

GRA 230 Digital Imaging -- Syllabus
Three Rivers Community College, Fall Semester - 2010
Hybrid: Tue 4pm-6:45 and Online

Instructor: Kevin Amenta
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Office Hours: MW 1-3:30pm and by appointment

Course Overview/Course Objectives: Adobe Photoshop CS5 is the focus of this course, which will provide the student with a foundation in image manipulation and graphic design. Layers and layer effects; image adjustment; blending modes; nested palettes of selection, painting, and correction tools and other Photoshop processes will be addressed. Students will study design principles.

Performance Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Resize headshots - all sized the same.
2. Use blending modes
3. Work with multiple layers
4. Adapt color for the web
5. Design and prepare composite images
6. Work with masks and channels
7. Create clipping paths
8. Work with color in the context of commercial printing
9. Use image filters
10. Apply two color filters
11. Work with multiple graphic formats
12. Create gradients
13. Use pen tool techniques
14. Use advanced photo correction techniques
15. Combine Illustrator graphics and Photoshop images
16. Slice images for the web
17. Set up a monitor for color management
18. Create an animated image
19. Optimize images for the web.
20. Read and report on Photoshop artist or Photoshop problem solving

Instructional Modes:

<http://my.commnet.edu> Blackboard Learning System and classroom instruction.

Required Instructional Materials:

- Adobe Photoshop CS5 Visual Quickstart Guide, Peachpit Press - 2010
- Adobe Photoshop CS3, CS4 or CS5 (available at big discount from efollett.com or journeyed.com)
- Handouts and tutorials posted on Blackboard.

Instructional Methods: Readings, demonstrations and delivering of student projects. Students will observe, critique, and demonstrate learned material. Homework will occur in the context of course assignments, in preparation for classroom discussion and in support of projects. All research and assignments will require the use of personal time and the Mac lab.

Evaluation and Grading:

Students will be evaluated on the basis of weekly projects, discussions, and other assignments. The last assignment will be a capstone project. Points for each assignment are listed with the assignment on Blackboard and are based on a 1000 point system. Students will be expected to work on their assignments at home or in the computer lab every week and to turn them in by the stated deadline. Students should use traditional standards of correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation in all assignments and communications.

1000 point grading system breakdown:

- 5% (50 points) - Poster**
- 5% (50 points) - Magazine Cover**
- 5% (50 points) - Ad Re-design**
- 5% (50 points) - Decorate Home**
- 5% (50 points) - Alphabet**
- 20% (50 points x 4 assignments) - Bi-Weekly classroom assignments**
- 10% (100 points) – Photoshop Artist Presentation**
- 10% (100 points) – Photoshop topic report (Midterm)**
- 5% (50 points) - Weekly Discussion Questions (Blackboard)**
- 30% (300 points) - Final Project**

Make-up work is not allowed. Projects, assignments and discussions are to be posted on Blackboard by the posted due date for each. Arrangements to present projects, turn in assignments or take any tests in advance because of an expected absence must be made with the faculty of record in advance and in accordance with the faculty member's policies.

Incompletes – I traditionally do not give Incompletes. They are only assigned when there are extenuating circumstances such as illness that prevent the student from completing the coursework on time. Incompletes *must be approved by the Academic Dean.*

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 Registrar's office on campus. 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 indicating the student was maintaining at least a C- average at the time of withdrawal. No withdrawals are permitted after the last class.

Class Cancellation Policy: Information about class cancellation due to the weather can be found on the TRCC homepage <http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/>.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic failing (F) grade on that assignment for the first infraction and, should it occur a second time, an automatic failing (F) grade for the course.

Disabled Students and Learning Disabilities Support

If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Disabilities Counseling Services at 383-5240. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Disabilities Counselor. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Class topics, assignments and syllabus

The instructor may change the syllabus, the order of topics and/or the content of the assignments to meet the needs of the class at any point in time.