Relief & Experimental Printmaking – Course Outlines   updated April 2023

First term: Guide to techniques covered

Useful items to bring anytime:
- Pencil & pen (biro), eraser
- Notebook/Visual Diary e.g: A4 clear file or spiral bound A4 book to write notes in & keep print examples
- Newspaper**;** old phone books**,** old & clean toothbrushes: lint free rags (old sheets), glue stick

What WSA supply
- Tools, test paper, ink, tape, scissors, clean-up materials, presses, use of print room

Topics	Useful items to bring
1: Intro - H&S intro; print room layout; housekeeping - Using the press - Basic concept of relief printmaking, colour interaction exercise, the importance of white, importance of registration of blocks - Clean up procedure.	*As per useful items to bring above*
2: Monotype Print - Using press and plastic plate - Applying and manipulating ink onto a plate, no cutting required - Working in single colour - The importance of wiping	Simple images to work from. - *Not mandatory, can be supplied by tutor*
3: Additive Monotype - Using ink like watercolour - Applying ink in a painterly way using paintbrush to apply ink to plastic plate. *Note: This technique may be combined with another technique &/or dropped in favour of spending more time developing reduction print processes (technique 6) - time & class numbers dependent*	Small paintbrush Images for inspiration. - *Not mandatory, can be supplied by tutor*
4: Four colour indirect monotype - Printing without the press, using plastic plates & cardboard guide. - Applying ink to several plates, using targeted pressure to create image indirectly.	A5 image: ideally include three primary colours (yellow, red & blue) - *Can be supplied by tutor*
5: Intro to mark making & Woodcut *Usually takes sessions 5 & 6* - Using commonly found household tools to create an image. - Inking and printing in 2 colours with wiping of inked areas to create a variety of outcomes/reveal what is underneath.	A simple image with predominantly straight lines will be most effective.
6: Intro to woodcut tools & single colour wood cut: *Usually takes sessions 7 & 8* - Using wood cut tools to create a single colour wood cut print. - Image transfer methods. - Safe use of tools - How to achieve tone by wiping/checking removal of image without cutting - Developing the block This process allows the block to be re-used several times.	A drawing or images for inspiration to work from.

Second term: Guide to techniques covered

7: Reduction wood-cut print: *3-5 sessions – dependent on image & number of colours planned* - Image selection: 3 colours max + black & white - Image transfer, test prints and first colour print - Achieving tone by wiping - Registration of blocks - Printing on good paper Basic reduction process: 1. Draw image to scale and transfer image to block, 2. Cut away the wood wherever you want the paper to show through/remain white in the finished print. 3. Print the first colour. 4. For every subsequent colour cut away the wood where you want the previous colour to show through in the finished print. Then print your next colour. The area you print reduces at each stage. This means the process can't be reversed and the edition size is fixed.	Ask tutor for guidance on image selection. Putting some time into your drawing/ image before this stage session will be beneficial. Mirror your image (to reverse it). Use photocopier if needed. Translating your image into a black, white and 1 colour: image with felt pens can help get your mind clear on your cutting layers. As seen in previous sessions some tones and blending can be achieved through wiping.
8: Multi-board wood-cut print *4 -6 sessions – dependent on image & number of colours planned* - Image selection: 3 colours max + black - Using 4 boards; each represents one colour - Carve black/outline board - Image transfer to remaining boards - Registration - Printing on good paper - Setting edition from the start & edition labelling - Variations of the edition & experimenting with series of techniques along the way Basic multi-board process: 1. Draw image to scale and transfer image to block 2. Cut away the outline board (black) 3. Print on paper 4. Transfer the image to a new block using print on paper 5. Repeats steps 3 & 4 until each block has the black outline print transferred to it 6. Label each board with the colour it represents, on back of board 7. Cut away all colours on each board EXCEPT the one labelled on back 8. Print one colour per week Having a block per colour means this process can be repeated. Ideally though, an edition is printed all at once. Additional editions may have variations.	Ask tutor for guidance on image selection. Putting some time into your drawing/ image before this stage session will be beneficial. Mirror your image (to reverse it). Use photocopier if needed.