Traditional Painting Supply List (Watercolor)

The following supply list contains the materials that you will need to execute a traditional watercolor painting in this class. They can be purchased at any area art supply store such as Art Media, Aaron Brothers or Michael's.

The supplies with an "*" should be purchased by student to participate in this class

I have many of the drawing and painting materials on hand in a limited supply. Depending on the number students, my personal supplies may be shared. Keep in mind that supplies you choose not to purchase may not be available you to use if there are more students than tools and materials available.

Drawing Materials

•Number 2 lead pencils (If you already have drawing pencils with leads higher than number 2 you may want to use them. A pencil study of your subject is sometimes helpful in working out some of the bugs of how to execute your painting layout.)
•Graphic white pencil eraser
•Spiral sketch book (no smaller than 11" X 14", no larger than 18" X 24")
•Tracing paper pad
•Student "T" square (no shorter than 24")
•Student drafting triangle (no shorter than 8")
•Ruler 12"
•Portable wood drawing board with metal edge for both rendering layout and for mounting and stretching watercolor paper for the painting process

Painting Materials

*Watercolor Paper- pad or single sheets. No smaller than 9"x12", your choice of hot press (smooth), cold press (textured) or rough (expatriated texture)
*Gouache and Watercolor Paints-in tubes or dry cake pallet (Gouache paints are optional)
*Graphic White-usually comes in a small jar.
*Yellows
    Lemon Yellow
    Cadmium Yellow
    Light Cadmium Yellow
    Yellow Ochre
*Browns
    Raw Sienna
    Burnt Sienna
    Burnt Umber

*Blues
Cobalt Blue
Cerulean Blue

*Greens
Sap Green
Viridian
*Reds
Rose Madder
Cadmium Red
Vermillion

*Watercolor Tray-for mixing paint colors.

*Brushes-purchase pure sable Flats or Brights (square tip) and Rounds. Purchase brush sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16. Your brushes are extremely important in the execution of your work. If you can only afford four out of eight brush sizes, purchase those sizes underlined (in the flat or bright category because they are the most versatile). I strongly recommend that you try to obtain the other sizes as you progress. You will find yourself using five or six brushes to render different aspects of a painting in one sitting.
•Felt-Tipped Watercolor Nip (you can achieve a ruling edge in any color)

Clean Up
•Shampoo
•Water Jar
•Baby Wipes
•Painting Rags (A thick, highly absorbent paper towel such as Job Squad can be used.)

Cleanup and Brush Care Note:
Your brushes are one of your most important and expensive investments. The cleaning and conditioning of your brushes after use is essential. Neglecting your brushes will cause them to fan out. You will want to first rinse out any paint from your brushes with water. Keep brushes submerged in water jar until ready for final cleanup.

When using a masking fluid, coat your dry brush with soap or shampoo first. Then dip coated brush in masking fluid to apply to area you desire to mask. This will protect your watercolor brushes from being permanently gummed with the rubber cement based masking fluid.

Thoroughly, but gently, wash brushes with shampoo and carefully wipe them dry with a rag at the end of each painting session.

Recommended Reading

These books are available at your public library. I suggest trying to get a hold of them because they are a good resource of information for traditional painters. As you progress in your craft you will probably want to purchase a small selection of similar books in your home where they are readily available.

•*Blue and Yellow Don't Make Green*
•Fabri, Ralph. *Artist's Guide to Composition*
•Famous Artist School Step By Step Method, Fortina Famous Artist Library. *How to Draw the Human Figure*
•Gordon, Louise. *How to Draw the Human Figure, an Anatomical Approach*
•Metzger, Philip. *Perspective without Pain*

End Note: After reviewing your supply list you may have a number of adverse reactions. Intermediate painters may already have most of these supplies in their possession. Beginners undoubtedly will question themselves "Do I want to make this type of financial investment to peruse a hobby?" This is a question only you can answer. I, once again, liken the financial investment to the time investment of learning an instrument. When you decide to learn to play an instrument you must make an initial financial investment in the instrument itself. However, unlike a musical instrument, your painting supplies do not retain their resale value once they are used should you decide traditional painting (or painting of any kind) is not for you. If you are an artistic person you probably have to admit that within you is a deep desire to express your creative personality. The only way to know if this particular discipline of painting is the form of artistic expression you've been looking for is to try it.

Think of the optional items on this supply list as an artist's wish list. If you continue to expand and develop your artistic skills you will find you want to also develop a private collection of tools and supplies. Unfortunately, as an artist you can expect your artist's wish list to grow proportionally to your passion to create. Over time you can learn about and collect the tools that will enhance your creative pursuit.