)- Photography and Industry

- Lecture: Photography, Industry Applications
- Studies: Layout Sketches, Reference Images
- Assignment: Photography & Painting Composition

Week 4 (Module #4)- Immersive Environments & Creative Coding

- Lecture: Immersive environments & Creative Coding
- Studies: Painting with code, Portrait Rough Draft
- Assignment: Portrait Painting

Week 5 (Module #5)- Portraits & Movement

- Lecture: Portraits & Movement, Course Review
- Final Assignments: Portrait Painting & Cumulative Portfolio

Final Exam:

- This course does not include a final exam, instead, there is a final assignment (Cumulative Portfolio) that will be submitted as your final assignment which is worth 6% of your final grade.

Online Requirements:

This is an online course and we will be using Canvas LMS for all course components.

- You are required to upload studies and assignments to the Canvas course site by the end of the day on the listed due date.
 - Assignments (studies and project for modules) due Fridays at 11:59pm
 - Discussion posts due Mondays at 11:59pm
- Quizzes and Discussions will be factored into your final grade.
- Late work can be accepted for full credit with documented mitigating circumstances that have been discussed with myself or the TA prior to the due date.
- Work produced in other courses or by other parties cannot be submitted for evaluation.

- Original Photoshop (.PSD or .PSB) file format with all layers still visible (DO NOT merge/flatten your layers) are required to be submitted with each project. These files should be retained by you until after final grades have been posted.

Materials + Technology Requirements

Materials:

- Tablet with drawing tool (preferred) or computer with trackpad or mouse

Technology Requirements:

- Computer (with minimum requirements for running Adobe Creative Cloud + Photoshop)
- Data storage sufficient for storing digital image files (Minimum 10GB Free Disk Space)
- A reliable internet connection
- Canvas: All assignments will be submitted via Canvas. ***Use Canvas with Google Chrome on desktop for best experience***
- Digital camera or cell phone with camera capability

Accommodations: Please notify me (kdeck@ucsc.edu) of DRC accommodations at the beginning of quarter/before assignments are due so that the necessary accommodation(s) can be arranged within the time required.

UC Santa Cruz is committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me by email, preferably within the first two weeks of the quarter. I would also like us to discuss ways we can ensure your full participation in the course. I encourage all students who may benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact DRC by phone at 831-459-2089 or by email at drc@ucsc.edu.

Student hours for class:

This is a 5-unit course, therefore requiring that students spend 15 hours per week combined classroom and independent work (1 credit=3 hours). This will break down as follows: 1 Lecture per week = 2 hours total; 1 discussion board and additional optional meetings per week = 5 hours total. Completion of assignments independently = 8 hours.

Grading:

- You will receive formative evaluations throughout the term for studies and assignments completed.
- You will turn in a portfolio of work for a formal summative evaluation at the end of the course.
- Your willingness to engage, collaborate with, and assist fellow classmates counts as does your willingness to seek help, integrate feedback, and take direction.
- Late submissions will be accepted with a reduction in grade for tardiness (see late policy).

Late Policy:

0.5 points removed per day late, with a 50% maximum deduction. If alternative arrangements are made prior to the due date with myself or TA, students with accommodations/documentated/excused circumstances will not be subjected to deductions. All assignments need to be submitted by 7/26/24 in order to receive evaluation.

Repeat students:

Are required to contact Kathleen kdeck@ucsc.edu prior to the start of the course on 6/24. Please see the requirements below as a repeat student:

As a second-time student, you are NOT REQUIRED to:

- Take any of the quizzes (beyond this one)
- Submit any studies
- Submit any screenshots of your Photoshop workspace
- Submit anything using the Google Doc Submission Tool

As a second-time student, you are REQUIRED to:

- Spend ample time developing weekly projects that demonstrate your advanced understanding of digital paint
- Submit your projects to the 🗨️ 2nd Time Students project submission locations in modules 1-5
- Submit Photoshop files (with ALL layers visible) for ALL of your projects

Somethings that have not changed:

- Participating & submitting to Discussions 🗨️
- Opportunity to submit extra credit assignments
- Submitting the PDF Portfolio upload assignment (if you would like, instead of repeating this in PDF form, feel free to share a link to your website or other platform that presents your completed projects from the course).
- Submitting the Final Portrait project Photoshop file: This submission location is the same for everyone, but you have your own submission spot as a 2nd time student for the Project 5 GIF.

Evaluation/Grade Breakdown:

- Assignments (Studies +Projects) 64%
- Quizzes 10%
- Discussions 20%
- Portfolio Total 6%
- Extra Credit 2%

Breakdown:

A = Credit for superior work that shows a fine degree of individual insight, application, and originality beyond mere absorption of the assigned work. Effective, active participation in class critiques & discussions and studio practices.

B = Credit for very good work done with intelligence, understanding, thoroughness, and industry. Good participation in class critiques, discussions, and studio practices. Convincing completion of all of the assignments.

C = Credit for work of average or irregular quality. Satisfactory completion of all of the assignments.

D = Credit for weak work of barely passing quality. Not all of the assignments completed and/or poor participation in critiques/discussions.

F = No credit; failure to produce work of passing quality.

University Grading System:

A+ (4.0) = 97-100

A (4.0) = 96-94

A- (3.7) = 93-90

B+ (3.3) = 89-87

B (3.0) = 86-84

B- (2.7) = 83-80

C+ (2.3) = 79-77

C (2.0) = 76-74

C- (1.7) = 73-70

D+ (1.3) = 69-67

D (1.0) = 66-64

D- (.7) = 63-60

F (0)

Respectful Communication:

This class requires written and verbal communication with peers, the teaching assistants, and the instructor. In all forms and methods of communication, please be sure to use respectful language. Hate speech, violent or aggressive language, bullying or trolling will not be tolerated. When communicating with each other, do not make any assumptions about another's identity or experience.

UC Santa Cruz and myself are committed to creating an academic environment that supports its diverse student body. If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access in this course, please submit your Accommodation Authorization Letter from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) to me privately during my office hours or by appointment, preferably within the first two weeks of the quarter. At this time, I would also like us to discuss ways we can ensure your full participation in the course. I encourage all students who may benefit from learning more about DRC services to contact DRC by phone at [831-459-2089](tel:831-459-2089) or by email at drc@ucsc.edu

INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT It is my intent that students from all backgrounds and with all perspectives feel included and are able to learn and achieve their goals in this course. The diversity that all students bring to this class is a resource, strength, and benefit to us all. It is my intent to bring to class materials and activities that embrace a diversity of perspectives, experiences, and positions. Your suggestions for making this learning community as inclusive as possible are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know if you identify ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups. If any of our class meetings conflict with your religious or cultural events, please let me know so that we can work together to make alternative arrangements.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS will be accepted with a reduction in grade for lateness (Please notify me of DRC accommodations before assignments are due so that we can agree on a manageable accommodation.) See full late policy above.

In this class we abide by the UCSC Principles of Community, so please familiarize yourself with these important principles. <https://www.ucsc.edu/about/principles-community.html>

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty. Acts of academic misconduct during the course, including plagiarism, can and usually do result in failure of the course, at the sole discretion of the instructor of record. Your case will be reported to the College Provost as per the Academic Integrity guidelines found on the web at: https://www.ue.ucsc.edu/academic_misconduct

COURSE SURVEYS (Previously called evaluations) for faculty will be available online for students to complete towards the end of quarter. You will be sent emails to your @ucsc.edu email from the course survey system to complete your evaluations online for all of your classes. Please be thoughtful in your responses, as we take these evaluations seriously. Course surveys help faculty consider ways to improve instruction and are completely confidential.

GRAPHIC CONTENT: In Art courses you will often be assigned images, films or other material that could contain difficult ideas, uncomfortable language, or graphic depictions of sex or violence. You will be asked to treat these portrayals critically, to consider what is being expressed by the maker, or to examine the potential social impact, and to evaluate the works in a given context. Instructors are always happy to speak with you about your work, and might direct you to CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) at 831-459-2628 or the Disability Resource Center (drc@ucsc.edu or 831-459-2089) should you need additional support in order to do your best work.

TITLE IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. If you have experienced sexual harassment or sexual

violence, you can receive confidential support and advocacy at the Campus Advocacy Resources & Education (CARE) Office by calling (831) 502-2273. In addition, Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS) can provide confidential counseling support, (831) 459-2628. You can also report gender discrimination directly to the University's Title IX Office, (831) 459-2462. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UCPD, (831) 459-2231 ext. 1. For emergencies call 911. Faculty and Teaching Assistants are required under the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment to inform the Title IX Office should they become aware that you or any other student has experienced sexual violence or sexual harassment.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS: The art department has a list of many resources on campus available to students. Please take a look at these to see what is available for you.
<https://art.ucsc.edu/links-to-student-resources>