



Julie Fei-Fan Balzer: Making Mixed Media Books

4 teaching day class: May 16-21, 2026

Visit most of the course materials here: <https://tidd.ly/49mX6yf>

Required Supplies:

- Acrylic Paint (6-10 colors including black and white)
- Favorite Paintbrushes
- Palette Paper or Paper Plates to use as a palette
- Paper Towel or Rags
- Jar or Container for Paint Water
- Paper – You will need several kinds of paper:
 - Heavyweight (140-300lb) Watercolor or Mixed Media Paper for 2 sets of Book Covers
 - Many sheets of Medium Weight (80-100lb) Drawing Paper for Interior Pages of 3 Books
 - Miscellaneous Papers for Collage and “Junque Pages” – bring whatever you have sitting around (don’t buy anything): book pages, wrapping paper, scrapbook papers, wallpaper, collage fodder, junk mail, envelopes, manila folders, brown paper, hand painted papers, gelli prints, cardstock, maps, deli paper, tissue paper, etc.
- Bookbinding Thread (waxed linen thread) and Bookbinding Needle
- Awl or a paper piercer or a pushpin – something to pierce the paper
- Scissors
- Gel Medium – I recommend both Soft Gel Matte and Matte Medium
- Ruler (metal edge or quilting ruler preferred)
- Craft Knife and Cutting Mat
- Pencil
- Scraper –an old credit card or hotel room key or a Bondo Scraper
- Cosmetic Wedge Sponges (for stenciling – instructor will provide shared stencils for you to use during class)
- Wax Paper
- Acid-Free Binder’s Board large enough for two book covers and a spine. For instance, if I want to create an 8x10” book, I would need a piece of binder’s board large enough for two 8x10 pieces to be cut from it, along with a 1x10” piece for the spine.
- Supplies for Making Book Cloth to cover the Binder’s Board
 - One piece of quilting-weight fabric (a few inches larger than your two covers plus the spine) – For an 8x10 book, you’d need a piece of fabric that was at least 22x14 (a “fat quarter” from a quilting shop is usually 22x18).
 - Acid-Free Tissue Paper – the same size as your fabric

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- Fusible Web (I recommend Pellon Wonder Under) – the same size as your fabric

Optional Supplies (only bring if you already have them):

- Apron
- Bone Folder
- Gelatin Plate
- Brayer
- Mouse Pad or Fun Foam – some kind of cushion
- Favorite drawing tools (crayons, colored pencils, markers, etc.)
- Baby Wipes
- Soft White Eraser
- Favorite stamps and stamping ink
- Media Trimmer or Paper-Dedicated Rotary Cutter
- Ribbon to use as a book closure

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