

Teaching a virtual art class with the Village Gallery of Arts

If you are interested in teaching a virtual class through our gallery we have ways to help you get started. Listed are several ways to go about this, examples of how other teachers have successfully taught online, tools and advise and how the gallery can support you.

Document:

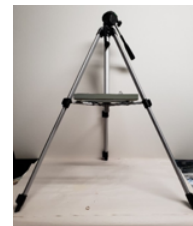
Using PowerPoint or Word, a document can be created with explanations and illustrations. This pre-created document can then be used in a Zoom class where the documents on teacher's computer can be shared and discussed as you go. It could be used either as a demonstration or an example for students to follow.

Video:

Creating a video can be accomplished with a smart phone, iPad or computer using the video mechanism. If you intend to give a lecture or demonstration it can be recorded and saved for use later. Practice using your device's video setting to discover placement and audio settings. YouTube is another way to record your teaching which functions like a webinar. These videos can also be selected as private and accessible to use in a class for students who have paid for your class.

A selfie stick or tripod would come in handy so that you can more easily place yourself and whatever you would like to record. Some come with a lighting system to help with colors and make your recording look more professional. Some also come with a remote so that you can toggle in between yourself and the demonstration.

A sheet of plexiglass or glass could be lifted over your work table with supports on either end or suspended in the middle of a tripod. Your cellphone could then be positioned over your work to record from above. [An affordable articulating arm](#) to hold your tablet and example of which is on the following on Amazon.



Check your device for built in editing software in the menu. Look for "Video Editor". This can allow you to record the visual part of your teaching and then dub over with audio. If your device does not have any editing capabilities you can find an app that will also do this. Writing out what you would like to say for each section would be helpful. There are YouTube tutorials to teach you how to do this. [Video Editing for Beginners](#) is a possibility.. They will teach skills such as splitting and trimming, adding voice or music, still photos and title frames. You can also adjust the speed of your film to compress a process. Adding music can become a copyright issue. Find a site that has royalty free music for use in videos. Your video-editing software may also have background music that can be easily added legally and continue to loop through your video.

Check out [classes on VGA's website](https://villagegalleryarts.org/classes/) for examples of video lessons at <https://villagegalleryarts.org/classes/>

Zoom Meeting:

Set up a zoom meeting and invite your students to join you. If you limit your time to 40 minutes it will be free. If you expect your class to run longer you could consider a Zoom subscription which costs \$14.99/month.

Possible ways to use Zoom include:

**Critique groups are easily done. Ask participants to send you pictures of their art. You would then save these to PowerPoint or in Word. During the Zoom meeting you then share your screen from that option on the Zoom menu. These pieces are then available to be discussed in the group.

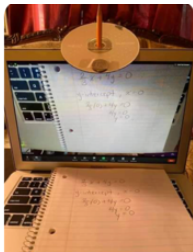
**Demonstrations of technique can be done using a laptop, iPad or tablet. If you have a webcam available this could be set up for overhead filming. Once recorded these can be used during the meeting to teach and discuss after live with your students.

Examples from online teachers:

One artist uses both her phone to record the art being done and a laptop. She logs into zoom on each device so that both are visible on Zoom. Her phone is being held over her left shoulder, since she is right handed, with a tripod aimed at her work. Her laptop is set in-front of her. She starts out with her face and then moves to the images being taken from her phone. She recommends doing large paintings to make the brush strokes easier to see.

Another artist uses this same method but instead of her phone she uses a video camera. She uses an editing software called OBS which is a free app for live streaming of video with audio. She teaches several ways. One on one time with students who may just want personal teaching or as a part of her regular class. Creates private YouTube demos that can be replayed by students over a period of two weeks between her classes. She then follows up with a Zoom session to share and respond.

A third artist records a video of his demonstration and sends it to students about a week before a Zoom meeting. Students use the demonstration to create their paintings which they photograph and email to him. He emails individual feedback to each student. At the Zoom meeting, he critiques some of the students' work and may do another short demo as needed.



A very simple way to illustrate your work involves a laptop with a camera, a CD and a pencil. A creative solution!

How the Village Gallery of Arts can support you in your teaching.

The VGA has the ability to set up classes on its website, use our marketing and outreach to draw in students, set limits for class size and charge students for the classes. When students have registered on our website, VGA will send you that list with contact information so that you can get started teaching.

The VGA can also store videos for you on its Google Drive or its upcoming YouTube channel. VGA can also help you set up Zoom.

Contact support at Village Gallery of Arts