

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

Proposal for a New Course

1. Course No: ART7**
2. Course Title: Introduction to Chinese Painting.
3. Per Week Lectures: 0 (L), Tutorial: 0 (T), Laboratory: 3 (P), Additional hours: (0-2): 0 (A),
Credits ($0*L+0*T+3P+A$): 5. Duration of Course: Half Semester (Modular).
4. Proposing Department/IDP: Humanities and Social Sciences.

Other Departments/IDPs which may be interested in the proposed course: None.

Other faculty members interested in teaching the proposed course: None.

5. Proposing Instructor(s): Ritwij Bhowmik
6. Course Description: Please see enclosed documents for information under No. 6. & 7.

A) Objectives:

B) Contents (preferably in the form of 5 to 10 broad titles)

S. No	Broad Title	No. of Lectures
1.		

- C) Pre-requisites, if any (examples: a- PSO201A, or b- PSO201A or equivalent):
D) Short summary for including in the Courses of Study Booklet

7. Recommended Books:

Textbooks:

Reference Books:

8. Any other remarks: None.

Dated: November 6, 2025 Proposer: Ritwij Bhowmik

Dated: _____ DUGC/DPGC Convener: _____

The course is approved / not approved

Chairman, SUGC/SPGC

Dated: _____

Introduction to Chinese Painting

(Course Proposal)

Proposed by: Prof. Ritwij Bhowmik

6. Course Description

This course is designed for Fine Arts PhD students as well as MDes students who are inclined towards pursuing creative practice. This course will introduce the basic traditional Chinese painting techniques essential for comprehending the age-old art. Students enrolled in the course will develop a distinctive painting method inspired by Chinese modern artmaking. The students will acquire the relevant brushing skills to produce creative paintings. It will also be applicable for the proposed MFA (Master of Fine Arts) students in the near future.

A. The Objective of this course:

- a) To introduce the basic traditional Chinese painting techniques essential for comprehending the age-old art practice.
- b) To teach foundational theories of Chinese painting philosophies.
- c) To teach basic brushing skills to produce creative paintings.
- d) To help students develop a distinctive painting style inspired by modern Chinese artmaking.

B) Contents:

Sl. No.	Board Titles	Number of Lectures
1.	Introduction to the Chinese Painting Practices	2
2.	Traditional Subjects, settings, and compositions	3
3.	Methods and materials of traditional Brush painting techniques	4
4.	Modern Ink painting on paper	4
5.	Colour application and methodology	4
6.	Final studio critique, execution, and display.	2

C) Pre-requisites: None.

D) Short summary for including in the Courses of Study Booklet:

This is an advanced-level, practice-oriented Chinese Painting course developed for postgraduate students, particularly doctoral students in Fine Arts and Design. This hands-on (modular) course will emphasize thinking and cultivate an Asian painting practice that re-examines its context, traditional techniques, and communicates ideas through the artworks. It aims to widen the constructive, theoretical, and creative skills of students in their pursuit of careers as professional visual artists.

7. Recommended books

Text Books:

Reference Books:

1. Berger, John. *Ways of Seeing*. Penguin Classics, 2008.
2. Chenggang, Sun, et al. *Chinese Brush Painting through the Seasons*. Search Publishers, 2023.
3. *Ink: The Art of China*. Edited by Michael Goedhuis, SAATCHI GALLERY, 2012.
4. Ruo, Mei. *Chinese Brush Painting*. Shanghai Book Traders, 2018.
5. *Sojourn in Nanyang: Works by Xu Beihong*. Singapore, National Heritage Board, 1998.
6. Stephenson, Jonathan. *Paint with the Watercolor Masters*. Thames & Hudson, 2010.