



## Community Education

# Acrylic Painting: Abstract

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### **Course Description:**

Explore acrylics with a focus on color, composition and pattern. Demonstrations will show color mixing, shading and texture. Work on projects of your choice or suggested demo projects.

### **Course Format:**

Each class will begin with student sharing and critique followed by a demo on color. Instructor will provide handouts and will conduct lessons on how to abstract the essence of a photo or image. Abstract artists will be featured. Students will have plenty of time to paint and instructor will provide assistance. Weekly emails will describe upcoming classes and materials list.

### **Learning Outcomes:** *As a result of taking this course, students will:*

- Learn how the Principles and Elements of Design can enhance their current work
- Understand the history of abstract art and how it has evolved
- Apply subtractive strategies in order to pull the essence from photos and/or still life arrangements in order to create an abstract painting
- Discover how to do “process painting” one layer at a time

## **Course Schedule:**

### **Week 1:**

Introduction to class format and materials. We may start out with some loosening up activities in a “get to know you” atmosphere. Simple figures will be the focus in this colorful exercise.

### **Week 2**

Shapes. Students will use a variety of shapes, provided by the instructor, to create an interesting abstract.

### **Week 3:**

We will be making a grid of small colorful abstracts suitable for framing or creating cards

### **Week 4**

Special lesson on florals “The Three Geraniums”

### **Week 5**

Bring in a photo or image of your choice to abstract

### **Week 6**

Let’s keep going with the abstraction!

### **Week 7:**

Final abstraction and time for completion of all projects

## **Course materials:**

- Sketchbook and pencil
- Acrylic paints, any brand (two red, two blues, two yellows, black, white) Select a warm and cool version of red, blue, and yellow. Add any other colors you like. We will be doing some color mixing in class.
- Support of your choice. I like Bristol paper but you may bring watercolor paper, canvas panels, wooden panels, etc
- Matte medium and gloss medium
- Gesso (bring white gesso, black gesso and CLEAR GESSO)
- Variety of paint brushes. I use mostly flats and angled brushes that are a bit firm. DO NOT USE WATERCOLOR BRUSHES because they are too soft and may become ruined.
- Paper towels (There are limited paper towels in the classroom but the school does not supply specifically for our art classes.)

**Class Evaluation:** Class evaluations are sent by email. Sometimes the email will be delivered to your “junk mail,” but we can assure you it’s from Clark College only. Your responses are completely anonymous. If you do not see your evaluation immediately after class, look in your junk mail and send it to your email address. If you do not receive an evaluation, please email [Continuingeducation@clark.edu](mailto:Continuingeducation@clark.edu) or call 360.992.2939.

**Inclement Weather:**

If the College cancels due to icy conditions you can find this on the college website [www.clark.edu](http://www.clark.edu) ~ If Community Education concludes that the weather is too hazardous we may also decide to cancel this class. In that case you will receive both a phone call and email. Make certain that we have your correct contact information by viewing the class roster.

**Looking for classes? Visit our Community Education webpage:** [www.clark.edu/cce/](http://www.clark.edu/cce/)