

Explorations in Color Workshop

Taught by Christine Elder

SUGGESTED MATERIALS

-A mixed media style journal, pen or pencil for notes, set of your favorite color media such as colored pencils or watercolors, and plenty of paper that is appropriate for the media you choose.

SUGGESTED COLOR EXERCISES

The exercises below will help you become intimately familiar with the colors in your palette and theories of color mixing to help you become more confident about their application and to develop your own unique and personal color style.

1. List some emotions associated with as many hues as you care to explore.
2. Explore favorite combinations of 2-3 colors.
3. Create a color wheel showing at least the primary and secondary hues.
4. Explore creating some value scales of various hues, including black.
5. Explore modifying the *purity/saturation/intensity* of some hues by muting the hue with black and/or with its complement (a monochromatic color scheme).
6. Explore pairs of *complementary* hues color schemes.
7. Explore *analogous* hues color schemes.
8. Explore triadic hues color schemes.
9. Explore various application techniques of your colors depending upon the media chosen.
10. Explore various grounds such as cold-press vs hot-press watercolor paper, illustration board, mixed media papers, toned papers, canvases, etc. Observe how the grounds effect the look of your media.
11. Go through your sets of pens, pencils, or paints to create a subset of your favorite signature hues.
12. Create swatches of your favorite hues with their names on the backs and blind test your knowledge of them.
13. Research some favorite artists and observe how they use color in their work.
14. Using the knowledge that you've gained from completing the explorations above, create an art piece that reflects your own personal, unique color style.
15. Watch these videos from my YouTube channel on colors and mixing:
 - [Monochrome Painting Tips](#)
 - [Mixing and Matching Colors](#)
 - [Mixing Greens in Watercolor](#)