

Supply List

Relief Printmaking

Duffy O'Connor

Explore traditional and contemporary methods of relief printmaking to become familiar with the tools, techniques, and the translation of imagery and ideas for this direct and rewarding process. New students will be introduced to the basics of relief printmaking using linoleum or wood as the image matrix. Returning / Experienced students will be guided through more advanced techniques according to their interests.

Below you will find information about supplies and tools needed for the Relief Printmaking class at the Evanston Art Center. Some items are supplied by the Art Center, others must be purchased by the student.

Items that must be purchased by the student

- blocks for cutting images (wood or linoleum)
- paper for printing

Items recommended to be purchased / brought by the student

- a set of cutting tools
- apron

items supplied by the Art Center

- ink
- brayer / roller
- newsprint for proofing
- tape
- cleaning supplies
- gloves
- wrags

Details of Tools and Supplies

blocks - Wood or linoleum; the print shop has wood (Shina plywood) and linoleum / vinyl blocks for sale in the print shop. You can also purchase these items through Blick Art Supply or McClain's Printmaking Supply (in Oregon). Jackson Art is also a good supplier:

<https://www.jacksonsart.com/en-us/color/printmaking/relief-and-lino-printing/blocks-and-plates>

Please Note: Classes and workshops may be canceled if enrollment minimums are not reached. You will be notified by telephone at least 3 days prior to the scheduled start date should cancellation become necessary.

cutting tools - The print shop has some tools that can be used in class but it is beneficial to purchase your own set. Speedball interchangeable linoleum cutting tool will work fine for linoleum or vinyl blocks.
<https://www.dickblick.com/items/speedball-lino-set-no-1/>

I recommend the Power Grip set for cutting wood or linoleum as an affordable set of tools that work well: <https://www.amazon.com/Five-Piece-Power-Carving-Japan/dp/B001T8IEO6>

The EC Lyons brand is also a good set of tools but the cost is in the range of \$50. Warning: cheap sets such as Niji brand that offer twelve tools for \$15 are a poor investment. Sometimes they are OK, sometimes they are useless. The metal is cheap, the cutting edges are badly formed and they are difficult to sharpen.

ink - Ink is supplied by the EAC; my preference is to use oil-based inks because they yield the best results. If you prefer to purchase your own ink, Graphic Chemical relief ink is good, Speedball makes an acceptable alternative. There are some other options: resin-based ink such as Caligo Safewash ink works well but the black is not as well-pigmented as oil-based inks. Safewash ink cleans with soap and water. Oil-based inks clean up with mineral oil or vegetable oil.

printing paper - Various Japanese and European papers are sold through at the EAC in class. For printing by hand, I recommend Japanese mulberry fiber paper. European-style papers can be used when printing on a press (we have a press). Stonehenge is a good paper for this manner of printing. The EAC supplies newsprint for proofing.

I will discuss the tools and materials on the first day of class.

Other Items

- sketchbook
- soft pencil (6B)
- eraser

Optional Items

A FlexCut slip strop is a good device for sharpening tools. We have one in the shop but in case you're interested, here's a link:

<https://www.flexcut.com/home/product/pw12-flexcut-slipstrop>

See you in class -

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