SUPPLY LIST

MODULE 1 – FUNDAMENTALS

- 8x10 gel plate recommended; 5x7 will do fine
    - Either plexiglass or heavy paper to put plate on
    - Plexiglass lets you store the plate easily, just put a piece of copy paper on top to keep it clean
- Golden Open acrylic or Golden Open Gel to mix with regular heavy bodied acrylic – highly recommend Golden Open paint (* - optional)
    - Transparent Red Iron Oxide
    - India Yellow Hue
    - Ultramarine Blue
    - Dioxazine Purple
    - Green Gold
    - Sap Green *
    - Paynes Grey
    - Titanium White
    - Naphthol Red *
    - Anthraquinone Blue *
    - Carbon Black *
- Brayer – 3 to 4 inches
- Spray bottle
- Paper towels
- Masking tape
    - To hold down cover for work surface
    - To hold down support for plate so that it doesn't slide around while you are working
- Copy paper – either whole for 8x10 plate or cut in half for 5x7

MODULE 2 – COLOUR THEORY VERSUS REALITY

- Commercial colour wheel for reference
- Mixed media paper (2 or 3 sheets)
- Brush – ½ inch
- Container for water

MODULE 3 – EXPLORING STENCILS, MASKS, AND BOTANICALS

- Material to make stencils and masks – you will need **one** of the following

    - Dura-lar (available from art stores or Amazon) – my preference!
    - **Or** plastic page protectors
    - **Or** Yupo synthetic paper
    - **Or** heavier paper such as mixed media paper
- Craft knife
- Cutting mat or cardboard to protect your work surface
- Permanent marker
- Photographs of things you like. These could be birds, animals, flowers or other objects
    - I have included some Stencil Templates and photographs in the course materials if you would like to use them to get started with.
- Botanicals – obviously this will depend on what is available to you. A good, easy to keep house plant such as asparagus fern will provide you with lots of material.
- Tissue paper

MODULE 4 – CREATING TEXTURE

You will need some of the following:

- From the recycling we have:
    - Foam meat or veggie trays
    - Caps from different sized bottles
    - Corrugated cardboard
- From the dollar store (optional)
    - Sets of thin wooden letters
    - Thin wooden shapes (squares, etc)
    - Foam sheets
- Kitchen utensils
- Kitchen string or embroidery floss
- Elastic bands
- A Pen

Plus, you will need:

- Adhesive (I use acrylic gel medium)
- Cardboard from packaging for things like cereal
- Brushes, rubber spatulas

MODULE 5 – CREATING MULTI-LAYERED PRINTS

- Prepare a stack of **mixed media paper**. I use 9”x12” for the 8”x10” plate. For the 5”x7” plate, cut the sheets in half.

- Tissue paper (either dollar store or Spectra Art Tissue). Cheap tissue is fine for clean off sheets. You can also use deli paper if you have it.

SOURCES FOR SUPPLIES:

Where you can get these materials will depend on what country you live in.

GEL PLATE

This is one of the larger ticket items. I have never made a gel plate and have no experience with that to share.

I recommend gel plates from Gelli Arts, Gel Press and Gelelf. **Avoid Speedball plates which only work with their own inks**. The cheap plates from China have mixed reviews. Some people find they work, others don't.

Amazon carries plates as do art stores. If you are investing in a plate, do some price comparison!

PAINT

My techniques rely heavily on the extended drying properties of **Golden Open Acrylic** paint. They are an artist quality paint, so heavily pigmented and not cheap but they will give you a lot of prints!

If you already have heavy bodied acrylic paint in transparent colours, you can purchase a jar of **Golden Open Gel Medium** to mix with it. That will give you similar working properties. Please check out Acrylic Paint Comparison for Gel Printing to see how mixing the gel into regular acrylics works.

Please buy at least 2 tubes of Golden Open paint so you can see how it performs. Then you can buy more over time.

Golden Open Acrylic and Golden Open Gel are available from art supply stores and Amazon.

BRAYER

A decent quality brayer will last a long time! I use a 4 inch brayer the most. For the smaller plate, a 3 inch one will work.

Brayers come in hard or soft. Soft is probably the best for gel printing but I have some hard ones from my etching days and they work fine.

Speedball is a good brand. Again, art supply stores will carry them as well as online retailers.

PAPER

For the first 4 modules, we will be printing on **copy paper**. This inexpensive paper is great for practice and experimentation.

With Module 5, we will be shifting to printing on **mixed media paper**. I purchase the Pacon Ucreate Mixed Media paper in large quantities (500 sheets) from Amazon but you can get it in smaller quantities through art supply stores or online. The 9”x12” size works well. Cut it in half for the smaller 5”x7” plate.

Other brands of mixed media paper will work fine so use what is available in your part of the world.

You will need tissue paper or deli paper for cleaning off the background of your plate. This can be inexpensive tissue.

Note: When I am printing on tissue paper to use in collage (see Tissue Prints: The Key to Creating Depth in Collage) I print on the acid-free Spectra Art Tissue in White (you have to type all that into the search bar for Amazon to find it). It is available and reasonably priced in North America. In the UK and Europe, try the Carnival Wet Strength Tissue which is available and reasonably priced. **You don’t need Spectra or Carnival Wet Strength for this course.**

STENCIL MATERIAL

I love using stencils and masks! And creating my own stencils is an important part of my art practice.

Dura-lar is by far the best material you can find to cut masks and stencils from. It is translucent so easy to trace images through. It is easy to cut and will last for many years. It gives clean prints and strong ghost prints.

I would recommend buying a pad of 9”x12” sheets (25 sheets in a pad) in the Matte finish. You will be able to create a lot of masks from 1 pad. Maybe you can share it with a friend!

Dura-lar is available at some art supply stores and on Amazon. If you are having trouble finding it, try searching for Craft Plastic sheets or Blank Stencil Material. What you are looking for is a Mylar like stuff in 4 to 5 mil (.004” to .005”) thickness. **If you are not sure, contact me with a link before ordering**.