Art Academy

COURSE TITLE	PAINTING AND DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS
COURSE CODE	EC2502031
TUTOR	GAIL SERES-WOOLFSON
START DATE	20/01/2026
DAY & TIME	TUESDAYS, 6.30PM - 9PM
LEVEL	BEGINNER
LOCATION	BANKSIDE CAMPUS

DAILY BREAKDOWN

Date	Topics/ Skills covered
20 January 2026	The course starts by building observational drawing skills. You will begin by drawing a series of objects, looking at their forms and how they occupy space. You will use a range of approaches, identifying shapes and shadows, and drawing without line but instead using tonal build-up to create volume and presence.
27 January 2026	This week we will be looking at how to build drama in a drawing using tone. We will experiment with mark making using pencils to build up areas of light and dark.
3 February 2026	This week you will have a life model to draw from. We will start with 'rapid gesture drawing' from different viewpoints to identify the weight and rhythm of various poses. We will also look at the figure as a series of interrelated basic shapes and key lines and use 'comparative measurement' negative space and angles to start to achieve convincing proportions and scale.
10 February 2026	This week will focus on portraiture and how to draw the human head from a variety of angles. We will discuss the relationship between the head as a whole and the features of the face, and how to simplify what you see into a collection of well observed shapes. We will use charcoal and pencil, experimenting with scale, tone and line.
17 February 2026	This week we will discuss abstraction and take inspiration from the figure integrated within the studio space. You will have use of a variety of drawing materials to work with and the option to include collaged elements within your piece.
24 February 2026	This week will be an introduction to using acrylic paint. Starting with an overview of acrylic painting materials, you will do an exercise looking at black and white objects and trying to capture their tonal range in paint.
3 March 2026	This session will focus on colour theory and colour mixing. We will undertake a series of exercises, discovering the colours we can mix and trying to match the colours that we see around us.
10 March 2026	This week we will continue to develop colour mixing skills by responding to simple still life objects in t
17 March 2026	This week we will be practicing mixing flesh tones and different ways of applying paint while using hands as a reference.
24 March 2026	In the final session, we will create a full colour painting of a clothed model within the studio space, applying the techniques you have learnt over the course and choosing whether to use only paint or mix wet and dry materials.