

Dedham Hall

Painting course with Melanie Cambridge 22nd to 27th June 2026

An opportunity to build confidence in handling oil colour. Learn how to plan your paintings, working both on location and from sketches and photographs. Weather permitting, we visit locations around the Stour Valley, typically Flatford Mill, Pin Mill, and Stoke by Nayland amongst others giving you the opportunity to sketch, take photos or even paint with oils “en plein air” if you wish.

This course starts with lunch at 12.30 on the first day and ends after breakfast on the last.

Any Questions?

I am happy to discuss any concerns you may have about this course or what to bring along so please feel free to contact me via email using mel.cambridge@tiscali.co.uk. If you wish to speak on the telephone, leave your phone number so I can call you back.

What Shall I Bring Along?

Traditional Oil paint or water mixable colours if you prefer. These are my recommended ones but please just bring those you usually use. I will have small amounts of these colours for you to try if you don't already have them.

Titanium White	Lemon Yellow
Ultramarine Blue	Cadmium Yellow Deep
Cerulean Blue Hue or Sevres Blue	Burnt Sienna or English Light Red
Cadmium Red Hue	Raw Umber
Magenta	Buff Titanium
Naples Yellow Deep	

Please note:

Oil paint can be supplied at additional £15.00 per person for the course if required but please let me know in advance via email. If you prefer to work in Acrylics, this is fine too.

When buying oil colours, student quality ranges by Daler Rowney (Georgian), Winsor & Newton (Winton) or Talens (Van Gogh) paints are all fine. If you wish to spend extra on “artist quality” paints, that is up to you but not essential. If you wish to use water-mixable oils, then the Cobra range by Talens is in my view the best on the market.

- Your favourite brushes
- Palette knife
- Tear-off palette or a traditional wooden palette
- Oil sketching paper for various quick studies (I will supply some paper for the first day in the studio). The canvas paper pads from The Works at £3.00 each are the cheapest on the market.

- Up to 6 Canvas boards more considered paintings (best value canvas boards online from Jacksons Art Supplies: [Jackson's 3mm Cotton Canvas Boards | Jackson's Art](#))
- As for sizes, I recommend you bring a range but always **at least two of the same size** so that you will be able to pack them up when wet to take home. I supply pegs, tape and bags to enable you to do this.
 - 10 x 12 inches – nice for small intimate garden scenes and quick studies on location
 - 12 x 16 inch – a good size for most people
 - 14 x 18 inches – my preferred size.
- Cover up shirt, sun hat and suncream!
- Sketchbook and pen or pencil (preferably a hard-back one)
- An easel or box easel if you have one. There are studio and table easels to borrow on site.
- A folding chair if you can fit this in to take out on location

Please Note:

I shall supply Jacksons Pure Sol for everyone on the course, so we can all use low odour mediums and keep any fumes to an absolute minimum.

FOR GETTING WET PAINTINGS HOME: Canvases of the same size can be put together. Canvas boards are much easier to handle than stretched canvases. I will supply pegs, tape and bags so that canvases of the same size can be stacked together and taken home wet. For this reason, I recommend you stick to no more than 2 sizes and bring an even number of each.

WORKING ON LOCATION: If you have a box easel or a pochade box, please bring this with you as it does make painting out on location with oils much easier and enables you to carry wet canvases or boards back to the studio, either clipped onto the outside of the box easel, or slotted into the lid of a pochade box.

PROVIDED BY THE TUTOR IF YOU WISH TO TRY THEM:

Cold Wax Medium (for textural effects)

Use of Melanie's own oil brushes during the course (also available to buy if you wish)

FURTHER ADVICE:

If you have any questions at all about materials, do please contact me or browse my website.

www.melaniecambridge-fine-art.co.uk

Telephone: 07970 432348

Email: mel.cambridge@tiscali.co.uk