

The Application of Comprehensive Materials in the Course of Oil Painting Creation in Universities

Jianquan Zhou*

Academy of Fine Arts, Shanxi University, Taiyuan 030006, China

*Corresponding author: Jianquan Zhou, zhangtongyuan2012@126.com

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Abstract: The continuous development of modern art concepts has brought increased attention to the application of comprehensive materials in oil painting. These materials not only enrich the expression of oil painting but also offer artists more creative space. In Chinese universities, the utilization of comprehensive materials has emerged as a significant teaching content and research focus within the oil painting creation course. This paper aims to explore the application of comprehensive materials in university oil painting creation courses and its impact on teaching methodologies. The goal is to offer new perspectives and practical approaches to oil painting instruction in Chinese universities.

Keywords: Comprehensive materials; Colleges and universities; Oil painting course

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1. The types and application effects of comprehensive materials

Firstly, the multifaceted application of fiber materials in oil painting creation is noteworthy. Fiber materials, encompassing paper, cloth, yarn, and more, can be skillfully integrated into oil painting composition and expression techniques. For instance, artists can opt for textured paper as a canvas, imbuing their works with a unique tactile quality that enhances the natural feel of the painting. Moreover, fiber materials lend themselves well to collage techniques, allowing for the layering of different textures to add depth and dimension to the artwork. When conveying themes and emotions, artists can leverage various fiber materials to achieve nuanced expressions, such as employing soft yarns to depict delicate emotions and utilizing thick fabrics to emphasize strength. By incorporating fiber materials, students are afforded a wider array of creative choices, resulting in more visually captivating and engaging works^[1].

Secondly, the utilization of metal materials introduces new possibilities for oil painting creation. Metal materials, including copper, iron wire, and aluminum foil, possess a lustrous quality and structural integrity that enrich the visual impact of artworks. Thoughtful integration of metal materials can disrupt the traditional flatness of oil paintings, infusing them with a contemporary edge. For instance, artists can utilize copper

pieces to create raised elements within their compositions, adding vibrancy and dimensionality to the artwork. Manipulating and shaping metallic materials allows artists to effectively convey the form and texture of objects, breathing life into their paintings. Furthermore, the incorporation of metal materials enhances the stability and longevity of artworks, thereby augmenting their collectible value ^[2].

Lastly, the integration of water-based materials into oil painting represents a unique and challenging endeavor. Water-based materials, including watercolor, gouache, and water-soluble oil paints, offer opportunities to introduce vibrant hues and dynamic effects to traditional oil painting techniques. By combining water-based materials with conventional oil painting mediums, artists can achieve vivid and translucent color effects, enhancing the depth and clarity of their compositions. Employing watercolor techniques alongside oil paints can create ethereal and dreamlike atmospheres within artworks. Additionally, water-based materials can be utilized to evoke fluidity and atmosphere, infusing paintings with a sense of movement and intrigue ^[3].

2. The role of comprehensive materials in teaching oil painting creation in universities

Oil painting creation constitutes a vital component of fine arts programs in colleges and universities, with teaching methodologies and approaches continuously evolving and innovating. The incorporation of comprehensive materials into oil painting courses plays a significant role in fostering students' innovative thinking and facilitating personalized expression. This article will discuss these two aspects: the cultivation of students' innovative thinking and the promotion of personalized expression.

On one hand, the utilization of comprehensive materials contributes to cultivating students' innovative thinking. Traditional oil painting often relies on conventional canvases, paints, and brushes, but the integration of comprehensive materials allows students to transcend these traditional constraints and explore more freely. By encouraging students to experiment with various materials such as paper, cloth, metal, and wood, instructors can stimulate students' curiosity and creativity. Working with comprehensive materials prompts students to consider factors such as texture, shape, and characteristics, deepening their understanding of the artistic creation process. This cognitive engagement not only enhances students' proficiency in material manipulation but also ignites their enthusiasm for independent thinking and exploration.

On the other hand, the utilization of comprehensive materials facilitates personalized expression in students' oil paintings. Traditional oil painting instruction may limit students' options, hindering the pursuit of personalized expression. However, the introduction of comprehensive materials expands students' creative horizons, offering a broader spectrum of possibilities. By integrating diverse materials, students can articulate unique aesthetic perspectives and emotional experiences in their works ^[4].

3. The application of comprehensive materials in university oil painting creation courses

3.1. The issue of insufficient teaching resources

The integration of comprehensive materials into oil painting instruction at colleges and universities has garnered considerable attention. However, the concurrent improvement of teaching resources and facilities has not been realized, thereby somewhat constraining the optimization of teaching effectiveness. Given the interdisciplinary nature of comprehensive materials, their richness and diversity hold significant importance in enhancing teaching quality. Consequently, educational institutions must augment investment in teaching resources for comprehensive materials, encompassing the procurement of new materials and enhancement of experimental

facilities, to furnish students with a more diverse learning experience ^[5].

3.2. The challenge of disparities in teaching quality

As the application of comprehensive materials spans various disciplines, instructors must exhibit high levels of proficiency. Presently, significant discrepancies exist in the quality and expertise of oil painting instructors across colleges and universities in China regarding comprehensive materials, significantly impacting teaching quality. Addressing this challenge necessitates urgent efforts to enhance teachers' proficiency in teaching comprehensive materials. Education authorities should organize regular teacher training programs to facilitate continuous improvement in professional competence. Furthermore, fostering exchanges and collaboration among instructors is essential for sharing teaching experiences and enhancing the collective proficiency in teaching comprehensive materials ^[6].

3.3. The current imperfections in the teaching system

Given the inadequacies in the teaching system for the application of comprehensive materials in college oil painting creation courses in Chinese institutions, it is imperative to recognize the potential impact of this situation on students' learning and creative abilities. Therefore, establishing a scientific and systematic teaching system for comprehensive materials is particularly crucial. To achieve this objective, schools should proactively convene experts to engage in thorough discussions on curriculum development, drawing extensively from advanced teaching concepts domestically and internationally. This process should closely align with the practical realities of oil painting instruction in Chinese colleges and universities, culminating in the formulation and implementation of an effective curriculum framework. Such a system will alleviate students' confusion during the learning process, bolster their creative abilities, and establish a robust foundation for the advancement and flourishing of Chinese oil painting art ^[7].

4. Teaching methods and strategies for integrating materials in university oil painting creation courses

4.1. Inspiring student practice through material characteristics

In the realm of oil painting creation instruction at colleges and universities, the integration of comprehensive materials has emerged as a novel teaching method and strategy. Leveraging material characteristics to inspire student practice not only broadens their creative vision and enriches the expressive forms of their works but also stimulates their innovative thinking and cultivates personalized and diversified creative abilities.

To begin with, educators can encourage students to observe materials in their daily lives, such as discarded newspapers, fabric, wood, etc. These materials possess distinct personalities and unique textures, offering abundant sources of inspiration for oil painting creation. For instance, instructors can organize visits to recycling centers, allowing students to firsthand experience the characteristics of various materials and subsequently encouraging them to utilize these comprehensive materials in their oil painting endeavors. This approach liberates students from traditional creative frameworks, empowering them to unleash their imagination and creativity, resulting in more personalized and innovative works.

Furthermore, instructors can employ a demonstration teaching method to illustrate to students the techniques for utilizing different materials in oil painting creation. For example, teachers can conduct live demonstrations showcasing how to integrate materials like fabric and wood with oil paints to achieve picture effects with unique textures and dimensions. This hands-on teaching method enables students to swiftly grasp the characteristics of comprehensive materials and learn how to apply them in their creative pursuits. Building

upon this foundation, educators can motivate students to experiment with diverse material combinations and techniques to explore their individual creative styles.

Lastly, educators can orchestrate student participation in oil painting exhibitions and art events both domestically and internationally. This exposure allows students to gain an in-depth understanding of the latest developments in comprehensive materials within the realm of oil painting creation. Consequently, students can glean expressive methods and creative concepts from outstanding works, enriching their own creative material repository. Additionally, educators can invite industry experts to deliver lectures, providing students with a more systematic comprehension of the potential applications of comprehensive materials in oil painting ^[8].

4.2. Using creation themes as problem-oriented approaches to inspire students to utilize comprehensive materials

In college and university oil painting creation instruction, employing creation themes as problem-oriented approaches is an exceedingly effective teaching method and strategy to inspire students to utilize comprehensive materials. By centering instruction around specific themes, educators can direct students to purposefully explore and employ comprehensive materials, thus enhancing their creative abilities and aesthetic sensibilities.

Firstly, teachers can assign students practical tasks tailored to the chosen creative theme. For instance, under the theme “City and Country,” instructors may task students with representing urban or rural landscapes, structures, figures, and other elements using comprehensive materials. Through such assignments, students can selectively employ and integrate comprehensive materials in alignment with the theme, thereby deepening their understanding of the creative theme while refining their aesthetic grasp.

Secondly, teachers can conduct case analyses to illustrate the application of comprehensive materials in exemplary works. For example, they can select oil paintings showcasing urban and rural themes and analyze how the artists adeptly utilize comprehensive materials like metal, sand, and textiles to convey the essence and emotion of their works. Through case studies, students can discern the pivotal role of comprehensive materials in artistic creation and glean insights into enhancing their works.

Furthermore, educators can facilitate group discussions and sharing sessions wherein students explore strategies for utilizing comprehensive materials within the framework of the creative theme. For instance, groups can deliberate on how to employ comprehensive materials to delineate the distinctions between urban and rural settings, drawing inspiration from collective discussions. During sharing sessions, students can freely express their perspectives and experiences, fostering mutual learning and creative inspiration.

Simultaneously, teachers should prioritize encouragement and guidance, enabling students to embrace experimentation and innovation. When students encounter challenges in applying comprehensive materials within the “City and Country” theme, teachers should offer timely support and guidance, fostering a culture where students are unafraid of failure and emboldened to innovate. For instance, in response to students’ struggles with material selection and technique, teachers can provide tailored suggestions to help them discover their unique expressive approaches.

Finally, teachers should conduct comprehensive assessments of students’ creative achievements, considering both process and outcomes. Following the completion of the “City and Country” theme, teachers can evaluate students’ works based on theme coherence, material application, and technical innovation. Through a thorough analysis of students’ creative processes and results, educators can accurately gauge students’ learning progress and offer constructive feedback for future instruction ^[9,10].

4.3. Inspiring students to experiment with comprehensive materials through analysis of works by renowned artists

In the realm of oil painting instruction at colleges and universities, an effective pedagogical approach involves inspiring students to explore comprehensive materials through the examination of renowned artworks. By delving into the works of celebrated artists, students can gain profound insights into the utilization of comprehensive materials, thus fostering their creative inspiration.

To commence, one can initiate the analysis by scrutinizing master painters' oeuvres. For instance, in Picasso's Cubist masterpieces, he adeptly employed a myriad of materials and techniques to shatter conventional painting paradigms. A notable example is his work "Maiden." This painting employs a collage technique, incorporating elements like newspapers and posters to fashion a distinctive visual impact. Students can study such paintings and contemplate Picasso's utilization of integrated materials, discerning the significance and value of this technique in the artwork.

Additionally, students can be encouraged to focus on the works of contemporary oil painters. Take, for instance, Chen Danqing, a renowned Chinese oil painter renowned for his adept use of comprehensive materials in his creations. In his masterpiece "Tibet Group Painting," Chen utilizes a diverse array of materials and techniques, including oil painting, ink painting, and printmaking, to poignantly depict the lives and customs of the Tibetan people. Through the examination of Chen Danqing's works, students can glean insights into employing comprehensive materials to depict realistic subject matter and enhance their creative prowess^[11-15].

5. Conclusion

The integration of comprehensive materials into college oil painting creation courses not only enhances students' innovative capacity and individualized expression but also diversifies the realm of oil painting. Through research and experimentation with comprehensive materials, students can unleash their imagination and creativity to achieve personalized expression. In future teaching endeavors, educators should maintain a focus on researching and developing comprehensive materials, continually adjusting teaching methodologies, and encouraging students to explore new possibilities. Simultaneously, it's imperative to enhance students' proficiency in traditional oil painting techniques, enabling them to adeptly employ comprehensive materials and cultivate a cadre of outstanding talents for the advancement of Chinese oil painting art. With these efforts, the integration of comprehensive materials into college oil painting courses will deepen, contributing to the flourishing of oil painting education in China.

Disclosure statement

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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