University of New Mexico
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Japanese Sumi-e Painting
Course #02172

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Course Description:
This is an entry level course for people who have never had experience with Japanese style brush-and-ink-painting (sumi-e). It is also a continuing course for previous students. We will learn the basic philosophy behind the practice of this art form through learning and practicing the fundamental techniques which are used in all aspects of sumi-e. The techniques are simple, and when put together the student will be able to create quality aesthetically pleasing works of art. In this art form practice does indeed make perfect. Because of the repetition involved, we can expect to go through many sheets of rice paper.

Materials Needed: (Available at Artisan’s on Monte Vista, on the corner of Richmond. Artisan’s will give a 10% discount when you show them this course outline).
Essential needs to begin with:
• one Haboku sumi-e brush, medium size (Haboku has a brown shaft. It is more expensive, but superior in quality; please invest in one);
• one large suzuri, or ink stone (there are two sizes available; buy the larger one);
• one rectangular ink stick (there are two sizes available; buy the larger one); and
• one 9” X 12” or 12” x 18” pad of rice paper (we will paint on 9”X12” sheets so a 12”X18” sheet will go twice as far.)

You will also need:
• a container for water. This can be a large plastic or glass jar brought from home (or you may purchase a three-chambered ceramic or plastic water container);
• a small ceramic or plastic white dish to make light ink;
• some kind of paper weight;
• a 24” x 24” piece of felt to put the rice paper on as you paint; and
• a small cotton cloth for blotting water from the brush (a wash cloth will do).

Teaching Method: The instructor will demonstrate each lesson. The students will then practice as the instructor circulates throughout the classroom giving help and suggestions as needed. Students will show their practice work at the end of each class meeting.

Text: There are no texts required, but a book list is provided at the end of this syllabus.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Number</th>
<th>Lesson and Techniques Learned</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Introducing the materials and their uses; arranging the painting area; preparing the ink; loading the brush. We will begin right away with grasses and simple flowers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>More practice with Orchids and more complex flowers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Painting bamboo and trees. Composition considerations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Adding birds and rocks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>Introducing mountains and streams.</td>
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<td>Sixth</td>
<td>Practice with large bodies of water and some structures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seventh</td>
<td>Introducing the use of color.</td>
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<td>Eighth</td>
<td>Putting it all together.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ninth</td>
<td>Learning how to mount the paintings.</td>
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<td>Tenth</td>
<td>Final showing of your work.</td>
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Students can expect much repetition and gradual progress as we learn each skill and incorporate each into the others. This style of painting is based on the continual assimilation of new skills into those previously learned.

**Sumi-e Booklist List**


