

FA370 Advanced Painting: Color Archaeology

Seminar Leader: **Beatriz Morales**

Email: b.morales@berlin.bard.edu

Course Times: **Monday, 14:00-17:15**

Location: **Direktorenhaus at Monopol, Provinzstr. 40-44**

Office Hours: **Monday 17:15 - 18:00 or by appointment.**

Course Description

This advanced studio art course is designed to cultivate technical and conceptual skills within the field of contemporary painting. The course places particular emphasis on ideas and practices relating to abstract painting, color, and materials beyond traditional paint on canvas, specifically textile-related materials. Students will explore colour through a wide range of materials and processes. Color will not be approached solely through paint on canvas, but also through fabrics, found and raw materials, natural pigments, dyes, and self-made colours. The course encourages experimentation with different methods of producing, applying, and understanding color, while considering the historical, cultural, and material contexts in which colors exist. Students will develop independent projects in shared studios. The aim of the course is to help students develop a broader and more critical understanding of color, enabling them to make more informed and intentional decisions about why they use particular colors, how those colors function within their work, and what meanings they may carry.

Participants are expected to have prior experience in painting, a willingness to experiment, and be motivated to produce and critically discuss their work. Enrolment is limited to ensure ample studio space and sustained individual guidance. The semester culminates in the “Open Studios” exhibition at the BCB arts buildings at Monopol Berlin.

Requirements

Students are expected to:

- Turn off phones during class time.
- Always allocate extra time for work preparation and clean-up for independent production.
- Finish assignments and projects by the due date.
- Respond to emails from their professors in a timely manner.
- Initiate appointments with the Professor or arts staff outside of class time.

- Inform their professors at the beginning of the semester if photos of student's identity, artwork, works in progress are NOT to be taken and / or used for Bard College Berlin.
- Remove all artworks, art materials, and / or any personal belongings before the end of the semester. Failure to remove works or return spaces clean and empty may result in final grade penalization. Donating unrequested artworks and / or art materials is not permitted and will still be considered student property, expected to be removed by your inspection deadline. Please contact Studio Arts Manager Joon Park for more information: j.park@berlin.bard.edu

Academic Integrity

Bard College Berlin maintains the highest standards of academic integrity and expects students to adhere to these standards at all times. Instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section 14.3 (Academic Misconduct) in the Student Handbook.

Accommodations

Bard College Berlin is committed to inclusion and providing equal access to all students; we uphold and maintain all aspects of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, and Section 3 of the German Disability Equality Act of April 27, 2002 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 1468). If you have a disability, or think you may have a disability, please contact the Disability Accommodation Coordinator, Atticus Kleen, (accommodations@berlin.bard.edu) to request an official accommodation.

Requests for accommodations should be made as early as possible to ensure adequate time for coordination and planning. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive and may require advance notice to implement.

If you have already been approved for accommodations with the Disability Accommodation Coordinator, please arrange to meet with me outside of class so that we can develop an implementation plan.

Students may face extenuating circumstances related to various personal or external factors, which impact their academic performance. While these circumstances often do not fall within the legal framework of Disability Accommodations, Bard College Berlin is committed to supporting students experiencing such circumstances. A student needing a short extension or a replacement

assignment because of an extenuating circumstance is encouraged to make arrangements directly with instructors if possible. If further support is needed, please visit the [Bard College Berlin Accessibility page](#). Questions about this process can be directed to James Harker (j.harker@berlin.bard.edu) or Maria Anderson-Long (m.andersonlong@berlin.bard.edu).

Attendance

Attendance at all classes is a crucial part of the education offered by Bard College Berlin. To account for minor circumstances, two absences from twice-per-week courses or the equivalent (e.g. one absence from a once-per-week course) should not affect the participation grade or require documentation.

Bard College Berlin may not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences. The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook, Section 2.8.

Students are expected to attend every class, arrive on time, and remain for the entire session. Being late can disrupt the class and affect everyone's learning experience.

If you expect to arrive late due to unavoidable circumstances, notify the instructor as soon as possible by email or WhatsApp, explaining the reason.

Arriving more than 15 minutes after the class has started will be treated as an absence.

Assessment

Students will receive a provisional midterm grade and a final grade for the course.

Students are expected to produce and present artworks or experimental studies that demonstrate a thoughtful engagement with colour as a central element of their creative process. A range of art materials will be provided; however, depending on the direction of individual projects, students may be required to purchase or source additional materials at their own expense.

Students are also assessed on their ability to work independently and responsibly. They will be graded on their ability to communicate with Professor as well amongst themselves. This also includes their ambition to create artworks as well as their willingness to budget their time for all requirements connected to this class. This assessment also includes preparation, production, and cleaning up of spaces used at Bard College Berlin

Policy on Late Submission of Artworks / Presentations

Assignments (artworks, essays, performances, oral presentations) that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (Example: B+ becomes C+). The Professor is not obliged to accept assignments that are more than 24 hours late. Where a professor agrees to accept a late assignment, it should be submitted by the new deadline agreed upon by both parties. Thereafter, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Grades and comments will be returned to students in a timely fashion. Students may make an appointment to discuss assignments and feedback during instructors' office hours.

Students will receive feedback for their course work during and at the end of the semester. Students are entitled to make an appointment with an instructor to discuss seminar participation, or may be asked to meet with the instructor at any stage in the semester regarding class progress.

Grade Breakdown

60%	Work (meaning all assignments and artworks made for class.
40%	Attendance, participation, and professionalism (being punctual, respectful, and contributing to discussions and critiques.)

Schedule

Week 1: Aug 31	Introduction to the course, syllabus, materials, studio etiquette, Direktorenhaus, and Monopol facilities. <i>Assignment: Each participant should introduce their practice and described their interest and areas of focus. Please bring some images from your work. Exercise: Storytelling through line and colour on paper.</i>
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Berlin Art Week – Wednesday, Sept 9 - Sunday, Sept 13

Wk 2: Sep 7	Natural Ink-making and the power of colour <i>Assignment: Prepare natural inks and surfaces for personal project</i>
Wk 3: Sep 14	Political Colours <i>Assignment: Continuation of personal project, individual feedback</i>
Wk 4: Sep 21	Textiles in contemporary art. <i>Assignment: Finish current project</i>

Wk 5: Sep 28	Introduction to Dyeing <i>Assignment: Begin new personal project</i>
Wk 6: Oct 5	<i>Embroidery in contemporary art.</i> <i>Assignment: Continuation of personal project, individual feedback</i>
Wk 7: Oct 12	Midterm Works due today. Presentations, feedback, and group critiques. (Attendance & participation is especially important.)
Fall Break (Oct 19 - 23, 2026)	
Wk 8: Oct 31 (Sat)	Excursion to Hamburger Bahnhof, to visit the exhibits: Matter of Care, Care of Matter and Next Door. Meet at 10:00 am at the Museum. Notice is a Saturday. <i>Assignment: Plan Final Project.</i>
Wk 9: Nov 2	Studio Work session, individual meetings to discuss plans for Final Project. Assignment: Start Final Project.
Wk 10: Nov 9	Studio Work session, individual meetings to discuss plans for Final Project. Assignment: Work on Final Project.
Wk 11: Nov 16	Studio work session, individual meetings to discuss plans for Final Project. <i>Assignment: Work on Final Project.</i>
Wk 12: Nov 23	Studio work session, individual meetings to assess progress on Final Project. <i>Assignment: Finish on Final Project.</i>
Wk 13: Nov 30	Installing paintings. Presentations, feedback, and group critiques. (Attendance & participation is especially important.) <i>Assignment: Finish on Final Works.</i>
Wk 14: Dec 7	Presentations, feedback, and group critiques of final paintings. (Attendance & participation is especially important.)
Thur, Dec 10	“Open Studios at Monopol” exhibition from 5-9pm. (Date to be confirmed.)

Dec 14 - 18

Completion Week. Direktorenhaus Workshop cleaned, BCB tools & art supplies returned. All student artworks & personal materials removed.

Policy on the use of facilities:

1. The Factory (Eichenstrasse 43) and Monopol (Provinzstr 40-44) at BCB offer space and facilities to BCB art students. Chip access is from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day, including the weekends during the semester. The buildings cannot be used outside these hours. Fire exits and lanes must be kept clear of any obstructions.
2. Students agree only to use the designated class spaces or communal workshops. Respecting the building and its facilities is crucial, as they are shared resources that need to be preserved for the benefit of all.
3. For your safety and the safety of others, smoking and drinking alcohol are strictly prohibited anywhere inside the building.
4. Unauthorised events and/or parties are not permitted. Projects using open flames (such as candles, torches, lanterns, fireworks, etc.) are not permitted inside the building.
5. Spray painting and handling any hazardous (chemical or combustible) material is not permitted inside the building.
6. All work surfaces (indoor and outdoor) must be adequately protected with the workshop's drop cloth before spray painting or working with plaster.
7. During completion week, any space used by a student must be emptied, with clean walls and floors. All garbage must be adequately disposed of. Final grades may be affected or withheld if any item remains by the inspection deadline.
8. When leaving the building, students must ensure all lights are turned off, all electrical items must be unplugged, and doors must be closed.
9. Contact the Studio art manager directly with any questions: j.park@berlin.bard.edu

Emergency phone numbers:

Police (calling from a German landline or cellphone): 110

Fire (calling from a German landline or cellphone): 112

Ambulance and Paramedics (calling from a German landline or cellphone): 112

Out-of-Hours Medical Care (calling from a German landline or cellphone): 116 117