

COURSE TITLE	WATERCOLOUR & INK
COURSE CODE	SC2504162
TUTOR	LAURA RIBBONS
START DATE	10/8/2026
DAY & TIME	MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, & FRIDAY ; 10AM - 4:30PM
LEVEL	ALL LEVELS
LOCATION	BANKSIDE CAMPUS

DAILY BREAKDOWN

Date	Topics/ Skills covered	Model?
10/08/2025	<p>Students will be introduced to watercolours and inks and their properties and encouraged to explore them through a number of guided exercises. Students will learn about colour mixing and layering paint with watercolour, as well as being introduced to the varying tonal values of ink and how this can be adjusted with the addition of water. Students will be introduced to various basic watercolour techniques and will be encouraged to experiment with how different pigments interact with one another as well as how watercolours and inks may be used successfully in conjunction with one another.</p> <p>During the afternoon session students will be encouraged to apply techniques learnt in the morning to create their own larger scale abstract or semi-abstract composition - taking inspiration from a selection of artists. Students may work in watercolours/inks or a combination of the two to create their composition.</p>	NO
11/08/2025	<p>Students will have the opportunity to explore how we create texture in watercolour and ink by using a combination of conventional and non-conventional painting materials. In the morning students will be taken to visit the Red Cross Garden and will spend 1-2 hours creating sketches outside. When we return to the studio they will then create a test sheet of mark making using both their brush and alternative materials.</p> <p>In the afternoon working from both their texture experiments and their sketches they will create a scaled up work using their sketches as references. Students will have the choice of working in either inks, watercolour or a combination of the two.</p>	NO
12/08/2025	<p>Today students will have the opportunity to work from a life model. Students will spend the morning experimenting with inks and exploring how these can be used in combination with mid-tones and white gouache, as well as working with sticks to create expressive drawings.</p> <p>Students will work through a range of poses starting with shorts studies and building up to working from longer poses. In the afternoon students will be encouraged to switch to watercolour or coloured inks to create a painterly work from an extended pose. Students will be introduced to examples artists who work from the figure using watercolours/inks.</p>	YES
13/08/2025	<p>(Weather permitting!) Students will spend all day working outside spending the morning around the Tate and along the Southbank and in their afternoon migrating across the river to work in the shadow of the spectacular St Paul's Cathedral and its gardens. The purpose of this session is to really get to grips with watercolour as a sketching medium, to build confidence working outside and to explore the potential of the energy and mood that can be created through rapid sketches.</p>	NO
14/08/2025	<p>To round off the week, today students will have the opportunity to continue working at a larger scale (something Laura is particularly passionate about!)</p> <p>It is a common misconception that watercolour has to be done at a smaller scale. While it is true that it is a fantastic portable medium, watercolours and inks also offer (quite literally!) huge potential for working at a larger scale. Students will use reference material amassed over the course of the week, as well as working from still life objects and/or their own imagery.</p> <p>We will discuss the influence of shape and scale of paper on subject matter (and vice versa) and considerations such as how to situate your subject matter on the page. Students will continue to develop their understanding of composition and will be shown examples from contemporary watercolour artists who work at large scale. This will be a fun session where students are encouraged to grow their confidence and build on what they have learnt during the week.</p>	NO