



Course Title	Painting Portraits from the Masters
Tutor	Antony Williams
Times	10am - 5pm (4.45 - 5pm to clean-up)
Dates	Thursdays, 21 Sept. - 30 Nov
Half Term	Monday 23 October - Saturday 28 October
Course Code	D1701P032
Level	CPD L2/All
Room	Studio 6
Cost	£495



### **What is this course about?**

Learning how to paint portraits from master portrait painters has long been a tradition in figurative art, with master painters themselves learning from their forebears. This course will continue this tradition. The aim of the course is to give students the opportunity to study and analyse the approach taken by great portrait painters from the past. By undertaking in-depth study of paintings by the master portrait painters, students will learn to apply something of the techniques and approaches used by these artists. Gaining an insight in to how these artists worked will help students to think about how they paint portraits themselves, and how they develop a painting. Antony will first discuss with students some of the techniques used by the artists. Then, working directly from the paintings in a London gallery, by drawing on site and painting in the studio, students will analyse and then create copies of well-known portraits. For the final part of the course, students will develop portraits of their own, influenced in some way by the portrait they have been copying.

### **What topics do we cover?**

- Analysing and understanding techniques used by portrait painters from the past, including the application of paint, the palettes used, composition, subject matter etc
- Considering the effects created through the use of these techniques and the purpose behind them
- Working out how to study, build and copy a painting, and understanding the benefits of doing this
- How to use another painting as inspiration for a portrait

**By the end of this course you will:**

- Have a more in-depth understanding of the techniques used by portrait painters of the past and how to apply these in a painting.
- Have an understanding of the issues considered by portrait painters of the past in creating and developing a portrait.

### **What Level is the course and do I need any particular skills?**

#### **About your tutor**

**Antony Williams** (R.P. P.S. N.E.AC.) studied at Farnham College and Portsmouth University. His work is on display at the National Portrait Gallery and the House of Commons and recent awards include amongst others, the Lynn Painter-Stainers Prize 2012, the Changing Faces Prize in 2010 and the Arts Club Prize 2004 and 2008. He has been a member of the New English Art Club since 2007, the Royal Society of Portrait Painters since 1996 and the Pastel Society since 2007. Commissions include HRH The Queen, RT Hon Margaret Beckett MP, Sir Donald Sinden, Ömer Koc, Amartya Kumar Sen and Sir Alan Budd.

*"All my work is the product of direct and intense observation, which can produce as a result a heightened sense of realism, where every surface detail is given almost equal consideration."*

<http://www.antony-williams.com/>

#### **Weekly breakdown**

Courses at the Art Academy offer a structured approach to ensure specific subjects, skills and methods are covered. Below is a weekly breakdown of what will be covered. Bear in mind that these classes will move with the pace of the class so a degree of flexibility of what will be covered on which day will be employed.

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic/skills covered</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>What to bring</b>
1	21 Sept	Discussion of techniques of master portrait painters. Visit to National Gallery to look at and draw from portraits there. To select to copy one of the works in the collection from a shortlist including; Hans Holbien's A Lady with a Squirrel and a Starling; Rembrandt's Margaretha De Geer; Edgar Degas' Portrait of Mademoiselle Helene Rouart; Frans Hals' Young Man with Skull.	National Gallery	Drawing equipment, including either pencil or charcoal pencil. Putty rubber, sketchbook or small drawing board and cartridge paper.
2	28 Sept	Continue drawing at National Gallery	National Gallery	Drawing equipment
3	5 Oct	Working in the studio from a reproduction.		Drawing and painting equipment.

				Appropriate sized canvas or board (tutor to advise)
4	12 Oct	Working in the studio from a reproduction.		Painting equipment
5	19 Oct	am Return to National Gallery to look again at the painting pm back to the studio to continue painting		Drawing equipment Painting equipment
	26 Oct	HALF TERM		
6	2 Nov	Developing a portrait from the painting the student has copied		Painting equipment
7	9 Nov	Developing a portrait from the painting the student has copied		As above
8	16 Nov	Developing a portrait from the painting the student has copied		As above
9	23 Nov	Developing a portrait from the painting the student has copied		As above
10	30 Nov	Complete painting. Group discussion about the work.		As above

### Preparation Requirements

**STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN MATERIALS.**

The Academy is a white spirit and turpentine free environment and only odourless spirits, such as Zest-it or Sansodor, are permitted on the premises. Students must provide their own spirits, which can be recycled for longevity.

We request that you bring 2 small jars (one with a lid, one without) to hold your spirit, and a few cloths rags for brush cleaning (such as an old cotton t-shirt).

Below is a list of what is currently required for the course. Please also check the 'what to bring' sections above. Your tutor will advise if further materials or equipment are required as the course progresses.

- Oil paints (ideally genuine colours, no hues) as specified in the 'what to bring' sections above
- Brushes: assorted sizes of bristle, synthetic and sable brushes, including filberts, rounds and flats
- A3 Palette
- Palette knife
- Jam jar with lid
- Two dippers/or double dipper

- Old rags
- Old shirt or apron
- Oil painting boards/canvas - roughly 8"x 10" for quick studies 16" x 12" - 20" x 24" for longer projects
- Only odorless spirits, Sansodor or Zest-it (the Academy is a white spirit free environment)
- Winsor & Newton painting medium
- All drawing materials (to include pencils, rubbers, charcoal, sharpener etc.)

Most drawing and painting materials can be purchased from the Academy shop during shop hours.

The Academy has created an '**Oil Painting pack**' which contains part of the basic materials necessary for this component. Please either purchase an academy painting pack directly from the Art Academy or source your the individual items from elsewhere.

An **Oil Painting Pack** (£50.00) contains:

A set of bristle brushes, both flat and round, suitable for either oils or acrylics

One tear off palette (9"x12")

One palette knife

One bottle Zest-it (250ml)

One 10"x 12" canvas board

One 10"x 14" canvas board

Two 12"x 16" canvas boards

6 Daler Rowney (*Georgian*) oil tubes: Titanium White, Cadmium Yellow, Alizarin Crimson, Cadmium Red, French Ultramarine and Burnt Umber

## **Resources & Further Reading**

### **Royal Society of Portrait Painters**

[www.therp.co.uk](http://www.therp.co.uk)

The official website of the Royal Society of Portrait Painters.

### **National Portrait Gallery**

[www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)

BP Portrait Award. Good collection past and present and a well stocked bookshop.

### **British Museum**

[www.britishmuseum.org/reference](http://www.britishmuseum.org/reference)

The museum has a vast collection of drawings from Michelangelo to Antony Gormley. Any image can be viewed from the database and printed off. Fantastic Print Study Room where you have access to a vast collection of drawings. Opening times: Mon – Fri 10.00-13.00

and 14.15-16.00

## National Gallery

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk>

Look for the wonderful portrait by Antony van Dyke of Cornelius van der Geest (1620)

**Artists to look at for drawing:** Antony Williams, Stanley Spenser, Degas.

**Artists to look at for painting:** Frank Auerbach, Chaim Soutine, Lucian Freud, Degas.

## Welcome to The Art Academy

We are looking forward to welcoming you to The Art Academy and wish you the very best for your course. If at any time you would like to speak to a member of the team please feel free to contact us using the details below.

We value feedback on all of our courses so please keep us posted on your progress.

## Who can I contact for further information?

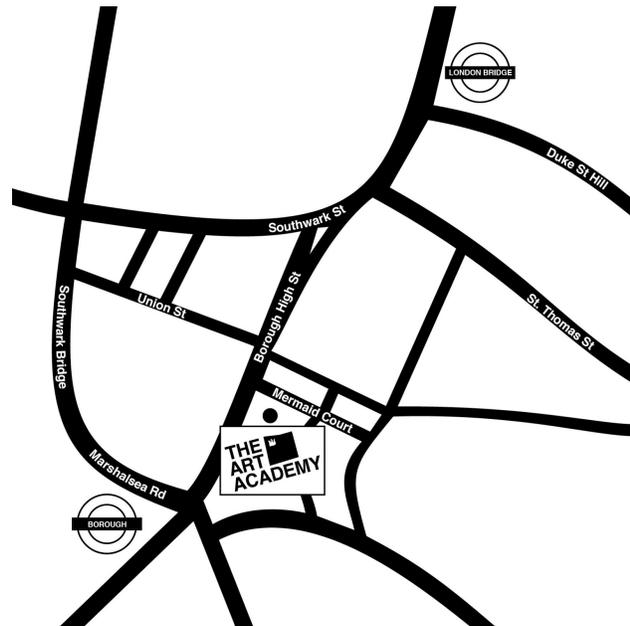
General information and advice on courses at The Art Academy is available from the main office, open Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00 during term time.

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7407 6969 or email our Administrator, Aimee Briginshaw:

[aimee@artacademy.org.uk](mailto:aimee@artacademy.org.uk)

## Location

The Art Academy is conveniently located minutes away from London Bridge (Northern and Jubilee lines, National Rail services) and Borough (Northern line) underground stations - follow signs for Borough High Street to exit. Please [click here](#) for a map.



Just moments walk from the Thames, the Art Academy is also ideally located for access to:

White Cube  
Tate Modern  
Jerwood Gallery

If you would like to make the most of the area a member of the team will be happy to advise you on areas of interest locally.

## Refreshments & Facilities

All students have access to the common room located in the Barn, on the ground floor of the Mermaid Court building. Here you will have use of a fridge, kettle, microwave and eating area.

There is a wealth of supermarkets, shops and cafes in the area as well as the world-famous Borough Food Market, five minutes walk away.

**Disabled Access**

We make every effort to accommodate students' access requirements, but if you have mobility issues, please speak to a member of the Academy team before your course starts.

**Further Details**

- You will need to have paid in full for your class before the first session of your class, your place is not guaranteed until we have received payment.
- If you purchased a materials pack online this will be given to you on the first session of your course upon your arrival.
- Ensure that you wear old clothing, as you may get messy!
- All artwork at the Academy MUST be taken home at the end of the course.
- Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off, or is on silent, during the class.
- Please read the Health and Safety Guidelines carefully, provided at the beginning of your course.
- If you wish to join any class for the next term please contact the office to re-book. Classes are becoming increasingly popular, so please book early in order to guarantee your place.
- If you have any further queries let us know and we will do our best to resolve them. Thank you for your co-operation and we look forward to seeing you.