

# ART 128 - Graphic Design Foundations

Fall 2017

## COURSE OUTLINE

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### 1. Instructor Information

- (a) Instructor: Joseph Hoh
- (b) Office hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 2:30 – 3:30 PM
- (c) Location: Young 101c
- (d) Phone: 250 370-3456
- (e) E-mail: [hoh@camosun.bc.ca](mailto:hoh@camosun.bc.ca)
- (f) Online: <http://online.camosun.ca/>

### 2. Intended Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Apply basic theory, elements and principles of graphic design to one's own work.
2. Use industry standard computer software for graphic design.
3. Apply sound processes in the development and execution of graphic design projects.
4. Critique one's own and others' projects.

### 3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

The text for the course *Elements of Graphic Design* is available at the college bookstore.

(b) Other

Students are expected to bring the items listed below to each class.

- Pencils: H [medium], or B [soft]
- Disposable technical drawing pen like the permanent black Micron 01 pen, or an fine tip permanent black marker like Steadtler Lumocolor 313 (S)
- White plastic eraser
- 8 ½ x 11 inch sketch book: hard cover for notes & brainstorming (do not combine this with other courses)
- Black 3 ring binder for your journal + optional clear plastic pockets; or a 9.5x12 presentation binder.
- Brushes like:
  - synthetic sable ¾ inch flat
  - synthetic sable ¼ inch and/or ½ inch round (recommend minimum of two)
  - synthetic sable no. 0 round (recommend minimum of two)
- Bleed proof white Dr. Martins, or common office whiteout
- 24 inch or longer metric and inch steel ruler with cork backing
- Utility knife with snap-off blade
- Scissors
- Scotch 811 Removable tape in the blue container
- Glues: Rubber cement, and/or, Glue stick
- Plastic paint mixing tray palette
- Plastic containers to hold water
- Tool box: shoe box, plastic bin, hardware, fishing
- Recycled glossy colour magazines (especially European design magazines) – 6 to 12
- USB Drive, minimum 1 gigabytes (or a portable 1TB Hard Drive)
- CMYK and White acrylic paints & CMYK colour wheel/chart (\$55 kit available at IslandBlue)

#### Optional Supplies

- Ruling pen
- Coloured pencil crayons
- Coloured felt markers like the Steadler Mars Graphic 3000 duo (ten with two tips)
- Set square: 60° (inexpensive)
- Protractor (inexpensive)
- Compass (inexpensive)
- French Curves

The textbook *Elements of Graphic Design* is around \$47.00, and the above supplies are approximately \$195.00. Students are required to collect a wide variety of materials and to have them at hand at all times (inks, rulers, squares, brushes, pencils etc.).

## 4. Course Content and Schedule

### Objectives

This course will introduce students to print design. On completion the student will have:

- an understanding of the Elements and Principles of design to solve visual problems and create graphic statements
- the ability to manipulate colour applied to 2D and 3D situations
- the ability to manipulate form applied to 2D and 3D situations
- basic drafting and graphic skills
- a basic understanding of Typography
- a nascent ability to make critical analysis of visual material

### Course Plan\*

*\*subject to change*

Week	Topic	Class activity	Assignment (ready for next week)
1 Sep 5, 6	<b>Introductions and Attendance</b> <b>What is Graphic Design?</b> <b>Design Principles</b> <b>Manipulating form</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Introductions/office hours/contact</li><li>2. course outline</li><li>3. supplies list</li><li>4. What is Design?</li><li>5. Ways of manipulating form: brainstorm, analyze and group</li><li>6. Black Square Problem Intro</li><li>7. Intro to Mac OS &amp; Illustrator: vector images</li><li>8. Art quiz</li><li>9. No lab this week</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Purchase supplies for next class, except for colour acrylics</li><li>2. Purchase text book and read</li><li>3. Brainstorm solutions 120 (20 each) solutions for Black Square Problem</li></ol>
2 Sep 12, 13	<b>Course expectations</b> <b>Communication Theory</b> <b>Black Square Problem 1</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review Course expectations especially the journal</li><li>2. Communication theory</li><li>3. Black Square Problem starts in class</li><li>4. Demo: painting, lining, masking, cutting, working habits. Review Painting Tips</li><li>5. Lab groups</li><li>6. Photos of students</li><li>7. Illustrator training---Black Square Problem, template</li><li>8. Pass out cardboard for portfolios</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Black Square Problem first three groups (Order, Increase, Bold)</li><li>2. Research and collect similar concepts used in graphic design for journal</li><li>3. Read: Section 1: 1, 2, 3</li></ol>
3 Sep 19, 20	<b>The Elements of Art</b> <b>Black Square Problem 2</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Elements and Design Principles</li><li>2. Black Square Problem</li><li>3. Black Square Problem in longer labs; digital version due in two weeks</li><li>4. Discuss Section 1 of textbook</li><li>5. Selected video on design</li><li>6.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Complete Black Square Problem (Congested, Tension, Playful)</li><li>2. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li><li>3. Read: Section 2: Chapters 4, 5, 6</li></ol>

4 Sep 26, 27	<b>Black and White Problem</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> Black Square Problem</li> <li>2. Pair off students for reviews</li> <li>3. Intro Black and White Problem</li> <li>4. Black Square Problem in lab</li> <li>5. Discuss Section 2 of textbook</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete Black and White Problem</li> <li>2. bring recycled magazines next week</li> <li>3. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>4. Complete Black Square lab work</li> </ol>
5 Oct 3,4	<b>Typography Structural Ambiguity</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> Black and White Problem</li> <li>2. Intro Structural Ambiguity</li> <li>3. Tones and Half-tones</li> <li>4. Structural Ambiguity in longer labs— Bézier curves</li> <li>5. Intro Typography</li> <li>6. Video: Helvetica</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete Structural Ambiguity Problem</li> <li>2. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>3. Collect 6 typeface samples &amp; Categorize</li> <li>4. Notify mid-term interview coming: journals and portfolios</li> <li>5. Purchase colour paints</li> </ol>
6 Oct 10, 11	<b>Seven Colour Contrast 1 Spatial relationships (Thanksgiving Week)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> Structural Ambiguity Problem</li> <li>2. Review Typography samples</li> <li>3. Intro: Hue, Light-Dark, Cold-Warm, Complementary</li> <li>4. CMYK colour model</li> <li>5. Video: Helvetica</li> <li>6. Demo: Bézier curves, Pathfinder, Divide tools</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>2. Prepare for mid-term interviews: journals and portfolios</li> <li>3. Complete first half of Colour Contrasts: Hue, Light-Dark, Cold-Warm, Complementary</li> <li>4. Read: Section 3</li> </ol>
7 Oct 17, 18	<b>Seven Colour Contrast 2 Business card 1 (Black Square) Mid-term interviews?</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intro a.m.: Simultaneous, Saturation, Extension</li> <li>2. Intro p.m.: Black Square business card: bleeds &amp; trapping, crop marks &amp; run-ups,</li> <li>3. Download files to computer</li> <li>4. Discuss Section 3</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete second half of Colour Contrasts</li> <li>2. Complete Black Square business card</li> <li>3. Colour lab a.m.</li> <li>4. Black Square Biz card lab p.m.</li> </ol>
8 Oct 24, 25	<b>Designing with Type 1 Mid-term interviews (~11:30am onwards)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intro Designing with Type</li> <li>2. Into Layout Principles</li> <li>3. Work on designs in labs: scanning &amp; raster image processing</li> <li>4. Photoshop &amp; Scanner demo</li> <li>5. Font Management</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>2. Complete Scale, Neg/Pos, Pattern</li> <li>3. Read: Section 4</li> </ol>
9 Oct, Nov 31, 1	<b>Designing with Type 2 Business card 2 (Black &amp; White) Research Week &amp; Mid-term interviews</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work on designs in labs</li> <li>2. Discuss Section 4</li> <li>3. Intro to Layout &amp; Black &amp; White business card</li> <li>4. Intro to Font Management</li> <li>5. Course feedback</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>2. Complete: Black &amp; White card</li> </ol>
10 Nov 7, 8	<b>Sound Box 1</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> Designing with Type</li> <li>2. Intro: Sound Box</li> <li>3. Work on designs in labs: select box design and brain storm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and collect similar concepts for journal</li> <li>2. Collect samples for journal</li> </ol>
11 Nov 14, 15	<b>Sound Box 2</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> business cards 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>2. Intro: Last project</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. complete Sound Box assignment</li> </ol>
12 Nov 21, 22	<b>Final assignment: Ordering and classifying information: Project TBA</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> Sound Box</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. complete final assignment</li> </ol>
13 Nov 28, 29	<b>Overview and Summary</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Review</b> final assignment</li> </ol>	
14 Dec 5, 6	<b>Interviews and Portfolio submission</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interviews</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. bring portfolios and journals to interview and to hand in</li> <li>2. Digital portfolios for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 colour contrasts</li> <li>• design w type</li> <li>• business cards</li> <li>• sound box</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

## 5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

Each student will be expected to complete assignments on time, and are expected to attend each class and contribute at group analysis of completed works.

There are three components considered for the final grade:

1. A portfolio of all assigned projects. **75%**
2. A journal full of informal exercises, self-directed problems, notes, sketches, layouts, graphic concepts etc. that offer a personal involvement with graphic design. **15%**
3. The student's participation in the critical appraisals of their work and in the works of peers. This will be conducted in both written and spoken form as the course progresses. **10%**

There will be mid-semester interviews with students. This will provide the student with an indication of their achievement during the first half of the course.

There is also a final interview for Visual Arts program students during examination week\*, and final grades will be posted at a later date. A grade of "C" or higher is required in order to continue in the Visual Arts program, or to attain the prerequisite for Art 228.

**\* do not book your Christmas flights for this week**

A student who attends the course **on a regular basis** will be given a clear indication of a possible "F" or "P" grade anticipated by the instructor from the mid-semester onwards.

*A student who misses more than two classes cannot expect to pass the course. Should a student miss a class, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor regarding their absence.*

### Factors to be considered in Grading of Graphic Design Work

1. Sensitivity to, and employment of, structural relationships that may involve a combination of design elements, e.g. line, value, shape, space, colour, texture
2. Ability to recognize and manipulate the design principles
3. Exploration and imagination in working with the above elements
4. Ability to convert an idea or message into a graphic element
5. Ability to manipulate figure and ground relationship
6. Ability to simplify an idea or design to its essential elements
7. Ability to transpose and translate one design idea or form onto another or from one medium to another
8. Ability to enlarge and reduce design image areas
9. Thought and care in planning and execution
10. Precision and care in rendering, gluing, lay-out and presentation of work
11. Meeting assignment datelines
12. Ability to keep to limitation specified and solve given design problems
13. Appropriateness of design solutions
14. Care and thought in positioning, printing of information outside working frame and position of design area on paper
15. Skill and conceptual progression
16. Professionalism and effort

## 6. Grading System

The following percentage conversion to letter grade will be used:

A+ = 90 - 100%	B = 73 - 76%	D = 50 - 59%
A = 85 - 89%	B- = 70 - 72%	F = 0.0 - 49%
A- = 80 - 84%	C+ = 65 - 69%	
B+ = 77 - 79%	C = 60 - 64%	

## 7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

Students are also encouraged to browse library shelves for other material available. Excellent sources of design information and quality layout:

Sausmarez: *Basic Design: The Dynamics of Visual Form*

Dondis: *A Primer of Visual Literacy*

Collier: *Space, Form, and Vision*

Knobler: *The Visual Dialogue*

*HOW Magazine*

*Arts Canada*

*Applied Arts*

*Art Forum*

*L 'Archive*

*Graphis*

*Vogue*

*Print*

*ID*

Online:

FontShop: [blog.fontshop.com/category/using-type/](http://blog.fontshop.com/category/using-type/)

Fontstruct: [fontstruct.com](http://fontstruct.com)

Fast Design: [fastcodesign.com](http://fastcodesign.com)

ArtStor: [artstor.org/index.shtml](http://artstor.org/index.shtml)

Victoria & Albert Museum: [collections.vam.ac.uk/](http://collections.vam.ac.uk/)

Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian: [cooperhewitt.org](http://cooperhewitt.org)

## Learning Support and Services for Students

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

## Academic Conduct Policy

There is an Academic Conduct Policy **which includes plagiarism**. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

[www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html](http://www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-5.html)

# Painting Tips

## Mixing paints

- Mix all paints in your mixing palettes. Correct paint mixture to paint pure flat colours (no streaks or transparencies.) Your prepared paint should be a creamy, soft mixture made by adding water to the paint until it flows smoothly. If the paint is thicker it will build up textures and it will look blotchy.
- Mix large quantities with a palette knife, small quantities with a brush. The mix must be thorough and complete. All areas of a paint puddle must be mixed or you will never be able to mix a consistent flat colour.
- Important mixtures of large quantities of colour may be saved in a piece of plastic wrap. Cut a large square, place paint in centre, fold up corners and twist into a paint “bomb,” and tape close. To remove the paint, punch a tiny hole with a knife, and squeeze paint onto palette. If you are using acrylic paint, the hole will dry and seal the paint inside. Colours may be saved for up to a month in this manner.
- Do not throw unwanted paint in the sink, but scrape it instead into the trash. It is environmentally sound and keeps the plumbing clear.

## Applying paint

- When ruling lines in paint, use a ruling pen. The paint mixture is wetter than normal so it will flow easily from the pen. Too wet it will blob out. Load paint in the tip with a brush. Rule the lines against the edge of a raised ruler. If the ruler is flat to the surface, the paint will bleed under the ruler. Test it first on a scrap of similar paper. Airbrush medium may be added to assist in the flow of the paint.
- Low tack masking tape may also be applied to dry surfaces. Then you can paint over its edge and remove while the paint is still wet. This will achieve a straight edge. If the tape sticks while being removed, use a bit of rubber cement thinner or a warm hair-dryer air to loosen the tape. Stick the torn paper back with matte medium.
- Use as little graphite as possible in your preparatory drawing. Paint edges once. Painting twice will give you twice the chance to mess up. Edges of high contrast are especially important. They must be clean and

smooth. Colours of equal value will not be as critical.

- A pointed red sable brush is best for painting flat areas. Acrylic brushes are stiffer and leave textures in the paint. Brushes must be cleaned up with hand soap and warm water. Hot water may melt the glues holding your bristles together. All paint must be removed and then soap must be washed out too.
- Some paints will require several coats to become opaque and lay flat. The paint should be dry between coats. You cannot paint wet on wet and get a flat area.
- When painting, paint lighter colours first. Dark colour covers the lighter colours more easily. If paint is applied in the wrong place, wipe it off right away with a damp cloth or tissue. Dry any residue and then paint over. If you paint yellow over black, you will have to paint many coats, drying between each one until the colour is flat and covers the black opaquely.
- When matching colours or touching up with acrylic, you must make the mixture lighter than the colour to be matched. Acrylic paints will dry slightly darker.
- If a colour will not cover an area well, try adding black or white (e.g. Alizarin Crimson & Ultramarine Blue). This will make it easier to cover the area, but you will lose some of the colour brilliance. This is especially useful for transparent colours like Ultramarine or Alizarin.

## Oops...

- Paint on clothes. Wash out right away with cold water and soap. Hot water will set the stain.
- Rubber cement does not stick to paint. For a permanent bond, use matte medium or varnish. Gloss medium makes a shiny surface. Matte medium should also be used to collage.