

SHORT COURSE DETAILS

S5D08226 PAINTING AUTUMN LANDSCAPES IN OILS

Tutor: TOM BENJAMIN

Dates: 5 DAYS SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER – FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER

ABOUT YOUR COURSE:

Autumn is a special time of year for landscape painters. Colours can be very rich and the weather atmospheric. This is primarily an outdoor painting course in oils. The tutor will focus on techniques that will help you to make paintings that capture your individual responses to the landscape more fully and also to deepen and enrich those responses.

You will be working in a range of locations (depending in part on the weather) which exemplify the beauty of the season. Subjects will include woodland and open views. You will be working on quick one off oils and also one or more sustained paintings. You will also explore ways of structuring paintings so they have a sense of space, light, form and atmosphere. The techniques that you focus on will be those that allow you to work at speed so that you are better able to capture fleeting effects of light.

There will be some chance work on paintings in the studio in the evenings and in the event of bad weather. This will give you an opportunity to look at studio based techniques and approaches' for taking ideas further. In addition to one to one discussion while you are working and whole class talks Tom will also paint sometimes so that you can see how he approaches landscape painting.

LEVEL: SUITABLE FOR ALL

A subject focused course that is delivered to suit all levels of experience. A structured start is followed by guided independent practice.

Is there anything a potential student needs to be able to do to succeed on this course?

Students should have some experience of working with oil paints, if you are a complete beginner we recommend you do a beginners' taster day or weekend course.

ABOUT YOUR TUTOR:

Tom Benjamin is an outdoor painter working in oils. He paints land, sea and townscapes and has been tutoring at West Dean for about ten years

TIMETABLE:

Arrival day: Sunday 30 September

From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students
5.30pm	Workshops available for dropping off equipment and materials
6.45pm	Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner
7.00pm	Dinner
8.00pm–9.00pm	First teaching session – attendance is an essential part of the course. We will be painting on the first evening. Please bring painting equipment to the first session including a surface to paint on.

Other days: Monday 1 to Thursday 4 October

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes

Other days continued: Monday 1 to Thursday 4 October

3.30pm	Tea
4.00pm	Afternoon classes continue
5.00pm	Classes finish
From 6.30pm	Dinner
8.00pm	Evening working: workshops are available up to 10pm for those wishing to work on providing this has been discussed with the tutor. These sessions are untutored.

Departure day: Friday 5 October

(Residential students to vacate rooms by 10am)

9.15am	Morning classes start
10.30am	Coffee
11.00am	Morning classes continue
12.45pm	Lunch
2.00pm	Afternoon classes
3.00pm	Classes finish, please vacate workshop by 3.30pm
3.30pm	Tea then departure

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Bring painting equipment and a surface to paint on to the first evening session.

MATERIALS FOR YOUR COURSE:

We have a generously stocked craft shop, which opens daily from 8.30am–2pm.

For any materials you need to purchase from the shop, we suggest you do so during the first morning of your course, after having discussed with your tutor.

Materials included in the course fee:

Acrylic gesso primer

Acrylic paints to add to primer for colouring ground

Low odour thinner (zest it) for studio use

Available from the Shop:

Oil paints: Titanium White

Winsor yellow or equivalent

Yellow ochre

Alizarin crimson

French Ultramarine

Winsor blue green shade or equivalent

Raw umber

Ivory black

Hog brushes (artists' quality) I recommend long flat in a range of sizes 1–10

Double Dipper

A flat palette

White spirit or turps (for outdoor work only)

A two inch decorators brush

We will be working on MDF panels to paint on (these make great surfaces and fit into slotted boxes which we can put in the minibus so your wet paintings won't get damaged. They are available from the shop in the sizes we need and are not expensive

Please bring any of the above, if you have them, and in addition:

Paint rags

A camera or smart phone if you want photographic references

West Dean has its own sketching easels and portable chairs but if you have your own and it folds fairly compact you are welcome to bring it

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. There are no health and safety restrictions on access to this studio/teaching space in the absence of the tutor. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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