

**ART K107: Intro to Studio Art
Three Rivers Community College**

Spring 2016

Fridays, 2-4:45

Meetings by appointment, before or after class

Matthew Best, Instructor

mbest@trcc.commnet.edu

Course Outline

This class will be an introduction to a wide variety of art forms. In this class will be a sort of overview of several forms of studio art classes available at Three Rivers Community College, including painting, drawing, sculpture, collage, and mixed media. While we investigate different forms of artmaking, we will also explore various concepts found within each discipline.

In this class you will produce examples of various design styles and concepts, and in doing so, acquire and appreciation and knowledge of the basic concepts of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art.

I strive to create an atmosphere where students can feel safe to take chances with their work, and not feel intimidated by trying something new. Struggling in the beginning is normal; just remember I do not expect you to be perfect. I only ask you to try your hardest. In case of emergency, please follow the emergency procedure as discussed on the first day of class and as posted in the classroom.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course students should:

- 1) Effectively utilize the fundamental elements and principles of two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional design: color, composition, line, form, texture, pattern, value and space, to arrange effective compositions and communicate ideas.
- 2) Be able to set their own goals for their work.
- 3) Possess thoughtful methods of constructive criticism and be able to engage in an artistic dialogue.
- 4) Compile a comprehensive portfolio of work that reflects the breadth of their study and prepares them for transfer to a baccalaureate institution and knowledge of the process of presenting ones work to the public.
- 5) Demonstrate the ability to visually represent a conceptual idea.

Office Hours

Office hours are held ½ hour before class or at another arranged location. I am willing to meet at other times by arrangement.

Supplies

All materials for this course are available at the school's bookstore in the form of a kit. Aside from the kit a few materials will be necessary and will have to be purchased separately.

6 color acrylic paint set
Bright #6 Long white Taklon brush
Round #1 round taklon brush
Round #6 Taklon Brush
Small tube of black gouache
Small tube of white gouache
Drawing pencil set of 4
Kneaded eraser
Utility or x-acto knife
Plastic drafting eraser
Glue gun and glue sticks
Glue stick
Aluminum straight edge, 18 inches long (or more). Should not be wood or plastic
Black A5 Pad
Disposable palette
18 by 18 artist sketch/tote board
AF 9 by 12 100# 2 ply Bristol 20 sheets
AF 20 by 26 black Bristol 10/220#
Watercolor paper, 22 by 30 140# CP

Not in kit- sketchbook or notebook, cardboard, various collage materials. Cup for holding water. Mirror. Assorted objects for shadowbox sculpture project.

Additional supplies may be needed as semester progresses.

-Grading

A - Your work is exceptional; you have gone well beyond the requirements of the project in concept, craftsmanship, presentation, and understanding. Your work is exemplary and illustrative of the standard to which others should aspire. Your work shows an integration of information from other classes, research, and experiences, and a high level of intellectual curiosity.

B - Your work is above average. Your solutions to the problems given are basically solid, though some further development of knowledge and skills is possible. Some aspects of concepts, craftsmanship, and presentation need further attention/development. You show interest in your work and have a willingness to look outside class for new information.

C - Your work is average. Your understanding of the concepts being taught is adequate and you show some progress. Your solutions exhibit limited research, routine use of materials, ideas need further development. Presentation is weak to average.

D - Your work is below average. You have not achieved an understanding of the basic concepts being taught. Your work does not fully address the parameters set forth, information is lacking or missing. There is an evident lack of research, inadequate investment of time. Development of concept, craftsmanship, and presentation are perfunctory at best.

F - Your work is wholly inadequate. What work you have done shows lack of motivation, interest, or understanding. Classroom participation is poor. You have no evident investment in your work of either time or thought. You seem not to care or to be hostile or impervious to the learning process.

Projects- 5%
final projects- 25%
Class participation and attendance- 25%

Grading System

A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F

Numerical Components:

A 93-100

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 63-66

D- 60-62

F 0-59

Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty shall in general mean conduct which has as its intent or effect the false representation of a student's academic performance, including but not limited to (a) cheating on an examination, (b) collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course, (c) plagiarizing, including the submission of others' ideas or papers (whether purchased, borrowed, or otherwise obtained) as one's own, (d) stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials, (e) falsifying records of laboratory or other data, (f) submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course, and (g) knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including

assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

Inclement weather

In the event of inclement weather, students should check the college website at www.trcc.commnet.edu. There will be a message on the main page indicating whether or not classes are being held.

College Withdrawal Policy

A student who finds it necessary to discontinue a course once class has met must provide written notice to the Registrar. Withdrawal forms are available at the Registrars on all campuses. Non-punitive "W" grades are assigned to any withdrawal requested before the various unrestricted withdrawal deadlines listed in the calendars published in front of each session's course listings. Withdrawal requests received after these deadlines must bear instructor signatures. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class preceding the final exam. Students who do not obtain an official withdrawal, but simply stop attending classes, run the risk of receiving a failing grade for the course.

Hazardous Materials Statement

Acrylic paints are a hazardous material and must be handled with the proper care. There will be no eating or drinking while working with paints as this allows for possible ingestion of the paints.

Although not as toxic as oil paints because they do not create fumes, the pigments used in acrylic paints are highly toxic. They should never be eaten or remain in contact with the skin for extended lengths of time. It is recommended that you wear rubber gloves when painting, but it is not required. If paint makes contact with your skin, wash the area as soon as possible so as to not allow the toxic chemicals to enter your body through the skin.

Liquid waste created in the painting process (your used water medium) may be poured down the drain, but solid waste materials such as excess unused paint, paper towels containing paint residue, or any other material containing paint residue should be placed in a container designated by the instructor, not in the regular trash receptacle.

Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability that may require class modifications, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with Learning or Physical Disabilities should contact the Learning Specialist, Chris Scarborough at 860.892.5751 or at cscarborough@trcc.commnet.edu as soon as possible to ensure timely accommodations.

Digication

All students are required to maintain an online learning portfolio in Digication that uses the TRCC template. Through this electronic tool, students will have the opportunity to monitor their own growth in college-wide learning. The student will keep his/her learning portfolio and may continue to use the Digication account after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all students. Work reviewed for assessment purposes will not include names and all student work will remain private and anonymous for college improvement purposes. Students will have the ability to integrate learning from the classroom, college, and life in general, which will provide additional learning opportunities. If desired, students will have the option to create multiple portfolios.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and/or beepers should be turned off or set to vibrate, and never used during class time unless there is an extenuated circumstance. No texting. Laptops or mobile devices for research purposes are encouraged.

Headphones are not allowed at any time during class.

Class Participation

Students are expected to participate in all classroom activities, critiques, and discussions. Part of your grade will reflect your participation in class. Please feel free to ask questions, discussion will be a very important part of this class, and I hope to create an open environment in which students feel free to ask questions.

Class Outline

Subject to change

9/2- Introduction to the class. Review the syllabus, go over materials for the class. Introduction to the first assignment.

9/9- Composition, Value, and Space. Creating an effective and dynamic composition that has the illusion of space with painting and collage.

9/16- Symmetrical and Asymmetrical compositions.

9/23- Exploring positive and negative shapes with silhouettes.

9/30- Introduction to drawing with pencils. Still life.

10/7- Continuing with drawing, this time the face and hands.

10/14- shallow space in sculpture, creating a shadowbox.

10/21- recreating an object in three dimensional with cardboard. 360 degree sculpture.

10/28- continuing the 360 degree sculpture

11/4- Introduction to painting, making a color wheel. Monochromatic and complimentary palette paintings.

11/11- Still life painting with limited colors on watercolor paper.

11/18- Continuing and finishing still life.

11/25- Thanksgiving recess, no class.

12/2- Final project, multi media self portrait on watercolor paper or canvas.

12/9- Final project

12/16-final project due.

Avant-garde composer [John Cage](#) started out as a disciple of [Arnold Schoenberg](#). He greatly looked up to the exiled Austrian as a model of how a true artist ought to live. Cage, in turn, inspired generations of artists and composers both through his work – which incorporated elements of chance into his music – and through his teaching.

One of those whom he inspired was [Sister Corita Kent](#). An unlikely fixture in the Los Angeles art scene, the nun was an instructor at Immaculate Heart College and a celebrated artist who considered [Saul Bass](#), [Buckminster Fuller](#) and Cage to be personal friends.

In 1968, she crafted the lovely, touching [Ten Rules for Students and Teachers](#) for a class project. While Cage was quoted directly in Rule 10, he didn't come up with the list, as many website sites claim. By all accounts, though, he was delighted with it and did everything he could to popularize the list. Cage's lover and life partner [Merce Cunningham](#) reportedly kept a copy of it posted in his studio until his dying days. You can check the list out below:

RULE ONE: Find a place you trust, and then try trusting it for a while.

RULE TWO: General duties of a student: Pull everything out of your teacher; pull everything out of your fellow students.

RULE THREE: General duties of a teacher: Pull everything out of your students.

RULE FOUR: Consider everything an experiment.

RULE FIVE: Be self-disciplined: this means finding someone wise or smart and choosing to follow them. To be disciplined is to follow in a good way. To be self-disciplined is to follow in a better way.

RULE SIX: Nothing is a mistake. There's no win and no fail, there's only make.

RULE SEVEN: The only rule is work. If you work it will lead to something. It's the people who do all of the work all of the time who eventually catch on to things.

RULE EIGHT: Don't try to create and analyze at the same time. They're different processes.

RULE NINE: Be happy whenever you can manage it. Enjoy yourself. It's lighter than you think.

RULE TEN: We're breaking all the rules. Even our own rules. And how do we do that? By leaving plenty of room for X quantities.

HINTS: Always be around. Come or go to everything. Always go to classes. Read anything you can get your hands on. Look at movies carefully, often. Save everything. It might come in handy later.

Via [Gotham Writers](#)