

# NCAL 406B: OIL PAINTING II FOR OLDER ADULTS

## Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
<b>Effective Term:</b>	Winter 2026
<b>Units:</b>	0
<b>Hours:</b>	3 lecture, 3 laboratory per week (72 total per quarter)
<b>Degree &amp; Credit Status:</b>	Non-Degree-Applicable Non-Credit Course
<b>Foothill GE:</b>	Non-GE
<b>Transferable:</b>	None
<b>Grade Type:</b>	Non-Credit Course (Receives no Grade)
<b>Repeatability:</b>	Unlimited Repeatability

## Student Learning Outcomes

- Critique intermediate level oil paintings based on terminology and criteria.
- Paint various intermediate level subject matter using color theory with oil paint.

## Description

This noncredit course is targeted towards older adults. The theory and practice of intermediate oil painting. Building on fundamental oil painting skills to develop the personalized style, complex subject matter, color theory, and composition.

## Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Apply intermediate color theory to express a personal point of view
2. Model complex still life, landscape, the figure, or abstraction
3. Organize the canvas or panel using a personal approach to composition
4. Develop expressive content through manipulation of mark, color, and stroke
5. Use oil media to create a series of thematic paintings
6. Examine and describe historical and contemporary developments, trends, materials, and approaches in oil painting
7. Produce paintings that creatively apply subjective matter that reflects personal and culturally diverse imagery

## Course Content

1. Color theory and meaning
  - a. Monochromatic color that expresses mood or personal expression
  - b. Analogous color that expresses mood or personal expression
2. Model complex subject matter
  - a. Space
    - i. An exterior space or landscape
    - ii. An interior space
  - b. The human figure

- i. Self-portrait
  - ii. A human image or human form
- c. Still-life
    - i. A still-life that represents personal meaning
    - ii. A surrealist still-life
  - d. Abstraction
3. Creative or personal approach to the organization of composition
    - a. Different size or shaped supports - square or rectangles
    - b. A series of thematic paintings that use the same subject matter or style
  4. Develop expressive content through manipulation of mark, color, and stroke
  5. Use oil paint to create a series of thematic paintings
  6. Examine and describe historical and contemporary developments, trends, materials
    - a. Mix media
    - b. Mixing opaque and transparent oil water media

## Lab Content

1. Exploration of physical properties of oil painting materials
2. Organization and application of the basic formal elements and principles of design as they relate to painting
3. Safety rules and procedures related to the handling of oil painting materials
4. Evaluation and application of basic principles of color theory
5. Lecture or demonstration of the construction and preparation of oil painting surfaces and papers
6. Mixing oil paint on a palette
7. Painting basic subject matters from observation, such as still life or landscape space projects
8. Creative use of experimental media, such as resists, block-out, and textural modifiers
9. Practice in painting in direct response to the motif using both transparent and opaque paints

## Special Facilities and/or Equipment

1. Tables, stools, sink, and storage space for each student. Still-life storage area, room darkening drapes, portable lighting equipment.
2. When taught via Foothill Global Access, ongoing access to a computer or smartphone with email address, internet access, and teleconferencing software/apps (e.g., Zoom).

## Method(s) of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

Portfolio review: each painting will be evaluated for technical ability, craftsmanship, and personal creative and conceptual approaches  
Written or oral critiques  
Written or participation in lectures or dialogues of historical and contemporary painting  
Painting revisions

## Method(s) of Instruction

Methods of Instruction may include but are not limited to the following:

Lecture presentation using the language of oil painting

Discussion using the language of oil painting

Demonstration of using oil paint, brushes, supports, techniques, and methods

Critique and group presentation of oil painting projects followed by in-class discussion and evaluation

## **Representative Text(s) and Other Materials**

Robertson, Jean, and Craig McDaniel. Painting as a Language: Material, Technique, Form, and Content. 1999.

Although this text is older than the suggested "5 years or newer" standard, it remains a seminal text in this area of study.

## **Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments**

1. Write an artist statement describing the personal series of paintings completed in this course
2. Take a field trip to a local contemporary oil painting exhibition and write a gallery report
3. Read contemporary painting theory

## **Discipline(s)**

Art