



School of Creative & Performing Arts

Institute of Fine Arts

CHHATRAPATI SHAHU JI MAHARAJ UNIVERSITY, KANPUR

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E-content
for

Bachelor of fine art (Painting, Applied Arts & Sculpture)

Sub:- History of Visual Arts & Design (BFA 1st semester)

Topic:- Elements of Painting

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1. Line

Meaning of Drawing - The word drawing means leaving a mark on a surface with the help of a pen or any other instrument. If this process goes on for some time, the development of drawing takes place.

Definition of line - The distance between two boundaries or two points is called a line, which is very subtle and guides the direction of motion.

There are many types of lines. Horizontal, vertical, oblique, circular etc. Lines are very important in painting, one cannot imagine a picture without drawing. By placing them systematically at the right place, we can make a good picture.

2. Form

The creation of form starts as soon as the artist starts marking on the picture-ground. Form is that area or place which has its own definite shape and color, generally the shape of the object is called form.

Form is called Form in English. There are many types of forms – round-square, triangle, rectangle, cylindrical and elliptical etc. It is a body of all shapes and sizes. When a painter creates a picture by molding the soul of the form in these shapes, then a good picture is created.

3. Colour

Definition of color- Color is a quality of light, not a physical thing. It has no independent existence but is an effect of the cortex on the brain.

Wave speed of color- Wave speed has its own importance in color perception. The greater the length of the waves, the faster they move. Due to the length of the waves, there is a feeling of heat in them.

Classification of Colours- Many types of colors can be differentiated on the basis of purity of color. Whose description is also found in our Shilpashastras. We can study them in the following way-

1. **Primary colors**- Main colors are those colors which cannot be obtained by any mixture. Like red, blue and yellow. These colors are completely pure and have their own existence. This is the main coloring matter. If these three main colors are mixed, it will convert into white light.
2. **Secondary colors** – The colors obtained by mixing any two primary colors are called secondary colors. Like- red + blue = purple, red + yellow = orange, blue + yellow = green.
3. **Analogous colors**- Analogous colors are those colors in which colors of one category or species are present. Like- yellow, yellow-orange and orange, yellow color is present in all.
4. **Complementary or opposite colors** - If any two Primary colors are mixed, then the secondary colors obtained and the remaining main colors will be called colors opposite to each other. For example, green is the complement of red, blue is the complement of orange, etc.
5. **Monochromatic color** – The combination of colors of different values and intensities of only one color is called monochromatic color scheme. Because they are made of the same color like blue, light blue and dark blue.

4. Tone

Definition of tone:- Tone is the lightness and darkness of the complexion. This indicates the result of white and black in color. In any colour, many shades can be obtained by varying the amount of white and black. Tone is the soul of the color combination used in any picture.

Classification of Tone:- To explain the Tone easily, we divide it into three main types:-

1. light
2. Medium light
3. Shadow

5. Texture

Definition of texture:- These experiences are called the properties of the same surface or surface, hence the quality of the surface of an object is the Texture.

Classification of Texture:- Texture is divided into three parts-

1. **Found:-** Under this comes all those surfaces which are present in nature and man-made objects.
2. **Copied-** Texture built by imitation method come under this. Painters use it for replica marking in material depiction.
3. **Created:-** This is different from the above two Texture. The artist creates them with the help of his instruments and resources.

6. Space

Definition of space: - The painting surface on which the painter works is obviously two-dimensional - this is the interval or space - this is the area of the painter on which he creates the form. This is called interval.

Space Division: As soon as a line is drawn on the painting, it gets divided into two parts. This division is of two types-

1. **Formal Division:-** Dividing the picture surface with the help of lines in such a way that the weight of the right-left and top-bottom planes is equal. Even-divider is used to show the feelings of balance, unity, power etc.
2. **Informal Division:-** In this division the artist is free to make any type of assam division. This division helps in creating a feeling of excitement, progress and activity.