

Mastery In Watercolor Seminar Objectives, and Pre-Class Assignments

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This class focuses on increasing your skill and confidence in three critical areas:

Construction - think of this as your initial drawing, created using effective design and composition ideas to create focus, movement, space and distance.

Composition - this is the most critical step in the painting process. The ideas are easy to understand, the mental challenge is difficult.

Color - simplified color schemes and a practical approach to color theory reveal light and form, create mood, and enhance unity and harmony

Making progress in each area requires developing a **CONSCIOUS, DELIBERATE** approach to painting and the painting process.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

This seminar includes seven Online Group Sessions, three Individual Online Sessions, and offline individual work in the form of reading, exercises and evaluation.

Construction - Construction is the first step in the painting process – think of it as the underlying drawing and is mostly done with **LINE** (a Design Mark). This step is the first chance to create a dynamic composition. This should include a representation of three dimensional space on a two dimensional surface. Overlaps, Continuations, and Linear Perspective are key – this part of the Seminar will teach you to use them effectively. This is also stage to emphasize the Main Subject and Focal Point and create pathways to move the eye.

Pre-class work, the first Online Group Session and the first Online Individual Session are all focused on **Construction**.

Composition –Composition is the act of taking different items and elements and combining them into a single, unified design or painting. This seminar will concentrate on the idea of create abstract compositions based on large shapes filled with simplified **VALUE** (a Design Mark).

The large shapes will be built on and formed over the **LINE** Construction. Placement of **VALUE** is guided by simple and common and effective arrangements. Color exploration in the form of studies are important parts of the Composition process and are included .

The 2nd, 3rd and 4th Online Group Sessions, the second Online Individual Session, and offline work between them are all focused on **Composition**.

Color – Color is a singularly difficult subject to understand in its entirety. This seminar will focus on making effective use in your paintings. COLOR is representation of a combination of four different aspects or characteristics of color. The perception of a particular COLOR in the context of a painting is affected by the other COLORS in the painting. These relationships can be difficult to understand but are made more manageable by applying common color schemes and in understanding the four component aspects of COLOR and how to use them to create HARMONY and CONTRAST (Design Ideas).

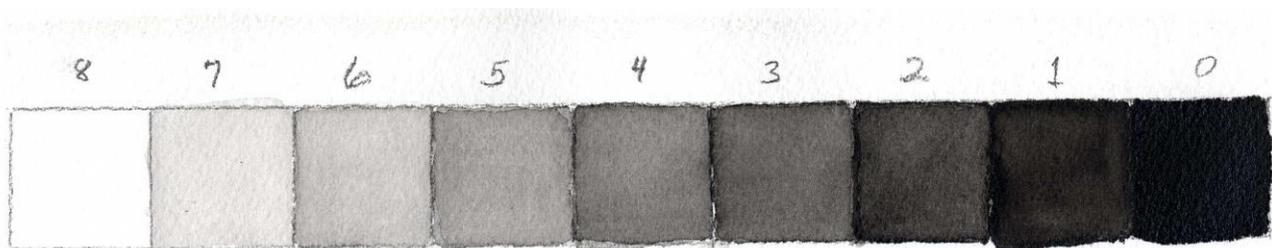
The 5th and 6th Online Group Sessions, the third Online Individual Session, and offline work between them are focused on **Color**.

PRE-SEMINAR WORK

The pre-seminar work is designed to create a starting point for exploration of ideas in Construction, Composition, and Color. Part of the work will get you started on a CONSCIOUS, DELIBERATE painting process that begins several steps before beginning an actual painting.

Things to prepare for the 1st Online Group Session:

- Line Drawings For Two or Three scenes/subjects that you would like to explore over the course of the seminar.
 - o Select scenes you have or would like to paint. These can be based on photos, sketches or earlier paintings that you may not be happy with.
 - o Once you've selected the scenes/subjects answer the questions on the next page for each
 - o After answering the questions, create a line drawing at "full size" – that is, at a size you would be comfortable painting the scene
- Create a nine-step Value Scale similar to the one below
 - o This [video tutorial](#) steps through one method of the process. It may take more than one try to get a finished, usable value scale



Take scans or photos of the line layouts and the value scale and send to me by Friday, March 18th.