

Community Education – Winter Quarter 2026

Course Title: Acrylic Painting: Abstract

Instructor: Cathy Ekhoﬀ

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Course Details

- Mondays, 01/05 - 03/09 (8 sessions) No classes on Jan 19, Feb 16
- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
- Room 331, Columbia Tech Center, 18700 SE Mill Plain Blvd.

Course Description

Explore abstract painting with a focus on color, composition and pattern. Demonstrations will include examples from well-known and not so well-known abstract artists and their techniques. Work on projects of your choice or suggested demo projects.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Learn how the Principles and Elements of Design can enhance their current work
- Create beautiful and unique paintings
- Use a sketchbook as a playground, source of exploration and discovery
- Explore a variety of abstract techniques and abstract artists

Course Schedule

Week 1: January 5

Introduction to class format and materials. “With a Little Help from My Friends” group activity to become familiar with fellow students while using a variety of materials.

Week 2: January 12

Using negative painting to create unusual botanicals.

January 19 NO CLASS

Week 3: January 26

What's the title? What is the value of a title to your painting? Discussions and activity that will demonstrate how titles can influence what the viewer perceives in your painting.

Week 4: February 2

Create winter trees using a variety of materials including some collage

Week 5: February 9

We will create urban landscapes paying close attention to shape, pattern, form and line.

February 16 NO CLASS

Week 6: February 23

Let's sit awhile. Chairs will be the subject matter.

Week 7: March 2 Gelli plate/mono-printing with guest instructor

Week 8: March 9 Continued development of printed papers and completion of projects.

Resources

Recommended references for further study:

- Robert Burrige <https://robertburrige.com> Bob Burrige is a generous teacher with a wonderful sense of humor. He offers loads of free youtube videos and a weekly "Bob Blast".
 - Learn the color wheel. Canva offers basic understanding of the color and how to combine colors. It is a good site for general art questions. [wheel.www.canva.com/ colors/color-wheel/](http://wheel.www.canva.com/colors/color-wheel/).
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Class Evaluation

- Class evaluations are sent by email.
 - If you don't see it right away, check your **junk/spam folder**.
 - Evaluations are **anonymous** and come directly from Clark College.
 - If you don't receive one, contact:
 - Email: continuingeducation@clark.edu
 - Phone: 360-992-2939
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Inclement Weather

- If the college closes due to weather, updates will appear at www.clark.edu
 - Community Education may also cancel classes independently if travel is unsafe.
 - If canceled, you will be notified by both phone and email.
 - Please check that your contact information is correct on the class roster.
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More Classes

Looking for more Community Education courses? Visit: www.clark.edu/cce/