

WATER-BASED SCREENPRINTING

This course is an introduction to various basic water-based screenprinting techniques ranging from simple stencils to photo-based images. During the 8 weeks students will become familiarized with how to handle and maintain a screen, learn registration methods, how to choose printmaking paper, editioning prints and health and safety practices in the studio.

Each weekly session will be divided into demonstrations and work periods as outlined below:

Since access to the studio is limited to the 3-hour class sessions, students should expect to spend some time outside of class preparing artwork so they can print during work periods. **Students are encouraged to ask questions and take notes.** To allow enough time for clean up, classes will begin to wind down around 9PM each week. The studio space must be left as we found it. Wear comfortable "work clothes" and closed toe footwear. Please read ahead each week to see what materials you might be required to bring to class:

WEEK 1

- Course introduction and studio tour
- Brief overview of screenprinting practices and a look at the studio archives
- Health and safety overview
- Introduction to basic equipment and materials
- Sign out your own screen
- Demos: Hand cut tape and paper stencils. Print station setup and clean up

→ Work Period: **Project 1**-Make a simple 1 or 2 layer print using tape and paper stencils

FOR NEXT WEEK: Prepare some simple line art, similar a children's colouring book, and a small assortment of paint brushes.

WEEK 2

- Introduction to papers and paper tearing
- Introduction to inks: mixing, transparency, and types of ink for different uses
- Demos: Printing flat colours and using screen filler and drawing fluid. Basic printing and registration with acetate.
- Work Period: **Project 2**- Create simple line artwork with thick lines (think of a colouring book), and decide which colours you will use to fill in the image.

FOR NEXT WEEK: Bring a small assortment of paintbrushes and finalized artwork

WEEK 3

- Demo: Cleaning and removing screen filler
- Introduction to curating, editioning, signing prints
- Work Period: Continue and complete **Project 2**.

FOR NEXT WEEK: Bring some rough artwork and images you hope to use for the photo-emulsion project. Bring several different photocopies or laser prints of high contrast images that you want to print. Some may not work with this process, so choose a variety of images. Think about how you are going to combine two or more of these images into one print.

WEEK 4

- Introduction to photo-emulsion and exploration of materials
 - Demos: Coating and shooting a screen. Oiling photocopies.
 - Work Period: Coat your screen, expose your screen, and print.
- Project 3**- Create an edition of about 5 using photo emulsion and acetate registration. The screenprint should consist of at least 2 layers that are thoughtfully combined into one image. To make the printing process quicker and easier, images should be no larger than 5x5 inches. Images can be hand drawn or created on the computer. Again, keep your image choices small and simple (no photographs, yet...)

WEEK 5

- Demo: Printing photographic images with photo emulsion
- Work Period: Continue and complete **Project 3**

FOR NEXT WEEK: Think about and plan for your **Final Project** and the 3 remaining weeks of the course. To make the most of your time, prepare your artwork ahead of class to get the most out of your studio time.

WEEK 6

- Work Period: Begin **Final Project**- Using any or all of the techniques learned in previous classes create a more ambitious screenprint edition.
- Individual discussions with instructor

WEEK 7

- Work Period: Continue **Final Project**
- Individual discussions with instructor

WEEK 8

paper stencil
screen filler / drawing fluid
rubylith w/ emulsion
oiling photocopies w/ emulsion
transparency

- Final work period to complete your **Final Project**
- Clean-up
- Discussion of continued opportunities for studio use

YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING SUPPLIES:

- An assortment of inexpensive paint brushes
- Scissors and spatulas
- Plastic containers for ink mixing and storage
- Rubber gloves (Nitrile gloves are best)
- Apron
- Notebook and pen
- A folder for carrying prints (A simple folded piece of stiff board will do)

SCREEN AND PRINTMAKING RESOURCES

SUPPLIERS

These places carry screenprinting supplies:

- De Serres Art Supplies, 130 Spadina, 416.703.4748
- Curry's Art Store, 573 Queen West, 416.260.2633
- Aboveground Art Supplies, 2 McCaul, 416.591.1601
- Woolfit's Art Enterprises, 1153 Queen West, 416.536.7878
- G&S Dye and Accessories, 250 Dundas West, Suite #8, 416.596.0050
- The Paper Place, 887 Queen West, 416.703.0089
- Applied Stretch Technology, 1145 Belamy Road North, Units #17-19 (new and used equipment and accessories)
- Speedball Supplies www.speedballart.com

WEBSITES

The following provide a good place to start for online printmaking info and resources:
Malaspina Printmaker's Society: www.malaspinaprintmakers.com

American Print Alliance: www.printalliance.org

Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers: www.snapartists.com

World Printmakers: www.worldprintmakers.com

Banff Centre Print Studio: www.banffcentre.ca/facilities/studios/visual_arts/printmaking.asp

Printmaker's Web Ring: www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=print&list