

Syllabus – Fall 2011, Wednesdays
ART K107: Into to Studio Art
Three Rivers Community College
E-Wing – Room 202
Instructor: Jennifer A. Wheeler, MFA

Office Hours: After
class and by appointment
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Course Description

This class will be an introduction to studio art. The goal of the course is to familiarize you with the fundamentals of design so you can use it as an expressive tool to communicate visually. Both black and white and color mediums will be used that will employ collage, drawing, and painting. This class is primarily a hands-on studio class. The instructor will give presentations and demonstrations to introduce projects. Exercises will be done in class in addition to projects that will be done partially 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 art through personal exploration.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students should: be able to: work in a wide range of media with a variety of techniques, be able to analyze the structure of a composition, have an understanding of the visual elements of line, shape, value, texture, color, and form, be able to create compositions that communicate specific ideas and/or emotions, and be able to critique a work of art using an informed visual vocabulary.

Reading and Writing Assignments

There will be one writing assignment for this course.

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.

Class Discussion

You are expected to be in class with a positive attitude. A positive and amicable environment is a good learning environment. Participating with energy and enthusiasm in class exercises and critiques is to everyone's benefit. Everyone should contribute frequently 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 is mandatory. An absence on a critique date will be recorded as two absences (unless a legitimate written excuse is provided,) and an absence at the final critique will be recorded as three absences.

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.)

Completion of all assignments and attendance at final critique- No student may receive a passing grade for this class without completing the minimum amount of art assignments and must be present at the final critique to pass the course (unless a legitimate written excuse is provided.)

Explanation of Criteria for Evaluation/Grade Weights

Projects- The average of all project grades and papers comprises 55% of the final grade.

Class Participation/Attendance- This comprises 30% of the final grade.

Effort/Improvement- This comprises 15% of the final grade.

Grading System

Drawings: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F Papers: √+, √, √-

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.

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.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other electronic devices are allowed in class only if they are turned off or turned to silent mode. Under no circumstances are phones to be answered in class or is text messaging to be done in class. When there are extenuating circumstances that require that a student be available by electronic device, 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.

Disabilities Statement

If you have a hidden or visible disability which may require class modifications, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with Learning 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. Students with Physical Disabilities should contact Judy Hilburger at 860.892.5744 or at jhilburger@trcc.commnet.edu or Matt Liscum at 860.383.5420 or via email at mliscum@trcc.commnet.edu to facilitate accommodations.

Final Portfolio/Student Art Show

On the last class meeting, students will resubmit all artwork from the semester. This comprises the final portfolio. A pick-up date for students to get their portfolios back will be scheduled within two weeks following the last day of classes. The professor will inform students of this date once it has been scheduled. There is a college-wide Student Art Show at the end of every academic year in May. All students who take an art class are invited to submit one piece done in each class to this show. Students should notify the professor when submitting their final portfolios and she will hold their work and submit it to the show if requested. Several cash prizes are awarded to students whose work is displayed in the Student Art Show by an outside juror.

Class Outline (schedule subject to change when necessary)

- August 31 Introduction to class.
- September 7 Shape, volume and mass discussion.
In class value studies.
Line discussion – movement, direction, gesture and emotion.
In class line exercise.
- September 14 Bring in magazines.
Space discussion – shallow and deep, plus isometric (Asian), medieval, and folk art conventions.
Assignment 1: Collage from magazines. Finish as homework.
- September 21 Bring in painting copy, plus black, white, and grey papers
Assignment 1 due
In class discussion of lost and found contour.
In class thumbnails of lost and found contour
Assignment 2: Painting “copy” in black, white and grey collage. Finish as homework.
- September 28 Bring in examples of floral and leaf inspirations.
Assignment 2 due.
Balance discussion – symmetrical and asymmetrical.
Assignment 3: Floral and leaf inspired mixed media compositions of each. Finish as homework.
- October 5 **Assignment 3 due.**
In class discussion of unity with variety.
In class exercise.
In class discussion of positive and negative shapes, and ambiguous figure ground. Finish as homework.
- October 12 Assignment 4: Squares with two colors and a specific harmony. Finish as homework.
- October 19 **Assignment 4 due.**
In class discussion of advancing and receding space.
Assignment 5: Two collages from magazines. Finish as homework.
- October 26 **Assignment 5 due.**
In class discussion of color harmony: monochromatic, analogous, complementary, and triadic.
Assignment 6: Three still life with color harmony.
- November 2 Continue working on assignment 6.
- November 9 **Assignment 6 due.**
In class discussion of color discord.
Assignment 7: same value composition. Finish as homework.

November 16	Assignment 7 due. In class discussion of emotional color. Assignment 8: Emotional “self-portrait”. Begin thumbnail ideas and sketches.
November 23	Thanksgiving Recess – College Closed
November 30	Continue working on assignment 8.
December 7	Continue working on assignment 8.
December 14	Assignment 8 due. Final Critique. Bring in entire portfolio.

Required Supply List

You are required to purchase the following, which are available at the bookstore or any other art supply store.

9” x 12” sketch pad or other white paper for thumbnails and sketches
Smooth Bristol board pad – sized to accommodate the assignments
Illustration boards and tracing paper for flaps (and tape for flaps)
White, black, and grey colored paper for collages
Colored or printed papers for collages
Glue stick
Rubber cement glue
Rubber cement “Pik-up”
Gluestick
Kneaded eraser or white plastic eraser
18” metal ruler
Xacto knife with blade or utility knife, snap blade
Assortment of 4 round and flat synthetic paintbrushes for acrylics
Small set of acrylic paints including: red, blue, yellow, black, and white
Containers for mixing paints and small water dish for rinsing brushes
ALSO: Bring in 5 or so old magazines for collages

Have a GREAT semester!