

University of New Mexico
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Japanese Sumi-e Painting
Course #02172

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Course Description:

This is an entry level course for people who have never had experience with Japanese style brush-and-ink-painting (sumi-e). It is also a continuing course for previous students. We will learn the basic philosophy behind the practice of this art form through learning and practicing the fundamental techniques which are used in all aspects of sumi-e. The techniques are simple, and when put together the student will be able to create quality aesthetically pleasing works of art. In this art form practice does indeed make perfect. Because of the repetition involved, we can expect to go through many sheets of rice paper.

Materials Needed: (Available at **Langell's** on Carlisle, just south of Candelaria.

Langell's will give a 10% discount when you show this course outline).

Essential needs to begin with:

- **one** *sumi-e* brush, size #5 (medium);
- **one** large *suzuri*, or ink stone (do not invest in the small ink stones that come in miniature kits);
- **one** rectangular ink stick (the small ink sticks that are short and oval are not recommended); and
- **one** 12" x 18" pad of rice paper (we will initially be cutting then in half, so a 9" x 12" pad will also work, though we will eventually work up to the larger painting using the full 12" x 18" sheets).

You will also need:

- a container for water. This can be a large plastic or glass jar brought from home (or you may purchase a three-chambered ceramic or plastic water container);
- a small ceramic or plastic white dish to make light ink;
- some kind of paper weight;
- a 24" x 24" piece of felt to put the rice paper on as you paint; and
- a small cotton cloth for blotting water from the brush (a wash cloth will do).

Teaching Method: the instructor will demonstrate each lesson. The students will then practice as the instructor circulates throughout the classroom giving help and suggestions as needed.

Students will show their practice at the end of each class meeting.

Text: No texts are required though several will be brought to class for students to use.