

Botanical Drawing I and II
with Amanda Ahmed
Term 1 2025
QHub Auditorium
49-55 Hesse Street, Queenscliff

Class Description:

This is a structured class suitable for beginners to intermediate. Those new to the class will learn the basics of botanical drawing incorporating form, tone, different mark making techniques, understanding basic geometric shapes found in nature and translating them into your drawings. Those with more experience will learn the different techniques for drawing with coloured pencils and colour theory. The focus on both levels will be on observational drawing from life to achieve realistic renderings of botanical subjects. This class is presented in a friendly and supportive environment and is for those who have completed some level of introduction to botanical art or for those wanting to develop and/or revisit their drawing skills.

Outcomes:

At the end of the term, you will have built up a series of sketches and studies in your drawing book and completed at least one fully rendered drawing in either graphite or coloured pencil. You will have developed more confidence in drawing from life and a good understanding of basic graphite and coloured pencil techniques.

Class structure:

During the term, the following will be covered:

1. Practicing hand-eye coordination with a series of drawing exercises.
2. Reviewing basics of drawing using 3- line technique and learn about other geometric tools to assist with drawing natural forms.
3. Learning graphite pencil applications and techniques.
4. Learning different coloured pencil applications and techniques.
5. Explore tone, form and light with graphite and coloured pencil to create realistic 3D effects.
6. Review.

Time will be set aside to review work, provide feedback, discuss progress, and answer questions.

Class dates: 6, 20 February; 6, 20 March; 3 April

Class times: 10am-3.30pm with 30 mins for lunch

Drawing I and II Materials

For both levels:

1. Graphite pencils – 4H, 2H, H, B, HB, 2B, 4B (Staedtler Mars – Lumograph – this is the preferred brand but if you have another brand already use that) (Art supplier/also try Officeworks)
2. Kneadable rubber (Art supplier)
3. Tombow – Mono Zero Eraser – fine tipped pen style eraser, (Art supplier/ Officeworks)
4. A3 cartridge paper drawing pad – **must be smooth surface** (Art supplier/Officeworks)
5. Graphite only students: Arches watercolour paper 300gsm hot pressed smooth 1 x sheet (Art supplier). **Please keep flat and cut into 4 x sheets. Do not purchase Arches watercolour pad as a substitute. Note: will require a plastic sleeve with cardboard to store the paper.**
6. Clear plastic ruler 15-20cm long (Officeworks/Art Suppliers)
7. Tracing paper – 2 x A3 or A2 **sheets (not pad is expensive)** (Art supplier/maybe Officeworks)
8. Hand-held flat surface magnifying glass (**must have**) – (Post Office, Officeworks, Art supplier, Online magnifying glass supplier)

Suggested colour pencils (for Drawing II students)

Faber-Castell Polychromos

<p>Minimum (depending on subject):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pale Geranium Lake 121 Scarlet Red 118 Deep Scarlet Red 219 Alizarin Crimson 226 Red Violet 194 Magenta 133 May Green 170 Earth Green Yellowish 168 Chrome Oxide Green 278 Chrome Green Opaque 174 Dark Sepia 175 	<p>Recommended extras:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dark Chrome Yellow 109 Cadmium Orange 115 Crimson 134 Fuschia 123 Madder 142 Salmon 130 Earth Green 172 Light Yellow Ochre 183 Naples Yellow 185 Light Phthalo Blue 145 Burnt Siena 283 Walnut Brown 177
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9. Paper:
 - Strathmore Bristol vellum surface 300 series 9x12 inches pad of 20 Sheets. Available online e.g. <https://www.amazon.com.au/Strathmore-Bristol-Vellum-Paper-Sheets/dp/B0027A7K22?th=1>
 - OR
 - Arches watercolour paper 300gsm hot pressed smooth 1 x sheet (Art supplier). **Please keep flat and cut into 4 x sheets. Do not purchase Arches watercolour pad as a substitute. Note: will require a plastic sleeve with cardboard to store the paper.**
10. Lyra Splendor Blender colourless blender pencil (Art suppliers)
11. Copic Colourless Blender Pen with fine tip (Art suppliers/Officeworks) – like a marker pen with no colour just solvent.
12. Kent battery powered electric eraser with refills (Art suppliers/Officerworks) do not substitute with Derwent battery powered electric eraser.
13. Pencil sharpener – Derwent Superpoint Manual Helical pencil sharpener (Art suppliers/online Note: price can differ widely between suppliers so please check online first.)



Recommend Cavalier Art Supplies Geelong and theartshop.com.au (for online purchases) but any other good art suppliers will be fine. Also recommend Officeworks. Any questions regarding materials, you can Amanda directly at amanda.sidahmed@iinet.net.au.



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