

Berrien Springs Partnership Lab Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

Course: Crafting with Wood

Grade or Age Levels: Ages 6+

FORMAT: In-Person

DAY AND TIME OF THE WEEK: Tuesdays 10:30 AM - 12:15 PM

TOTAL REQUIRED HRS: 18 hours (in class instruction)

ADD'L POSSIBLE HOURS: none

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS POSSIBLE: 18 *

LOCATION: Brush + Bloom DIY Studio, 807 Lester Avenue St. Joseph MI 49085 (inside of Urban Garage Market)

INSTRUCTOR: Taylor Sebrechts

CONTACT INFORMATION:

(269) 588-0056

hello@brushandbloommi.com

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS

Taylor graduated from Grand Valley State University in 2012 with a degree in elementary education. After teaching first grade for four years at Lakeshore, Taylor started her own local business, The Turquoise Top Hat, which specializes in wood decor painting workshops. She has been teaching classes since 2016 for all age groups and has years of experience refinishing furniture, painting wood signs, and creating custom pieces with CNC and laser machines. The Turquoise Top Hat was rebranded as Brush + Bloom DIY Studio in 2024 to offer more walk-in style crafting experiences and plants.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Learn the basics of painting on wood! This course will provide students with the opportunity to engage in art-related techniques on wood projects, such as painting, staining, sanding, and distressing wood pieces and small furniture. Students will work on a new project each week, including wood signs, home decor, and a mini bench!

Syllabus/Outline: Weekly Breakdown of Project-Based Learning Activity

Each class will center around one aspect of the painting process, starting with tool identification and technique modeled by the instructor. Students will then engage in guided practice on their own pieces. At the end of class, students will be encouraged to share their findings with others to compare and contrast elements of the painting process.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

- *Students will gain a general knowledge of
 - tools and materials used in the process of refinishing and painting furniture and decor
 - gain an understanding of working with peers to complete a task
 - will be introduced to and follow a creative process through hands on projects
 - how to provide positive affirmations to a fellow student on their work
 - listening skills

STUDENT ASSESSMENT- what will be used to evaluate student progress and/or end of semester pass/fail status?

All classes abide by the following:

- 1) Student agrees to attend at least 80% of class sessions/lessons offered. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
- 2) The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. The link to this form is found on the web page for this class. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, practice time, etc. may result in program discontinuation.
- 3) This is a pass/fail course. If students successfully complete their weekly class projects and final project with effort, they will receive a passing grade.

CLASS SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT:

Students will complete decor projects during class sessions and be encouraged to focus on the process and practicing their technique. They will apply the knowledge/skills gained through individual projects to work cooperatively with others while discussing techniques and creating their final painted pieces.

CLASS POLICIES:

Attendance: Please contact me before class if your child will be absent or ill. Text message is preferred. Arrangements can be made for your child to arrive early to a future session to get caught up.

Behavior: If your student is disrespectful in class, distractive or puts other students in danger, I will ask they be picked up early. Students are expected to actively participate in class. Additionally, students will not be allowed into the shopping areas of UGM without parental supervision.

Cell Phones: We understand the need for students to have cell phones in case of emergencies. Cell phones should be silenced and out of sight during instructional time. Students are welcome to bring a bag or pouch to store their phone in. Phones may only be used during break times or when permitted by the instructor.

Painting Safety/Attire: Your child may get paint on them during our classes. An apron and gloves will be provided, but please ensure your child wears attire that is okay to get messy in. We will be using the Annie Sloan line of chalk paint. You may request a copy of the spec sheet for safety information if you desire– please email me and I'll be happy to send a copy.

Weather: I follow the local district for closures. If the district the class is held in closes, we will not have class. Safety is our number one priority, so if you are not comfortable traveling please contact me and other arrangements can be made for a future session.

Additional Registration is not required at the site but we will ask participants and their guardians to fill out a liability release form at the beginning of the first class.

CLASS DATE	LESSON/OBJECTIVE
WEEK 1 Tues. 1/7	Intro to painting: students will practice brush strokes and techniques by painting sample sticks in various colors and filling a paint caddy with various tools needed in the painting process. Students will apply learned technique to a small project and discuss their color selections and project with others.
WEEK 2 Tues. 1/14	Intro to distressing: Students will learn about sandpaper and the various techniques of distressing wood. The class will stain a wood piece and layer paint colors, then use various sanding tools to apply degrees of distressing. Students will discuss their techniques with peers.
WEEK 3 Tues. 1/21	Intro to sealing: Students will learn the properties of paint sealers, such as wax and low VOC clear coat as a means to protect painted pieces of wood. Students will paint and distress a wood project, then apply sealer using the various techniques taught. Students will discuss their piece with peers to compare techniques used.
WEEK 4 Tues. 1/28	Intro to stenciling: students will learn how to use a vinyl and mesh stencil. Students will paint their wood pieces, then apply the stencil using various techniques. Students will compare their pieces with peers to discuss techniques used.
WEEK 5 Tues. Feb 4th	Project 1: Students will create a small wood project for indoor use as a means to practice the techniques of painting and distressing taught in lessons 1 and 2. Students will choose their paint colors, design, and more to create their piece using the methods learned in earlier sessions.
WEEK 6 Tues. Feb 11th	Project 2: Students will create a small wood project for inside use as a means to practice the techniques of wood painting taught in lesson 3. Students will choose their paint colors, design, and more to create their piece using the methods learned in earlier sessions.
WEEK 7 Tues. Feb 18th	Project 3: Students will create a porch sign for outside use as a means to practice the techniques of wood sealing taught in lesson 3. Students will choose their paint colors, design, and more to create their piece using the methods learned in earlier sessions.
WEEK 8 Tues. Feb 25th	Project 4: Students will create a door hanger for outside use as a means to practice the techniques of wood sealing taught in lesson 3. Students will choose their paint colors, design, and more to create their piece using the methods learned in earlier sessions.
WEEK 9 Tues. Mar. 4th	Final project: Students will use a culmination of all skills taught in this course to paint their own mini wood bench/stool using paint, stain, distressing and sealer. Students will complete their project and present their piece to their peers to compare and contrast techniques used.
WEEK 10 Tues. Mar. 11th	Final project Continued: Students will use a culmination of all skills taught in this course to paint their own mini wood bench/stool using paint, stain, distressing and sealer. Students will complete their project and present their piece to their peers to compare and contrast techniques used.

CLASS DATE	LESSON/OBJECTIVE
	<p>Final project: Students will use a culmination of all skills taught in this course to paint their own mini wood bench/stool using paint, stain, distressing and sealer. Students will complete their project and present their piece to their peers to compare and contrast techniques used.</p>