

Dubai Community Theatre
& Arts Centreمركز دبي الاجتماعي
ومركز الفنون

Watercolours for Beginners – Adults



Course Title:	Watercolours for Beginners			Age Group:	Adults	
Tutor:	Christopher Southcombe		Tutor's Phone No.	050 – 635 8213		
Cost (AED):	1320	Start time:	End time:	No. Weeks:	Hours:	Materials
Tuesdays	9:30 AM	12:30 PM	8	3	See attached list	

Type of course: **Syllabus Programme, registration at the beginning of each programme only**

Watercolours for Beginners - Adults

Description

Watercolour is a very exciting as well as challenging medium. In addition to the traditional brush and wash technique there is a very wide variety of ways of handling watercolour and implements that can be used to achieve different effects. I shall introduce various techniques and then encourage you to experiment with them in your paintings, so you should produce a series of paintings during the course.

Basic Course Content

- Paper types, stretching paper and the nature of watercolours, staining and non-staining pigments
- Special techniques and tools, including
 - sponging, scraping, sanding, burnishing, splattering
 - variety of effects using wet-in-wet, wet-on-dry, dry-on-dry, washing and glazing
 - use of gum Arabic, ox gall, blending media, acrylic glaze, salt plus many others
- Colours and colour mixing. This is a VERY IMPORTANT AREA, dispelling some old myths on the nature of light and colour and how colours really mix. Transparent, translucent and opaque colours
- The importance of light and composition - different forms of lighting in a painting
- Limited palette painting, warm and cool colours and their effect on mood and atmosphere
- Colour (aerial) perspective and creating distance
- The importance of VALUE – that is, the lightness and darkness, or strength, of colour – probably the most important single thing I can teach you!

The order of introducing different techniques and topics will depend on how the group reacts and paintings develop. I like to be flexible, explore ideas as they arise, and respond separately to individual needs. That way I hope you will find it more satisfying and enjoyable.

Most important, the course is for your benefit. I shall help all I can but I don't paint pictures for you. I shall advise, but I shall not make marks on your painting. That way you will learn and what you produce will truly be all your own work.

I look forward to meeting you and hope you enjoy yourself as much as I shall enjoy introducing you to a wonderful world of colour, light and self-expression.

Materials:

- I suggest you start with a couple of half-imperial sheets of 140 lb (300 gram) cold-pressed ('NOT') watercolour paper, eg Bockingford, and a block of similar paper, 14 in. x 10 in. or larger
- A wooden board big enough to stretch a half-imperial sheet – say 24 in. x 18 in.
- A watercolour palette with large mixing wells
- A roll of brown gummed tape
- Tube colours are essential for exploring the scope of watercolours – basic colours: French Ultramarine, Cobalt Blue, Phthalocyanine Blue, Cadmium Yellow, Lemon Yellow, Aureolin, Cadmium Red Light, Permanent Rose/Permanent Alizarin Crimson, Raw Sienna, Burnt Sienna, Burnt Umber
- Brushes: you can never have too many brushes, but start with a 1" flat wash brush and a squirrel/goat hair 'mop', and synthetic 'round' brushes size 2, 6 and 10. Sable and pure squirrel hair brushes are wonderful for watercolours but they are also more expensive. I'll say more about brushes on day 1
- 2B pencil, putty rubber, 2 pots/jars for clean water