

DSGN 1534 - Design + Painting

Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section A01, CRN 30973,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Dragana Crnjak

Professional Qualifications:

Master of Fine Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University

Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Akron

Professor

Email: dcrnjak@ysu.edu

Office: 0016 Bliss Hall

Office Phone: 330-9411860

Preferred Contact Method: email

Communication Expectations:

I will respond to emails and calls within 24-48 hours. Please note that I check my emails on a limited basis after 5 p.m. and on weekends. If you email in the evening, do not expect a response until the following day. If you email over the weekend, please expect a response on Monday.

How to Refer to me:

Professor Crnjak



Course Description

1534. Design + Painting. This course will cover color mixing, composition, form, and spatial relationships with subjects ranging from still-life, interiors, and abstraction. Prereq.: C or better in DSGN 1529 or permission of instructor. 3 s.h.

Design + Painting course is designed to immerse students in the fundamentals of painting, focusing on the development of both technical and perceptual skills. Through exercises in observation, color mixing, surface building, and expressive use of materials, students will engage with various hands-on and digital painting methodologies. By the end of the course, students will not only gain a deeper understanding of the painting discipline but also build the confidence to develop their own unique artistic and design strategies.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
	No readings		

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
5/11	Project guidelines in Module 1 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Tonal Painting Study	5/14 - In-progress tonal study (sketched composition or sketched composition with darkest values added) due in the group Ppt Presentation 5/17 - Completed Tonal Painting study due in the group Ppt Presentation



5/18	Project guidelines in Module 2 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Limited Palette painting	5/21 - Artist Research in Padlet due. 5/21 - Underpainting along the reference image are due in the group Ppt presentation 5/24 - Completed Limited Palette Painting study due in the group Ppt Presentation
5/25	Project guidelines in Module 3 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Color Schemes – Representational Color palette	5/28 - In-progress painting study (at least underpainting stage) is due in the group Ppt Presentation 5/31 - Completed Representational Color Painting study due in the group Ppt Presentation
6/1	Project guidelines in Module 4 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Color Schemes – Analogous and Arbitrary color palette	6/4 - One study (analogous or arbitrary palette) due in the group Ppt Presentation 6/7 - Both analogous and arbitrary color palette studies due in the group Ppt Presentation
6/8	Project guidelines in Module 5 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Surface	6/11 - Five surface studies due in the group Ppt Presentation 6/14 - Final Surface Collage due in the group Ppt Presentation
6/15	Project guidelines in Module 6 Watch the instructor's Ppt Presentation introducing the topic	Final Project – Space, Preparatory work	6/18 - Reference image, color mood board and sketched composition are due in the personal Ppt Presentation (1-2 slides) 6/21 - In-progress painting due in the personal Ppt Presentation (slide 3)
6/22	No readings	Final Project – Space	6/26 - Completed final project Space along Artist Statement are due in personal Ppt Presentation

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.