

# The course teaching of rock color painting technique

Zhensheng ZHOU

University of Mongolian Studies, Ulaanbaatar 999097, Mongolia

---

**Abstract:** Rock color painting is a kind of traditional painting in China, which has strong cultural heritage and artistic charm, and has attracted wide attention for its unique charm and artistic expression. The teaching of rock painting techniques is an important part of rock painting education. It aims to inherit and develop traditional Chinese painting skills, cultivate students' understanding of rock painting and creative ability, and guide students to master the basic techniques and expression techniques of rock painting through systematic teaching arrangements and practical operations to make them show individuality and innovation in creation and cultivate their unique sense and understanding of beauty. The purpose of this paper is to explore the teaching methods and strategies of rock painting techniques course, so as to improve students' understanding and application ability of rock painting techniques and promote the inheritance and innovative development of traditional Chinese painting techniques.

**Key words:** rock color painting; techniques; course teaching

---

## 1 Introduction

Due to the particularity of the painting mode and materials of rock color painting, it is necessary to present a more abundant rock color painting picture through the process of washing, scraping, rubbing, leaching powder and gold coating, so that the picture performance is more vivid and three-dimensional, and the artistic appeal of the work is increased. The teaching of rock color painting techniques has also become the main link of painting teaching. Moreover, as a form of traditional Chinese painting, rock color painting has rich historical and cultural connotation. The teaching of rock color painting techniques can protect and inherit this traditional art form for wider dissemination and development, and combine modern techniques and technology to promote the innovation and development of painting techniques, inject new vitality and creativity into painting art, and help students better learn how to use special materials and techniques to create unique picture effects, which can cultivate students' powers of observation, creativity and expression, improve their painting skills and artistic accomplishment, and lay a solid foundation for their future painting creation through the rational use of color, materials and composition in painting.

## 2 The course teaching content of rock color painting technique

### 2.1 Sketching

Sketching is the teaching basis of rock color painting techniques, which can help students observe and understand the shape, light and shadow, proportion and details of the object. In combination with the teaching content, teachers should prepare sketching objects for students. Students should observe the overall shape, outline, form, structure and details of the

object in order to accurately capture the appearance of the object, and then learn how to correctly estimate and draw the proportion relationship of the object and arrange the object to create an attractive and visually balanced composition. And then students can also learn how to understand the position and intensity of the light source, and how to use shadows and highlights to express the three-dimensional sense of the object and light and shadow effects. While practicing the use of different thickness, direction and pressure to create a variety of lines and brush effects to enhance the expressiveness and fineness of the work, students can also use pencils or charcoals to sketch a single object or a combination of still life to capture the shape and structure of the object, laying a solid foundation for the subsequent creation of rock color painting [1].

## 2.2 Color rendering

After the completion of the sketch, students need to render the color of the object. First of all, they need to learn the principle of the color wheel and how to use it to determine the relationship between different colors, understand the mutual complement and contrast relationship of colors, so as to create a richer effect in the painting. Teachers can organize students to use the color palette for color matching and mixing exercises, help students master how to mix different colors to get the required tone and saturation, and use it freely in painting. In addition, teachers should also pay attention to the concentration of natural mineral pigments in rock color painting, because these pigments are rich in color, natural, etc., which are very different from ordinary pigments, and metal materials are also used for coloring. Therefore, we should pay attention to the harmony of these colors and create more artistic and expressive works.

## 2.3 Use rock color materials to make rock color paintings

After sketching objects and rendering colors, students need to make rock color paintings. Teachers can make students imitate the works of rock color painting masters to practice skills. By learning basic rock color painting skills such as smudging, brushing, dripping and scraping, students will practice controlling the thickness, transparency and layering of brush strokes and pigments. Teachers should also guide students to integrate color method, water washing method, dot color method, buried line method, splashing method and other rock color painting techniques, so that students are familiar with and master these skills. In the production process of rock color painting, students also need to pay attention to the sense of color layers and transitional effects. They can use mixing, superposition, gradient and other skills to create a rich variety of color effects, and use tools such as scrapers, erasers for local modification and polishing, in order to enhance the ornamental and artistic qualities of their works, and create unique and exquisite rock color painting works.

# **3 The strategy of improving the teaching quality of rock color painting technique course**

## 3.1 Strengthen the teaching and practice of various techniques

### 3.1.1 Make use of diversified teaching resources to achieve better use of techniques

As an excellent traditional culture of our country, rock painting has a long history of development, rich works and cultural resources. Therefore, teachers should provide students with a variety of resources for teaching rock painting techniques to help students create better artwork. Teachers can use the library, the Internet, teaching videos and other resources to collect the master's rock painting works as teaching materials, and establish an information-based rock painting teaching resource library for students' reference and learning, so that students can have access to more rock painting works with different styles and techniques, which can broaden their horizons. Teachers can also demonstrate the specific techniques and steps of rock painting, intuitively display the specific operation of the techniques, guide students to understand and master the skills, and provide some examples of works for students to imitate and practice, helping them understand and master the techniques, and allowing students to consolidate and apply the techniques they have learned through practice.

### 3.1.2 Give students sufficient opportunities to practice

As a painting art form with a long history in China, rock color painting has summarized rich types of techniques, such as color accumulation method, water washing method, color contrast method, gold plating method, thread burying method, color splashing method, etc. Teachers should attach importance to the practical teaching guidance of different techniques, and allow students to participate in practice by organizing painting workshops, field trips, community activities, etc. Through practical operation, they can master and skillfully use different rock color painting techniques. In addition, according to each student's learning style and interests, and in combination with students' mastery of different techniques, personalized instruction and guidance are provided. For example, through one-on-one discussion, assessment and feedback, students can find and solve problems and further improve their skills [2].

### 3.2 Attach importance to the interdisciplinary teaching of rock painting techniques course to realize the better use of techniques

As the main way of education reform, interdisciplinary teaching is to realize the comprehensive guidance of knowledge and skills through the integration of a wider range of disciplines, such as integrating rock painting techniques with history and other disciplines, introducing related art history knowledge like the types of rock painting in different ages of China, allowing students to understand the origin, development and inheritance of rock painting techniques, and cultivating students' understanding of the historical significance and cultural value of rock painting techniques. Teachers can also introduce the knowledge of material science, let students understand the application and characteristics of different materials in rock painting techniques, and cultivate students' skills in selecting and using materials. In particular, rock painting uses a large number of natural mineral pigments, metal materials, etc. Teachers can combine rock painting techniques with natural science, and observe the colors and textures of natural scenery, enabling students to better simulate and express the beauty of nature in their creation. Teachers can also introduce digital painting software and tools into the teaching of rock painting techniques, so that students can learn how to use rock painting techniques on digital platforms, which can cultivate students' innovative thinking and digital art skills, and achieve the improvement of students' comprehensive ability.

### 3.3 Teaching provides inspiration and guidance, and gives students enough freedom to innovate and create

The application of rock color painting techniques is not only limited to the traditional application, but also can be combined with other forms of painting to create more personalized and innovative works. Teachers can guide students to carry out creative practice, encourage them to try new ways of expression and materials, and cultivate their creativity and artistic thinking. Teachers can also organize students to have group cooperation or interactive communication in teaching, and arrange rock color painting creation projects with rich themes for students, so that students can think about how to use rock color painting techniques to express different themes, emotions and artistic conception, and how to combine with other painting forms to create more personalized and innovative works. As a result, they can share and learn, watch and discuss with each other. Learning from the experience and techniques of others can broaden their own ideas and horizons, and the communication and interaction between students can also spread students' creative thinking. Teachers can also encourage students to display their works, and get feedback and inspiration from others by participating in school rock painting exhibitions and city related art competitions, so as to further improve their ability to use rock painting techniques [3].

In addition, under the in-depth concept of "moral cultivation" and all-round development in China, the teaching of rock painting techniques should also strengthen the guidance of ideological and political education, strengthen aesthetic

education, etc. In teaching, by explaining the thoughts and emotions contained in rock paintings, students are guided to think about social issues and life values, so as to cultivate their cultural confidence, artistic cultivation, and innovative spirit. When appreciating and creating rock art works of different styles and forms, teachers should cultivate students' good aesthetic and artistic appreciation abilities by understanding the artist's creative ideas and expression techniques, so as to stimulate their interest in artistic creation, and promote their comprehensive development.

#### **4 Conclusion**

With the continuous advancement of educational reform, the related art discipline education such as rock painting techniques course should also be continuously reformed and innovated to adapt to the development of the times and the needs of students. Teachers should make use of rich teaching materials, strengthen the teaching guidance of rich techniques of rock painting, and strengthen the integration of rock painting techniques with other subject knowledge, so as to increase the contact between disciplines and the cultivation of comprehensive ability, stimulate students' creativity and imagination, and guide students to create works with depth and connotation. Teachers should also guide students to carry out creative practice, encourage them to try new ways of expression and materials, and cultivate their creativity and artistic thinking, so as to cultivate more students with creative and artistic thinking and make greater contributions to the cause of art education.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

The author declares no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

#### **References**

- [1] Wang Q. 2023. Enabling material immersion aesthetic education--Taking rock painting teaching as an example. *Art Education Research*, 6:176-178.
- [2] Lu WH. 2022. Thinking and practice on the creation of rock color painting. China Academy of Art.
- [3] Hong B. 2021. Analysis on the influence of the current situation of mural paintings in ancient Western Regions on the teaching of rock painting. *Art Education Research*, 11:158-159.