

**Art K121: Two-Dimensional Design
Three Rivers Community College**

Fall 2015

Monday/Wednesday 1-3:45am

3 Credit Hours

Meetings by appointment, before or after class

Matthew Best, Instructor

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-Course Outline

This class focuses on the investigation of the fundamentals of design in two-dimensions. These fundamentals can be applied to any form of art making whether it is painting, drawing, printmaking, photography or mixed media. Design in the visual arts is the purposeful arrangement of elements intended to communicate a particular visual concept.

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 design. We will use a variety of techniques such as painting, collage and drawing.

BASIC CONCEPTS TO BE COVERED IN CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Line	rhythm/movement
Texture	surface manipulation
Perspective	repetition
Figure-ground relationship	Positive-negative space
symmetry/asymmetry	Value
weight or volume	Color theory
time and motion	Variation
space	composition

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:

Demonstrate knowledge of the formal and abstract elements of art as they relate to two-dimensional design.

Develop technical skill and craftsmanship in a wide range of media with a variety of techniques.

Demonstrate the ability to design works of art through critical thinking, thoughtful decision-making and problem-solving processes.

Demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of two-dimensional art:

Demonstrate the ability to create works of art that solve specific design problems and communicate specific ideas and/or emotions.

Be able to critique a work of art using an informed visual vocabulary.

Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity of artistic expressions that are used Globally; line, shape, color, and value.

-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*

One pad of vellum surface Bristol board, as close to 16 by 20 as possible, or, in an emergency, a few sheets of illustration board or poster board

Pencils, in varying hardness's 6B, 4B, 2B, HB

Eraser

18-inch metal ruler

Drafting or painters tape ¾ to 1 inch

Rubber cement or glue stick, not liquid white glue (Elmer's, Sobo, etc)

Black sharpie, both a fine point and a medium point

X-acto, mat, or utility knife

A set of Acrylic paint- Titanium White and Ivory, lamp or Mars Black, Primary Red, Yellow, Blue. You may buy any additional colors you wish to use.

Brushes flat or round synthetic, a range of 2 or 3 sizes One small round, one ½ to ¾ inch flat recommended

Palette knife

Some sort of palette, rags, something to hold water

Sketchbook, minimum of 8 by 10 inches

Portfolio for keeping finished work and work in progress.

Collage/found objects (to be discussed), colored paper

Optional: One pad of tracing paper

You may also find it useful to get a tackle box or something to hold all your tools. You will also need to be able to keep your paper clean and flat; for this you may purchase a portfolio larger than your paper, or you can make your own.

A kit is available in the store bookstore that contains all the materials necessary for this class.

Additional supplies may be needed as semester progresses.

-Grading

Grading will be based three criteria: your grasp of the concepts, originality and presentation of work. Each project will be handed in on the day it is due and graded. Handing work in late will result in a lower grade.

. Two major projects will be handed in during the course, one at mid term, and the other towards the end of the class. These projects will be giving a letter grade, and will serve as an indication of where your grade stands at that point. If you ever have a question regarding how you are doing in the class, please feel free to speak to me about it before or after class. Your level of class participation and your attendance will also be reflected in your grade.

Projects- 25%

Mid-term and final projects- 25% each

Class participation and attendance- 25%

-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.

-Attendance

Students are expected to attend each class. Class should only be missed due to an extenuating circumstance. Please email me if you absolutely cannot attend class.

Students should be in class on time, and stay until you are excused. If you know in advance that you cannot attend class, please tell or email me in advance.

You may not leave class early without permission. If you leave without permission it will count as being late.

-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 Outline

Subject to change

8/31-introduction to class, 1st assignment given, 3 part Composition and Support project.

9/2- working on diamond composition, project 1.

9/7- Labor Day, no class.

9/9- working on circular composition, project 1.

9/14- working on irregularly shaped multiple supports.

9/15- First project due, short critique. Introduction of Positive/Negative Shape project

9/21- Positive/Negative Shape critique. Introduce Pictogram project

9/23-working on pictogram

9/28- Critique on pictogram project. Introduce shapes/repetition project

9/30- working on shapes/repetition project

10/5- working on shapes/repetition project

10/7- Shapes/repetition critique.

10/12- Columbus Day, no class.

10/14- Shapes/repetition critique. Working on mail art postcards, bring collage materials.

Introduction to midterm project

10/19- midterm project

10/21- midterm project

10/26-midterm project critique

10/28-midterm semester reviews

11/2- color theory project

11/4- color Theory project

11/9- Color Theory project

11/11- Color Theory project due, critique

11/16- Color Theory part two, discordant color, symmetry and asymmetry.

11/18- Color Theory part two, discordant color, symmetry and asymmetry.

11/23- Discordant color project due, critique. Introduction to pattern/repetition/symmetry project

11/25- Thanksgiving, class at instructor's discretion.

11/30- Pattern/Repetition project

12/2-. Pattern/Repetition critique. Introduction to final project- 50 Interpretations of the same subject

12/7- Final project

12/9- final project

12/14- final project

12/16-Last class. Final project due, presentation of 50 interpretations of the same subject.

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](#)