

DEPARTMENT: Fine Arts Department

COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2026

AR2101 (A2): Intermediate Painting – 3 (2.5-0-2.5) 75 Hours for 15 Weeks

Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 to 10:50

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are situated on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land, and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR:

J.Garbe

OFFICE: C414

PHONE: N/A

E-MAIL:

JGarbe@nwpolytech.ca

OFFICE HOURS:

By appointment

(Please email)

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course will engage students in intermediate-level concepts and processes in painting, including increased knowledge in colour theory, materials, techniques, support preparation and compositional strategies. Subject matter may incorporate representational, abstract and/or non-objective painting. Projects, critiques, and discussions will build knowledge of painting vocabulary and prepare students for more advanced and self-determining approaches.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S): AR 1201 Introduction to Painting and AR 1203 Drawing Practice

REQUIRED MATERIALS: A detailed material list will be provided and discussed in class. Students will be required to invest in quality materials for this course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will:

- Demonstrate an intermediate application of colour theory through completed assignments.
- Use intermediate techniques in support preparation, paint handling, and applications in acrylic and/or water-mixable oil.
- Apply informed compositional strategies to a range of subject matter, such as the figure, landscape, still life, interior, abstraction and/or non-objective painting.
- Demonstrate with increased confidence the visual and verbal language of painting and be able to critically analyze work
- Practice interpretive skills and individual expression, leading to a personal voice in painting.
- Demonstrate time management skills through the timely completion of assigned tasks and projects.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

GRADING CRITERIA: Will be based on:

1. The level of creativity and craftspersonship demonstrated in all assignments, including sketches and research.
2. The degree of knowledge and understanding of the elements and principles.
3. Your level of enthusiasm, commitment, involvement and flexibility in both studio work and individual/collective critiques establishes participation grade. Detailed guidelines, with mark breakdowns and evaluation criteria, will be reviewed during each project introduction.

Attendance and Participation: 15%

Participation will be based on some or all of the following: arriving on time, listening to lectures and instruction, being prepared, taking notes, working during class time, sharing ideas and concepts, creative exploration, and conceptual development with other students, cooperating in group projects, analyzing, and offering opinions about work in progress, as well as listening to and being an active participant in critiques and discussions.

-Attendance at the Visitor in the Arts speaker series is mandatory and contributes to your grade.

Sketchbooks/Research: 15% *(included in project marks and only if required by the project outline)*

- Sketchbooks/Research work will be marked for consistency and quality, sketches and texts in a variety of sources and potentials, experimentation with materials when required, resolution and in relationship to our class discussion on sketches, etc.

- There is evidence of visual and textual research in the form of thumbnail sketches, preparatory drawings/paintings, material studies, writings, readings, notes, etc.

- There is evidence that the final work was derived from the ideas developed in your sketchbook.

-You are taking class notes.

- That the most appropriate or best idea was chosen to move forward with.

- Thought/ experimentation was given to the materials, contexts and ideas being used and the different meanings that a variety of these could bring to the project.

-That the proposed and completed projects identify, articulate and broaden your knowledge of a particular interest or subject.

-That you have incorporated and included research as a tool to situate your project, especially as it relates to a larger historical and contemporary context within art.

-That you have used research to explore and advance your knowledge and practice.



Note: (Research and sketching will be discussed further in the class introduction presentation and lecture)

Assignments: 85 %

Course Grading Weights

Project 1: Ad's: 12 things to avoid and do the opposite (Let's challenge ourselves and art history). Paper project and alternative substrates, such as objects, blocks, t-shirts, different fabrics, etc. (exploration of formal properties, comfort zones and exploring a moment in art history) 30%

Project 2: Personal Still-life (observation)- Objects from Our Personal Collections. Focus on Warm/Cool, shadows/highlights. Painting/describing different substances and materials. 35%

Project 3: Nature and Painting: Becoming Animal, vegetable (plant) or mineral (Focus on texture, Possible abstraction or non-objective painting) 35%

Total: 100%

- There will be 3 assignments, some broken down into multiple sections. Each assignment will require students to complete sketches and research in the first week (unless otherwise stated in the Project Outline). On the due date of each major project, students will set up and present their artwork (along with their sketches) for in-class critique. *The setup is expected to be done before the start of class.* Grades will be posted on MyClass after every critique.
- After each deadline, unsubmitted assignments will lose 5% per day to a maximum of 15%.

-There are no mid-term or final exams in this class.

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Grading Chart for courses with Alpha Grading:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

Grades for this course will be assigned as a percentage. The minimum passing grade is x%.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE: A detailed Course Schedule and Assignment timeline will be given during class.

Student Responsibilities

- Arrive prepared and set up before class; be ready for lectures and demos.
- If late, catch up with classmates; if absent, email the instructor within 24–48 hours.
- Maintain clean, respectful use of studio space, materials, and shared areas.
- Consult the technician if unsure about safety when the instructor is absent.
- Complete a **minimum of 3 hours of outside work per week per class**.
- Headphones allowed during work time, but you must hear instructions; **no videos** during class.
- **No AI use** unless permitted in project guidelines.
- Check **email and MyClass** regularly for course updates.
- Students are expected to check their email and MyClass regularly. These are the primary forms of communication between the instructor and students outside of class.

Online Communication & Professionalism:

- Students are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism across all course-related communications. Please conduct your communications as you would any other professional experience. Treat your colleagues with respect.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:



Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

****Note:** All Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.