



University of  
New Haven

## Beginning Watercolor

### Section I: Course Overview

**Course Code:** SAR104

**Subject Area(s):** Painting

**Prerequisites:** None

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Total Contact Hours:** 45

**Credits:** 3

### Course Description

A studio art course for beginning and intermediate students that explores methods, techniques and various aspects of watercolor painting. Studio exercises and projects are designed to build strong perceptual and compositional skills, the expressive use of color and its various applications, enriched by the exploration of Florentine subject matter. Throughout the semester we will explore a variety of subjects with the objective of creating a unique, visual journal of one's personal experience while studying abroad.

### Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students are able to:

- Understand the basic principles and elements of painting.
- Apply different approaches to tools, techniques and subject matter.
- Demonstrate a strong foundation in the application of various watercolor techniques.

### Section II: Instructor & Course Details

#### Instructor Details

**Name:** TBC

**Contact Information:** TBC

**Term:** TBC

**Course Day and Time:** TBC

**Office Hours:** By appointment

## **Grading & Assessment**

The instructor assesses students' mastery of course learning objectives by using the forms of assessment below. Each of these assessments is weighted toward the final grade. The Assessment Overview section provides further details for each.

**Engagement - 20%**

**Exercises & Projects - 55%**

**Postcard Project - 10%**

**Final Project- 15%**

## **Assessment Overview**

This section provides a brief description of each form of assessment listed above. Forms of assessment may be slightly modified in the term syllabus.

**Engagement (20%):** Students are expected to be engaged in class, and to have read the [CEA CAPA Engagement Policy](#) and to understand the [Class Engagement Rubric](#) that outlines how engagement is graded.

**Exercises & Projects (55%):** Art courses require active participation and effort on behalf of the students. Mastery and skill are not a requirement for this course, but students should show a desire for their skill level to grow and demonstrate a consistent effort throughout the term. Preliminary exercises (5%), Value/Tonal Painting (5%), Fruit in Complementary Colors (5%), Still Life (5%), Trees (5%), Perspective/Urban landscape (5%), Perspective/Interior Space (5%), Visiting Artist Workshop (5%), Landscape/Urban landscape from Travels (5%), Open Choice Subject (5%), Details from the city of Florence (5%)

**Postcard Project (10%):** A postcard project in the form of a visual journal is created throughout the semester. Students are given more details from the instructor. This project and others necessitate time outside of class.

**Final Project (15%):** Students are given a subject from which each individual creates a project consisting of 3-5 paintings exploring the prompt. Details are given in class. Students present these projects in a final critique on the last day of class.

## **Active Learning**

Experiential learning is an essential component of education abroad, and participation in field activities is a required part of coursework. In this course, you explore the city in which you are studying using a variety of tools. This provides the opportunity to gain nuance and context on your context and the subject you are studying, as well as to collect information and resources for assigned papers, projects, and presentations.

- Field trip to gather subject matter, weather permitting
- Visiting Artist Workshop- Art School
- Field trip to the Museo '900

## Course Materials

### Art Supplies

The following is a list of materials to be purchased by the student, followed by the approximate price in € (please note that sales tax is included in the price).

2B Staedtler Graphite Drawing Pencil  
Staedtler Kneaded Eraser  
Stabilo Plastic Eraser  
Plastic Sleeve 35x50 cm  
Sheets(2) Fabriano Watercolor 350 gr 50x70cm :2  
Watercolor Pencil Lyra see list below:  
Gold Ochre  
Van Dyke Brown  
Light Cobalt  
Dark Carmine  
Chinese Soft Hair Brush Large  
Synthetic Flat Tintoretto series 161 no.4  
Synthetic Flat Tintoretto series 161 no.18  
Synthetic Round Tintoretto series 160 no.14  
Van Gogh Watercolor Box, 15 halfpans + brush  
Fabriano Watercolor Block bound 30x40 cm coldpress 140lbs  
Fabriano Watercolor Postcard Pad

**It is strongly suggested that students bring a sketchbook, sketchpad or notebook to class.**

Sketchbooks are an important tool for the artist, to make notes, preliminary sketches, develop ideas, etc

## Readings and Resources

The below readings and resources are representative of what will be assigned as required in this course, but may vary slightly in the term syllabus.

All students are given access to the online library of the University of New Haven (UNH), accessible [here](#), and are expected to comply with [UNH Policies](#) regarding library usage.

Wherever possible, required readings are made accessible through the online library or Canvas. Students are responsible for obtaining all required readings.

Each course utilizes Canvas as its LMS. Students are expected to check Canvas regularly for updates and deadlines. Canvas is also the primary platform for contacting your instructor in case of questions or concerns about the course.

### Recommended

Norman, David. *Watercolor Tips and Tricks*. Chartwell Books, 2009

Scott, Marylin. *The Watercolor Artist's Bible*. Chartwell Books, 2005

Speed, Harold, *The Practice and Science of Drawing*. Dover Publications, 2003

Whitney, Edgar. *Complete Guide to Watercolor Painting*. Dover Publications, 2010

## Course Calendar

Session 1	
Topics	<b>Course Introduction Exercises</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 2	
Topics	<b>Value/Tonal Painting</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 3	
Topics	<b>Fruit in Complementary Colors</b>

Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 4	
Topics	<b>Still Life</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 5	
Topics	<b>Trees</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 6	
Topics	<b>Perspective in Urban Landscape</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 7	
Topics	<b>Perspective in Urban Landscape</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 8	
<b>Visiting Artist Workshop</b>	

Session 9	
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Topics	<b>Tuscan Landscape</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 10	
Topics	<b>Open Choice from Travels</b>
Activity	Lecture, Discussion & Studio
Readings & Assignments	Instructions will be provided in class. Students are asked to be prepare ideas for the final project to submit to the instructor session 12

Session 11	
Topics	<b>Florence Cityscape - focusing on details of the city</b>
Activity	<b>Field trip weather permitting</b>
Readings & Assignments	The postcard project: instructions and timeline

Session 12	
Topics	<b>Studio time for Final Project</b>
Activity	Project Work Time
Readings & Assignments	Finish any outstanding work necessary to present a complete portfolio and postcard project session 15

Session 13	
Topics	<b>Studio time for Final Project</b>
Activity	Project Work Time
Readings & Assignments	Finish any outstanding work necessary to present a complete portfolio and postcard project session 15

Session 14	
Topics	<b>Group critique and individual review</b>

Activity	Project Work Time
Readings & Assignments	Finish any outstanding work necessary to present a complete portfolio and postcard project session 15

Session 15
<b>Group critique and individual review of final project</b>

## SECTION III: CEA CAPA Academic Policies and Standards

### ACADEMIC POLICIES

Students are expected to review and understand all CEA CAPA student policies, including our [Academic Policies](#) and [Engagement Policy](#). CEA CAPA reserves the right to change, update, revise, or amend existing policies and/or procedures at any time. Additional requirements that may be associated with a specific course or program are addressed in the term syllabus.

### STUDENT LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

CEA CAPA has identified [Student Learning and Development Objectives \(SLDOs\)](#) for all programs in all locations: content in context, navigating differences, power and equity, critical thinking and intellectual curiosity, career and professional development, and sustainability and migration.

These are meta-level learning objectives that transcend coursework and are infused across all elements of program delivery. beyond specifics of course offerings, that address student learning holistically and frame a larger learning context.