

BFA Fine Arts Course Outline Semester-III

Programme:	BFA Fine Arts
Title:	Miniature Tradition-I
Course Code:	BFA 235
Credit Hours:	2 Credit Hours
Type:	Major (Practical)

Introduction

This Course introduces the tradition of Islamic Art, with special emphasis on the development of the Art of the Book, (Miniature Painting). It also encloses the amalgamation of the style in various regions. Initiated in Abbasid period with the translations and illustration of scientific books, this art form evolved under subsequent dynasties, reaching its pinnacle during the later periods namely the Timurids and the Safavids. From Persia, this tradition passed on to the Subcontinent via the Mughals. This study will also provide an overview of Pre-Islamic Persia, till the time when Iran embraces Islam.

Learning Outcome

- ☐ To study the history, technique and practice of the Art of the Book, generally known as Miniature Painting in the regions of Persia and the Subcontinent.
- ☐ To study the history and development of different schools of Miniature Painting of Persia under various ruling dynasties.
- ☐ To frame and study various aspects of Miniature Painting according to geographical taste and requirements and to analyze them with different traditional and contemporary critical frameworks
- ☐ To analyze and appreciate the iconic work by the eminent Miniature Painting masters of the Persian School, within their cultural and historical contexts.

- To assess the individual creativity and talent, within and against, the limitations of culture, religion, and other dogmas, especially under the non-iconoclastic nature of Islam.
- The Miniature Traditions course is designed to introduce students about the rich disciplines of Islamic Art, with special emphasis on the development of the Art of the Book, (Miniature Painting).
- Its inception and development in Persia and influence of various schools, under a series of

Islamic dynasties is taught. An overview of Pre-Islamic Persia, till the time of Iran's conversion to Islam will provide best knowledge and learning about the art of the region. Course Contents

1. Persian Tradition
2. Umayyad Dynasty
3. Abbasid Dynasty- School of Book Illustration
4. Mongol / Il Khanid Dynasty
5. Timurid School of Painting (Shiraz and Herat School of Painting)
6. Safavid School of Painting

Recommended Readings

- Adamova, Adel' Tigranovna, and Manijeh Bayani. Persian Painting: The Arts of the Book and Portraiture. London: Thames & Hudson, 2015.
- Da'adli, Tawfiq. Esoteric Images: Decoding the Late Herat School of Painting. Boston: Brill Publishers, 2019.
- Reiff, Robert. Indian Miniatures: The Rajput Painters. United States: Charles E. Tuttle Company, 1959.
- Welch, Stuart Cary. Persian Painting: Five Royal Safavid Manuscripts of the Sixteenth Century. Manhattan: G. Braziller, 1996.
- Zain, Dzul Haimi Bin Mohammad. Formal Values in Timurid Miniature Painting. Kuala Lumpur: Penerbitan Fargoes, 1989.
- Sims, Eleanor. Marshak, Boris. And Ernst J. Grube. Peerless Images. England: Yale University Press, 2002.
- Persian Painting from the Mongols to the Qajars by Robert Hillenbrand.

- Gray, Basil. Persian Painting. Albert Skira, 1961.

- Ettinghausent, Richard. Arab Painting.

Skira, 1962. Teaching and Learning

Strategies

The course is based on using various teaching techniques including class discussion, projects, small group presentations, demonstrations, hands on activities, student led presentations and cooperative learning, brain storming, thought provoking questions, think pair-share, reflections, discussions, etc.

Course Assessment:

Mid-Term Examination 35

Class Assignments 25

Final Examination 40

Total: 100