**Centre for Lifelong Learning**

**TAKING YOUR BOTANICAL DRAWING AND PAINTING FURTHER**

(Learning in Later Life Programme)

**Class Code:** OS146 (10 credit points)

**Rationale**

This class has been designed for those with some experience of drawing and painting and builds on the foundations laid in *Introduction to Botanical Painting*. It will introduce basic botany for creating accurate botanical drawings and paintings. There will be a seminar on 16th century botanical painting, looking at old masters’ botanical studies. Students will also benefit from the opportunity to complete a bisection study and a separate botanical study of a flower of their own choosing. The tutor will provide practical demonstrations and individual tuition throughout. Techniques in freehand sketching, proportions, rendering, presentation and composition will be discussed in class.

**Learning Outcomes**

On completion of the class, students will be able to:

* Demonstrate confidence in freehand, observational drawing
* Demonstrate how to acquire knowledge from the study of existing botanical illustrations by artists of the past and present
* Be confident to undertake self-directed learning to continue working closely with nature using control and accuracy

**Class Outline**

The following represents an overview of the main areas to be covered. It does not necessarily represent the order in which topics will be addressed, nor does it imply that equal time will be devoted to each topic.

* Seminar on 16th C Botanical Art
* Measured botanical drawing for botanical painting, clearly showing bisection of a flower
* Seasonal botanical still life, planning presentation and style
* Throughout the class, the work of various well-known artists will be used to encourage reflection on students’ work and to assist and stimulate discussion and reflection on technical problems and various techniques.

## Mode of Delivery / Methods of Presentation

The class will be delivered through practical sessions involving a tutor-led brief and/or demonstration. Exercises in class will be closely supervised and guided by the tutor. Some class exercises will be informally peer assessed. Students are responsible for the purchase of their own materials and a list of materials suggested by the tutor will be supplied at the first class meeting.

## Assessment

1. One drawing studying the bisection of a flower chosen by the tutor (in pencil) (25%)
2. One botanical painting, which demonstrates the ability to observe the bisected flower in detail (25%)
3. One botanical painting of a plant of your own choice showing your creative interpretation of display/presentation (25%)
4. Learning journal which will comprise of a weekly entry which shows reflection on own learning and how practice may be influenced/altered as a result (25%)

# Bibliography

Da Vinci, L (2006) *Leonardo Da Vinci: The Complete Works* (David and Charles: publication)

Martin, R & Thurstan, M (2008) *BotanicalIllustration Course with the Eden Project* (Anova:publication)

Scott, M A & Stevens, M (2010) *Botanical Sketchbook* (Batsford: publication)

Sherwood, S & Rix, M (2008) *Treasures of Botanical Art: Icons from the Shirley Sherwood and Kew* *Collections* (Royal Botanic Garden:publication)

Simblet, S (2010) *Botany for the Artist: An inspirational guide to Drawing Plants* (Dorling Kindersley:publication)



**Web References**

None