Advanced Painting – Teacher Assignments

Each term, you will finish AT LEAST 4 paintings. At least two must be from this list and two may be your own choice. In each assignment, you will be expected to show creativity as well as advanced skills. In each assignment except for “Atmospheric Perspective”, which must be in acrylic, you will be able to choose your paint media.

Reflective Surfaces  This project should include man-made or naturally reflective surfaces (metal, glass, water, etc.). The subject matter is up to you and can be anything from a still life to a landscape.
Patterns in our Environment  In this project, look for pattern and design in things around us all the time that may be taken for granted. Pattern and design can be found in natural or man-made objects and can be used in your composition however you like.
Atmospheric Perspective  This project could be a landscape or a cityscape or could focus on a person or object in a landscape. You need to try to create a feeling of depth by using gray and cool, dull colors in the background and brighter colors in the foreground. You MUST use acrylic for this assignment.
Homage to an Artist Choose an artist and try to re-create their style in a painting of your own. You may choose someone you really admire or someone that you aren’t familiar with. After looking at several pieces of their work and trying to work in their style, you’ll gain a better understanding of their art.
Architecture as a Significant Element  This painting will include a building or an architectural element (window, staircase, pillar, portion of a building, etc.). The architecture may be the focal point of the painting or may just help to set the mood.

Edward Hopper was a master at using architecture and architectural elements to help set the mood in his work. His work was almost always more about the people and their lives than about the architecture, but without it, his work wouldn’t be the same.
Self-portrait – How Others See Me This one is really wide open to interpretation. You could literally paint a self-portrait as if someone (the viewer) is looking at you, you could paint yourself the way you believe others (someone specific or others in general) see you, or you could be more symbolic in your approach and include objects that represent things that you believe others see when they look at you. If you work symbolically, please tried to include some actual representation of yourself (your eye(s), your hand, etc.) so that there’s a piece of your actual self included.