MATERIALS LIST

The following materials are suggested as a guide rather than strict requirements. Students are welcome to use alternative materials they already have or feel comfortable working with. There is no need to invest in expensive materials when starting out; simple, affordable materials are perfectly suitable.

1. Pencil Drawing

- Masking tape (for securing paper to a drawing board)
- Paper:
    - A4 for master copies
    - A3 or A2 for drawing from life
    - Larger sheets can also be purchased and folded to size
- Pencils: 6B, 2B and HB
- Kneadable eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Mechanical pencil
- Plumb line (a simple length of string with a small weight attached will suffice)

2. Oil Painting Supplies

Sketching the Composition

Charcoal and a kneadable eraser can be used to sketch in the initial placement and composition before painting. Alternatively, the initial sketch can be done directly onto the painting surface using thinned oil paint.

Brushes

If you already have some brushes, you're very welcome to bring them along and use them.

For the most part, we'll be working with relatively small brushes, as we won't be painting on particularly large surfaces. For these exercises, it's more important to have a variety of brush sizes than to have brushes with different hair types or shapes.

As a general guide, a selection of brushes ranging from approximately 3–4 cm down to 1 cm, 0.5 cm and smaller will be useful.

Personally, I prefer hog-hair filbert brushes, but you're welcome to use whatever brushes you feel most comfortable with.

Paints

If you already have some oil colours, you're very welcome to bring them along and use them. There is absolutely no need to purchase the exact colours listed below, or to go out and buy a whole new set of paints for this course.

The following colours are simply my recommendations and are intended as a general guide. Feel free to use equivalent colours, or whatever colours you already have available. We can work with what you have and gradually expand your palette as you progress through the course.

For reference, these are the colours I generally recommend:

- Burnt Sienna
- Titanium White
- Ivory Black
- Cadmium Red
- Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium Yellow Pale
- Cadmium Lemon
- Cobalt Blue
- Ultramarine Blue
- Viridian

For students who are just starting out:

You only need three colours to begin with:

- Ivory Black
- Titanium White
- Burnt Sienna

There is no need to purchase additional colours until they are required for your exercises.

Student-grade oil paints are perfectly suitable for this course. Some examples include Gamblin 1980 and Winsor & Newton Winton.

Brush Washing Can

A brush washing can is useful for storing odourless solvent and rinsing out brushes.

You can use any suitable airtight container, such as a glass jar. However, I find metal brush washers with clips or screw-top lids particularly convenient, as they make cleaning brushes much easier and quicker.

Please make sure that whatever container you use is airtight. It doesn't need to be very large; a small one will do.

Example:
https://seniorart.com.au/index.php?main_page=advanced_search_result&search_in_description=1&keyword=metal+brush+washer

Odourless Solvent

You will need some odourless solvent for cleaning brushes. You can bring this in your brush washing can or another suitable airtight container.

I recommend Gamsol.

A note on solvent safety:

Although Gamsol is an odourless solvent, it is still important to use it in a well-ventilated area and avoid prolonged skin contact or inhalation of vapours. Keep solvent containers sealed when not in use.

Please avoid leaving solvent or solvent-soaked materials exposed in the studio.
Oil-contaminated paper towels and rags should never be left crumpled or piled up, as they can pose a spontaneous combustion risk. Please follow the studio's approved procedures for their safe storage and disposal.

Painting Surface

I recommend panels or canvases measuring approximately 16 × 12 inches or 16 × 20 inches.

Our working time and studio space are somewhat limited, so these sizes should be suitable for the exercises we will be undertaking.

Other Painting Materials

- Palette knife
- Palette
- Dipper cup
- Small bottle of linseed oil
- Paper towels / Painting rags