

**ARTS 228 CONTEMPORARY LANDSCAPE PAINTING**

A. Course Number and Title: ARTS-228 CONTEMPORARY LANDSCAPE PAINTING

*Prerequisites: ARTS-210 ACRYLIC AND OIL PAINTING I OR ARTS-121 WATERCOLOR I OR ARTS-111 BASIC DRAWING II*

The landscape will be explored as a means of expressing our contemporary world via realism, metaphor and abstraction. Students will work outdoors at various sites on and off campus, including the rural landscape, cityscape, industrial sites and other outdoor locations. They will also develop ideas using source material such as sketches, props, and memory. Students will work in the color medium/media with which he/she has prior experience, including oil, acrylic, pastel, and watercolor. Collage and experimental use of media will be encouraged. Contemporary, post-modern and historical landscape painting and drawing will be discussed and addressed in their work. Students will purchase their own art supplies.

### **III. Statement of Course Need**

- A. This course fulfills an Advanced Studio Elective requirement in the A.F.A. Visual Arts Degree. It is a course particularly relevant to students interested in pursuing careers as studio artists. It is also a course of interest to life-long learning students. It is important to offer a course with the focus on landscape since it is a major subject in art in many cultures throughout the world, including ours. School of Visual Arts in NYC accepts this course as part of an articulation agreement between RVCC's AFA Visual Arts and their BFA Fine Arts Degree.
- B. This course has a lab component that utilizes a large painting studio with painting easels, glass palettes, flammable cabinets, sinks and other specialized equipment. In the provided studio, students also have an access to drying rack for works in progress.
- C. This course generally transfers as a visual art program elective dependent on the institution.

### **IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum**

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course does not serve as a General Education course.
- C. The course meets a requirement in the following program: A.F.A. Visual Arts – Advanced Studio Elective
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, [www.njtransfer.org](http://www.njtransfer.org); b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

## **V. Outline of Course Content**

- A. Studio will be conducted outdoors whenever possible.
- B. Individual and group critiques.
- C. Students will complete landscape artworks at the various outdoor locations and from other sources, in the various media that they have prior experience in, including: oil, acrylic, watercolor, and pastel utilizing contemporary/post-modern and historical ideas when appropriate. Mixed media and collage is also encouraged.
- D. On-site painting locations may include 1. Formal garden 2. Factory 3. Lake 4. Campus sites 5. City location 6. Mountain E. Various instructor demonstrations when needed.
- E. Color Theory: The study of color is woven throughout the framework of the course: of especial concern is the variability of the outdoor light, affecting color changes.
- F. Students will also use source material other than the actual landscape such as; sketches, props, and memory for their paintings.
- G. Landscape with a contemporary/post-modern and historical context will be presented by the instructor in lecture, and group discussion format with the use of slides and books for visual reinforcement. J. Discussions on assigned readings.
- H. Development of a landscape painting sketchbook.
- I. Realism, metaphor and abstraction will be explored within the subject of the landscape.
- J. Development of a minimum of intermediate skills is expected in the student's chosen medium/s (acrylic, oil, watercolor, pastel).
- K. One critical analysis paper of either a landscape painting/s, landscape pastel drawing/s, or a landscape mixed media or collage viewed on exhibit at a museum or gallery.
- L. Students will be encouraged to research various historical, contemporary and post-modern artists, especially those focused on the landscape.

## **VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Develop and demonstrate critical analysis skills both verbally and in written format. (GE 1, 6)
- 2. Utilize their knowledge of various historical, contemporary and postmodern landscape artists and their work for discussions and written assignments, demonstrating ability to make a critical analysis of a landscape art. (GE 1, 6 \*)
- 3. Demonstrate an ability to use at least one of the following media: pastel, watercolor, oil or acrylic, on an intermediate level utilizing

the landscape as the subject as a means to convey a creative visual idea.

4. Develop knowledge of color theory, especially as it applies to the variability of outdoor light within the context of their art.

(\*Embedded critical thinking)

## **B. Assessment Instruments**

1. portfolio of art work
2. museum/gallery paper
3. participation in group critiques and general class participation
4. landscape sketchbook

## **VII. Grade Determinants**

1. attendance
2. general class participation including group critiques
3. landscapes completed during class time
4. completion of assigned landscape art work
5. landscape sketchbook
6. written paper

Primary formats, modes and methods for teaching and learning:

1. lecture/ discussion/ slide lecture presentation/ artwork examples from books lecture and discussion
2. instructor demonstrations
3. on-site at various locations (during class time) painting and/or drawing
4. homework painting and/or drawing indoors and outdoors
5. develop a landscape sketchbook
6. group critiques and individual critiques
7. assigned museum/gallery visit and critical analysis paper of landscape artwork

## **VIII. Texts and Materials**

A. Suggested Books for Reference may include:

1. A Manual of Painting Material and Techniques by Gottsegen
2. What Every Artists Needs To Know About Paints & Colors by Pyle

3. Criticizing Art Understanding the Contemporary by Barrett
4. Art Speak by Atkins
5. The Elements of Color by Itten
6. The Interaction of Color by Albers
7. Color by Zelanski and Fisher
8. The Art of Watercolor by LeClair

B. Suggested readings from periodicals such as:  
Art Forum, Art In America, New York Times

C. Students will purchase their own art supplies.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

## **IX. Resources**

1. Outdoor locations that are conducive for making art.
2. Students and instructor will use their own vehicles for transportation to the painting and drawing sites.
3. Painting studio with sink, slide screen, adequate ventilation, track lighting, access to natural north light, easels, working tables, tables for watercolor that can tilt, storage cabinets for solvents and palettes that is properly vented, painting racks, stools and chairs, drawing boards, walls that allow for display of art work.
4. Slides, digital slides, DVDs and videos, library books, articles from current periodicals, electronic equipment for various ways of projecting imagery.
5. RVCC Gallery
6. Instructional supplies.

**X. ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☒ N/A**