

Community Education – Fall Quarter 2026

Course Title: Watercolor for Beginners

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Course Details

Thursdays, 09/24/2026 - 10/29/2026

6:00pm to 8:00pm

Ann Pechanec Hall, room 112. Main Campus, Fort Vancouver Way.

Course Description

Have you always wanted to learn the basics of watercolor? Learn step by step techniques such as color choices and mixing, creating texture with different brush strokes and glazing colors. No prior painting experience required.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- **Color-** Students will learn how to accurately identify colors from life and photographs and how to properly mix those colors on a palette. Students will also implement creative use of color through exaggeration, saturation, and high contrast.
- **Technique-** Students will learn how to use proper brushes, amount of paint, and amount of water to achieve desired effects. Students are also able to use other tools to experiment and achieve various visual qualities.
- **Creativity and Imagination-** Students will learn to build and strengthen their creative vision. Students will use the basic knowledge of techniques and artistic vocabulary as a foundation for their own creative expression.

Course Schedule

Week 1: Intro

- Explanation of Materials
- Color Mixing
- Paint Control

Week 2: Wet Techniques

- Wet on Wet

Week 3: Dry Techniques

- Wet on Dry

Week 4: Additive and Subtractive Techniques

- Splatter
- Lifting

Week 5: Start Project

- Draw
- Block in Colors
- Background

Week 6: Continue Project

- Refine Details
- Middle Ground

Week 7: Continue Project

- Refine Details
- Foreground

Week 8: Finish Project

- Final Touches

Supply List

All supplies are recommendations. It's ok if sizes, colors, or anything else is a little different. Just remember you get what you pay for.

- Watercolor Paint Set - 12 or more colors (Recommended brands include: M. Graham, Reeves, Windsor and Newton, and Daniel Smith) Tubes or cakes are fine; I prefer tubes.
- Recommended Colors- Paynes Grey, Titanium White, Burnt Sienna, Crimson Red, Brilliant Red, Ultramarine Blue, Cerulean Blue, Cobalt Blue, Yellow Ochre, Medium Yellow, Deep Yellow, Sap Green, Green Light
- Brushes- Flat Brushes and Round Brushes in large, medium, and small sizes, Rigger Brush, and a medium sized Fan Brush
- Palette- with lid and large mixing well in the middle. Bigger the better.
- Watercolor Paper-140 cold or hot press, various sizes depending on preference. 9x12, 11x14.
If you're going to splurge on something, splurge on paper. Arches is my favorite brand.
- #2 Pencil
- Masking Tape

- Eraser (Regular and Kneaded)
 - Sketchbooks or Drawing Pads (at least 8.5"x11") (Recommended)
 - Photo References- (Recommended)
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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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