WATERCOLOR TECHNIQUE I & II

METHODS OF APPLYING PAINT:

WET INTO WET
Wet your paper with clean water applied with a large brush.
Load your brush with paint and apply to wet surface – you can apply several colors and let them bleed and mix – GREAT FOR SKIES, DISTANT LANDSCAPE AND TO OUT-OF- FOCUS FOREGROUND! Experiment and have fun – see what happens, and go from there! The edges will be SOFT.

WET INTO DRY
Load your brush with paint and apply to dry surface – this creates sharp edges, and is great for your FOCAL POINT OF INTEREST. Experiment and have fun! The edges will be SHARP.

DRY BRUSHING
Load your almost dry brush with paint, blot it on paper towel, to dry it off, then use the side of the brush to apply paint on dry paper, so it skips areas, and you get a white specks and uneven areas – GREAT FOR RUNNING WATER, OCEAN WAVES, ROCKS AND TREE TRUNKS. Practice, and see what happens! The edges will be ROUGH.

GLAZING
Layering one coat of color over another in such a fashion that the color beneath still shows through.

CREATING THE ILLUSION OF 3-DIMENTIONALITY ON A FLAT SURFACE

POSITIVE PAINTING
Painting the subject matter (i.e. flower, tree, mountain, etc.)

NEGATIVE PAINTING
Painting the space AROUND your subject matter, and in this way making it stand out.

LANDSCAPE
You go from light/cool to dark/warm to create the illusion of distance.

FLOWERS, STILL LIFE, PEOPLE, ETC.
Dark will push back, light will bring forward, i.e. a turning leaf – the dark part will look further away, and the light part will come forward.

THE 7 RULES OF SPACE
1. Lower on page comes forward – higher on page goes back.
2. Larger comes forward, smaller goes back.
3. The overlapping object comes forward – the overlapped object goes back.
4. Hard edges comes forward, soft edges goes back.
5. Contrast comes forward similarities goes back.
6. Texture and detail comes forward, lack of texture and detail goes back.
7. Color:
    a. Brighter colors comes forward, duller goes back
    b. Warm colors tend to come forward; cool colors tend to go back.
    c. Contrast of color comes forward, similarity goes back.