**ART 115: Basic Design I: Composition**

Instructor: Andrew Nigon

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Office Hours: Tuesday 9:00-11:00 by appointment | SSH115

Quarter: Fall 2016

Meeting times: M/W 9am-11:50am

**Course Description**

This course is an introduction to the language of design. In this class students will focus on developing the necessary perceptual and technical skills to successfully translate content and form. This course will cover a number of basic design concepts including perception, perspective, composition, value, line, etc. Our class days will vary between a series short exercises and long term projects. Multiple approaches to problem creation and problem solving techniques will be introduced as well as exposure to various media. Slide lectures and assignments will expose students to contemporary and historical examples of 2D ideas and techniques. Critiques will provide an opportunity to communicate in writing and verbally about art. Class critiques address technical, conceptual, aesthetic and poetic concerns.

**Learning Objectives**

1. Demonstrate through projects an understanding of the basic visual elements of design: line, shape, value and texture.

2. Apply the concepts of unity, variety, contrast (positive/negative), dominance, hierarchy of shape, balance, harmony, rhythm, repetition, sequence, appropriateness, and craftsmanship.

3. Recognize and incorporate function as it relates to form in basic design. Generate compositions that display differences in lighting and value

4. Objectively evaluate function as it pertains to form within basic design.

**Course Objectives**

-Students will be exposed to examples of digital imaging and manipulation, research artists and articles related to digital and communication arts.

-Students will examine digital imaging in a historical context and develop knowledge regarding technical components of digital image creation and manipulation.

**Course Outcomes**

Introduction to theory and studio practice in using the principles and elements of design to articulate visual ideas. Focus will be on concepts relating to 2-D design structure. Students will be exposed to art historical references as they relate to concepts as well as being encouraged to write and think critically about art and design. Emphasis will be on instilling sound foundational information in the traditional aspects of design as well as encouraging thoughtful exploration of contemporary design potential.

**Course Credits**

The course combines approximately 90 hours of instruction, activities, project work and project reviews, for 4 credits. The workload is significant. (Plan to spend at least 6-8 hours per week.)

**Required Materials:**

\*Materials needed by **Wednesday 9/28**

\*Drawing Pencils

\*White eraser

\*Sketchbook- 9 x 12, Bright White

\*Metal Pencil Sharpener

\*2 HB Drawing pencils

\*18” Corked back Metal Ruler

1 Bottle Waterproof Black India Ink and Pack of black micron pens with different nib sizes

Basic brush set: Fine, Medium and wide brushes.

Xacto Knife with plenty of extra blades

Tool Box to hold supplies

Portfolio bag to carry projects to class in the rain

**Attendance**

**Attendance will be taken every day at the beginning of class.**

You will be allotted one free absence throughout this course. Every unexcused after one will lower your final grade by one letter grade. An **excused** absence must accompany physical documentation and is reserved for religious related activities, medical emergencies and family emergencies.

Do not email me regarding your absence. Ask your classmates what we did the class you missed and get materials from them. Everything you need from me will be posted in Canvas including course lectures and links to videos and tutorials.

**Details regarding how unexcused absences affect your grade are as follows:**

First unexcused: does not affect grade

Second unexcused: drops final grade by 10%

Third unexcused: drops final grade by 20%

Forth unexcused: drops final grade by 30%

Fifth unexcused: You should really drop this class! You probably have an F.

**Computer, phone, and headphone use during class**

While we are working in class you are allowed to use your phone as you wish within reason. You may have ear buds during work time. However when we are having a class discussion, I am lecturing or we are engaged in class critique you will not be on your phone, at all. If you are using your phone or device during these times, you will be asked to leave and will be marked absent.

You are not allowed to stream TV or movies during class. Chronic texting will also not be acceptable. Shopping on Amazon for shoes is also not acceptable. I guarantee whatever you are texting, watching and shopping for will not prepare you for a job after graduation, if it does for some reason you probably do not need to pay the tuition.

**Prerequisites**

None

**Standards for Grading**

Your performance and assignments will be graded upon evaluation in regards to the following questions:

-Are your assignments evident of the energy necessary to produce your best work?

-Did you work at the highest level of maturity, discipline and motivation?

-Did you complete all parts of your assignments by the due dates?

-Does your work show that you have fully comprehended and incorporated the material covered in class?

-Did you fully participate in class discussions?

**Grade Scale**

A 100-90%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F 0-59%

**Evaluation of Student Performance**

\*Your grade in this course will be determined on your ability to turn work in on time, completion of reading assignments and exercises, quality of written work and class participation.

Each project will be graded in 4 areas

-**Craft** Is the project complete with all components and connections intentional?

-**Technique** Are the correct materials/processes used adequately and according to project guidelines?

-**Creativity** Is there evidence of experimentation with both material and process? Were risks taken allowing for the possibility of failure? (Failure to achieve a specific goal will not necessarily result in a reduction of grade as long as that attempt was genuine and completely explored.

-**Critique** Was the project presented to the class? Did you participate in class

**/research** discussion including the work of fellow students? Are you able to present evidence of research including sketches, writings clippings of inspiration etc.?

**Email Alerts**

I will send out notices about a schedule change and other announcements in your school email. Please check your email. Not reading emails sent to you will not be an excuse for not knowing important information.

**Contacting Instructor**

The best way to contact me is to talk to me in class or email. Office hours are also a great time to talk with me. I will get back to you as soon as I can. Please title your email with the subject of your concern, do not simply reply from some unrelated email. If for some reason I have not gotten back to you after 3 or 4 days resend the email.

**Due Dates, Late Work and Extra Credit**

\*Assignments are due by the deadline.

\*Late work will not be accepted.

\*Extra credit will not be offered under any circumstances.

**Students with Disabilities**

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 737-4098.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**

You are required to do 100% of your own work from start to finish. This means that you

may not use any part of the work done by another student or give your work to another

student. If you are involved in any kind of cheating or plagiarism then you will be subject

to discipline, up to and including automatically failing the assignment, failing the course or

disciplinary action by the Dean of Students.

Please refer to the LBCC Student Code of Conduct.