

ART 115: BASIC DESIGN

Instructor: Mandy Keathley
Email: keathlm@linnbenton.edu
Office hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30 & by appointment
Office: BC 201

Section: 26650
T/R 3:30-6:20 PM
Credits: 4
Classroom: BC 209

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Design I: Composition is a course created to help familiarize students with formal and conceptual elements of design and composition using a variety of media. We will accomplish this through a series of studio projects, readings, discussions, and workshops. ART 115 serves as an introduction to theory and studio practice in using the principles and elements of design to articulate visual ideas. Students will be exposed to art historical references as they relate to concepts as well as being encouraged to write and think critically about art and design. Our emphasis will be on instilling sound foundational information in the traditional aspects of design as well as encouraging thoughtful exploration of contemporary design potential.

Having the eye and critical vocabulary to understand design gives you a foundation that helps you to make sense of the variety of techniques you'll learn later on. Whether you're learning painting or illustration, the elements and principles of design remain the same. The intent of this class is to give you the skills to successfully identify, understand, and resolve compositional problems no matter what medium you choose later on, i.e. sculpture, photography, painting, architecture, graphic design, etc. Finally, the primary goal of this class is that you begin to develop an independent artistic vision that is grounded in both formal and conceptual abilities.

As a studio course, significant portions of your assignments will take place during class, but you should plan on spending 4-6 additional hours per week on your projects from home. Punctuality, rigorous work ethic, and thoughtful participation in all workshops and discussions are required.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Articulate verbally, visually, and in writing an understanding of the Elements and Principles of Design
- Articulate verbally, visually, and in writing, creative problem solving through guided completion of assignments relative to understanding visual design concepts
- Articulate verbally, visually and in writing appropriate vocabulary relating to visual design

COURSE PROJECTS

- Project 1: *Figure/Ground*
- Project 2: *Color Systems*
- Project 3: *Animated GIF*
- Project 4: *Mixed Media Composition*
- Weekly Workshops, Collages, readings

REQUIRED READING

- Scott McCloud, *Understanding Comics*

SUGGESTED READING

- John Berger, *Ways of Seeing*
- Bruno Munari, *Design as Art*
- Josef Albers, *Interaction of Color*

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- \$30 kit from campus bookstore, for purchase:
 - 8 x 11 Sketchbook
 - Faber Castel Pen set
 - Gouache Paints
 - Pencil set + eraser + sharpener
- The classroom will be supplied with cutting mats, X-acto knives, magazines for collages, glue, extra paint, rulers, scissors, paint brushes, etc.
- Source some of your own collage materials!

COURSE GRADING

Emphasis is placed on hard work, improvement, and innovation. The more effort and creativity you put into your work, both in and out of class, the better your grade will be. Participation during class, group work, and critique is required, and will also affect your grade. Projects assigned will require a minimum of 4-6 hours of work and research time outside of weekly lab and lecture times. **Work not received on its due date receives no credit.** Lab time is either for group review or in-class work. Every student is expected and required to be on task during lab time. Acceptable work includes project execution, research, journaling, sketching, and discussion of the project under current investigation.

Assignment	Points
4 Major Projects	80
Weekly workshops, collages, readings	20
Total Points	100

* Extra Credit: Artist Presentation, worth up to 5 points

GRADING SCALE

- A 90-100% - Excellent Work
- B 80-89% - Good Work
- C 70-79% - Average Work
- D 60-69% - Poor Work
- F 0-59% - Failing Work

EXPECTATIONS & COMMUNICATION

Please contact me with any questions or concerns about the class and the assignments. I am quick to respond Monday – Thursday. Weekends are much more delayed.

Put ART 115, your full name, and reason for email in the subject line! Otherwise it might get lost in the sea of emails.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

A studio art class requires more in-class participation than lecture courses, as course work centers around in-class demos, group activities, discussions, and critiques. Students are expected to attend every class! Additionally, students are allowed only **2 absences**. Each absence thereafter will **deduct 10 points from the final grade** (i.e. you will drop a full letter from an A to a B, or a B to a C.). Reserve these absences for illness, mental health crisis, childcare crisis, emergencies, etc. If you must skip class for a legitimate need, please let me know promptly and I will make note of this along with the marked absence. Tardiness and early departures will also be noted, and **2 of these add up to a full absence!** Be mindful about any classes you skip. If you miss a lecture, a demo, or handout, you are still responsible for information presented as well as items due at the next class and should contact your peers to find out what you missed.

If you encounter a prolonged life crisis, please contact me as soon as possible. Depending on the circumstances, we might be able to come up with a solution, including the options of an “incomplete” grade rather than “fail.” However, none of these options are possible without communicating quickly and clearly at the onset of the situation. Lack of communication combined with lack of attendance is the number one reason that students fail my courses.

ACCESSIBILITY

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please arrange to meet with the instructor as soon as possible. Late arrangements may cause the requested accommodations to be unavailable. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic honesty is an indispensable value as students acquire knowledge and develop college skills. Students are expected to practice academic honesty by not cheating, plagiarizing, or misrepresenting their coursework in any way. Plagiarism, collusion, and other forms of misrepresentation hurt the student and run counter to the goals of education. Students are responsible for understanding and avoiding academic dishonesty. Violations will result in failure of the assignment and possibly the course. Per LBCC policy, all incidents of academic dishonesty are reported to the Associate Dean of Student Development and the Dean of Arts, Social Science & Humanities.

INCLUSION

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. We are committed to equal opportunities for all faculty, staff and students to develop individually, professionally, and academically regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic standing, cultural beliefs and traditions. We are dedicated to an environment that is inclusive and fosters awareness, understanding, and respect for diversity. If you feel excluded or threatened, please contact your instructor and/or department head. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.