

Intro to Studio Art

Instructor Emily Weiskopf

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Office hrs: By appointment Fridays (12:00-1:45)

Course Description

This class will be an introduction to basic art and design. The goal of the course is to familiarize you with the fundamentals of art and design so you can use it as an expressive tool to communicate visually. The course includes basic design and composition, color theory, study of three-dimensional form, and a thorough exploration of the creative process through the use of a wide variety of media and techniques, including drawing, painting, collage, and mixed media sculpture.

Learning Outcomes

Because this class meets only once a week the class is time divided up between hands-on studio and class lectures. The instructor will give presentations and demonstrations to introduce projects when needed. Exercises will be done in class in addition to projects that will be done mostly on your own time. The format of this class is designed to encourage each student to develop his or her own understanding of the concepts of design through personal exploration.

Upon successful completion of this course you should be able to work in a wide range of media with a variety of techniques and be able to analyze the structure of a composition. In addition you should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the visual elements of art such as; line, shape, value, texture, color, and form while creating compositions that communicate specific ideas and/or emotions. Lastly, you must be able to critique a work of art using an informed visual vocabulary that will also be taught and given as a handout.

Evaluation Procedures

All materials involved such as sketches and the end product for each project will be collected on assignment due dates. On their due date, assignments should be complete at the beginning of class. Assignments will be graded primarily on the amount of time and thought that is put into them as well as craft -which is neatness and exactitude. You should plan to spend a minimum of two hours in preparation for each class hour (6 hours per week) outside of class. Those that put forth effort in this class will inevitably show improvement in their work as the class progresses.

Reading and Writing Assignments

There will be one or more writing assignment for this course that will also include a short verbal presentation.

Class Discussion

You are expected to be in class with a positive attitude. Participating in class exercises, assignments, discussions, and critiques is to everyone's benefit and counts as **40% of your grade**. Group critiques will be held on assignment due dates and be part of the beginning of each class. *Everyone should contribute at least once in each critique.* Those who participate more will receive a higher grade in this area.

Course Requirements

Attendance- Please plan to attend all classes and to miss class only for extenuating circumstances. Attendance on critique dates, which are very frequent, is vital. Missing more than 2 classes can put you extremely behind in this class because most assignments are handed out in class and are not included on the syllabus which is also subject to change. **Attendance at the final critique is mandatory; absence at the final critique will be recorded as three absences (unless a legitimate excuse is provided.)**

Tardiness/Leaving Early- Most class announcements are made either at the beginning or end of class. Students who arrive late to class or leave class early will not only miss hearing important information, but also are disruptive to the rest of the class, as the instructor may have to repeat information. **Every two times a student leaves early or arrives late equals one absence.**

Deadlines- Assignments not completed on time will be lowered one letter grade for each class they are late (an A becomes a B.)

Explanation of Criteria for Evaluation/Grade Weights

Projects- The average of all project grades comprises thirty percent of the final grade.

Class Participation/Attendance- This comprises forty percent of the final grade.

Effort/Improvement- This comprises thirty percent of the final grade.

Grading System

Projects: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F Paper: √+, √, √-

Numerical Components

A	93-100	√+	86-100
A-	90-92		
B+	87-89		
B	83-86		
B-	80-82	√	85-74
C+	77-79		
C	73-76		
C-	70-72		
D+	67-69	√-	73-60
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.

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Inclement weather

In the event of inclement weather, students should call the college's main number at 860-886-0177. There will be a recorded message indicating whether or not classes are being held.

Cell Phones

Cell phones and beepers are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to a silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by phone or beeper, the student should speak to the instructor prior to class, so that together they can arrive at an agreement.

Revisions to Syllabus

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes that will be made.

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. Nonpunitive "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 an "F" 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 which may require classroom or test-taking modifications, please see me as soon as possible. Students with learning disabilities should contact Chris Scarborough at the Student development office. Students with physical disabilities should contact should contact Judy Hilburge.

Class Outline

(Schedule subject to change when necessary) **Please bring sketchbook and pencil to every class!!! This is mandatory. I will deduct 5 points off your final grade each time you do not bring it to class.**

F 1/31/14	Introduction to class. Assignment 1 introduced Going over materials and class expectations
F 2/07/14	Composition, Positive and Negative Space Assignment 1 Box Transformation Group Critique
F 2/14/14	Assignment 2, Black Square due. Group critique. Assignment 3 introduced: Texture and Value. Exploring Gouache and brush
F 2/21/14	Assignment 3 Due , Brief Critique. Intro to Assignment 4: Abstract Composition with in class work time. Bring to class the left over black paper and your large white watercolor paper
F 2/28/14	In-class work time- Assignment on Assignment 4 Bring all painting and assignment supplies. Intro to the Color wheel
F 3/07/14 Tessellations	Assignment 4 Part 1 Due. Group critique. Assignment 4 Part 2 Color In class work time developing Complimentary Scales.
F 03/14/14	Assignment 4 due. Group critique. Intro to Monochromatic Color, and Mass Gradation. Intro to Assignment 5 My Day's Landscape in Color
F 03/21/14	NO CLASS SPRING BREAK!
F 03/28/14	Assignment 5 In-Class work time.
F 04/04/14	Assignment 5 Group critique. Intro into Pencil. Assignment 6
F 04/11/14	Assignment 6 Due: Assignment 7 Writing Assignment introduced.
F 04/18/14	NO CLASS SPRING RECESS - EASTER

F 04/25/14 **Assignment 7.** Writing Assignment and Presentations Due. Intro to Assignment 8

F 05/02/14 In Class Work time.

F 05/09/14 **Assignment 7 Due, Intro to 3D. Assignment 8 Cardboard, Attach and Engage**

F 05/16/14 Last Class **Sketchbooks due**, Individual Crits. **Assignment 8 Due**

Supply List

You are required to purchase the following, which are available at the bookstore or any art supply store. Additional supplies may be needed as the semester goes on.

Sketchbook no smaller than 6" x 8"

9" x 12" smooth Bristol board pad

1 sheet of 19" x 25" black textured paper (Strathmore or Canson)

4 oz jar of rubber cement

Rubber cement "pick-up" square

Pencils

White plastic eraser

18" metal ruler

Xacto knife with blades

Assortment of 4 round and flat synthetic paintbrushes for acrylics

Small set of acrylic paints including: red, blue, yellow, black and white

Black and White Gouache

2 sheets of 22" x 30" white Arches or Stonehenge paper

Spackle

Masking Tape