

Digital Design 09-10

Location:

Art Room and Mac Lab
M, Tu, Thu, Fri
1:45 – 2:35 pm

Teacher:

Onah Helgesson
School: 646-8236 ext 216

Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 330pm to 430 pm (by appointment)

Suggested Computer Programs:

Adobe Photoshop
Adobe Indesign
Adobe Illustrator

Texts: (available at Samy's Camera and other book stores)

Required :*Quick Start Guide to Adobe Photoshop*

Recommended: *Photography by London, Upton, Kobre, Brill*

Adobe Photoshop for Photographers by Martin Evening

Materials required:

Digital Camera (at least 3 mega pixels with manual settings)

Thumb Drive (at least 500mb)

Compact flash card (if you want to use the school cameras)

Spiral Bound Sketchbook (at least 9 in X 12 in)

3-Ring Binder

Drawing pencils (4h, hb, 4b)

Pencil sharpener

Art gum eraser

Thin black pen

Scissors

Teaching Approach

I believe that everyone has the potential to be creative and artistic. Art is a universal form of communication and self-expression. I encourage a safe, non-competitive learning environment where everyone shares his or her skills and knowledge. In the classroom we focus on analysis rather than criticism and acknowledge that we are all on our own personal journey in discovering our artistic voices. I see myself as a facilitator that helps each student travel along his or her own creative path.

Prerequisite: Art Foundation Course or equivalent

Course Description

This is a course that focuses on photography and graphic design. Students will review lighting, composition and the elements and principles of successful design, while becoming proficient in the use of Adobe Photoshop. We will learn how a camera works, how to take successful photos and how to manipulate the photographs using computers. We will learn how to control lighting in our in-house studio and have a few off site photo shoots as well. After becoming proficient at the art of photography we will enter the world of graphic design where students will be given more complex assignments. They will have to deepen their knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and also learn the basics of Adobe Indesign and Illustrator. They will be asked to record all the steps of their design process, from initial brainstorming to final layout, and present them to the class. We will also touch on advertising and marketing.

Throughout the semester we will work on and with Oak Grove's Arts of Inquiry (students will observe, question, fact-find, conduct original research, and engage in self-reflection), Communication (they will speak, write and listen), Academia (they will learn to present work according to the highest academic standards), Engagement (they will learn about what motivates them, develop a sense of self-direction, examine their own thinking, and learn about learning), Aesthetics (they will experience a sensitivity and appreciation to many forms of arts, they will continue to discover the artist within and find many ways and mediums to express themselves artistically), and Caring and Relationship (they will develop self-understanding of how they are creative in their life and appreciation for how others express themselves creatively in diverse ways. They will see how creativity has been expressed in different cultures and learn to appreciate the diversity and what is being communicated)

Goals of a Visual Arts Education

Art in school is both a body of knowledge and a series of activities. Fundamentally, learning in art has four major components. The goal of art education is the development of these areas:

- *By making art (art production);
- *By responding to and making judgments about the properties and qualities that exist in visual forms (art criticism);
- *By acquiring knowledge about the contributions artists and art make to culture and society (art history)
- *By understanding the nature, meaning, and value of art (aesthetics).

Homework:

Students should expect to spend an average of 1 1/2 to 2 hours per week on homework for this class.

Illness (unless grave) is not an excuse not to do homework. When a student cannot come to class s/he should bring the work due on the first day that they return to school. Should a student nonetheless miss homework s/he can gain an extra point by doing extra credit.

I do not, under any circumstances, accept late assignments, although I will note that they are done—this may help a grade if it is in between two grades at the end of the semester.

Classroom Guidelines

Be prepared for class – bring CAMERA, sketchbook, pencils, etc. to class everyday.

Be to class on time.

Listen to and follow directions – ask questions.

Respect the people, equipment and furnishings in the art room. Get permission to use other's materials.

Use all tools safely and properly.

Be honest and accountable for your actions.

Use your time wisely – stay on task and work towards project and assignment objectives.

Work quietly – use appropriate language and have appropriate conversations.

Be responsible for work area and tools – clean up after yourself!

If you miss a class check with Onah to make up work

Personal music players are allowed during certain projects

Computer used only for collecting info related to an art project

Save all of your work (you'll need it for your portfolio for the end of each semester)

Positive feedback to others and yourself is encouraged

Come with an open mind and willingness to try new things

Have a positive attitude – you CAN do it!

Guidelines on Class Behavior:

When students are excessively disruptive in class and do not respond to requests to end the behavior, I will ask them to leave the class. Parents, the Dean, and the High School Director will be contacted. They will be asked to write a 2-3 page typed double-spaced essay in order to reflect on their behavior and its meaning. If it comes to the point that I have to ask a student to leave the class a second time, they will be asked to write a 5 page essay to reflect on their behavior and both the Head of School and the students' parents will be contacted. A third incident could be cause for suspension or dismissal.

Attendance:

Students are required to follow school policy on attendance: if students miss 10 or more classes (not only days) during a semester, whether excused or not, their course grade will automatically be a C (or lower if that is where their grade is). Attendance will be taken at the start of every class. It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of their attendance record; I will not remind them of it. Should you miss a class, you are responsible for catching up. You should assume that you missed something important and find out what that is. I will not remind you.

Tardiness:

Students are required to be on time. Tardiness will be noted down at the start of every class. The definition of tardiness is: to arrive in class after the clock in-class, which runs on radio-controlled time, indicates class has started. It therefore makes sense to come a little early to class and to wear and consult a watch. If students are late 10 or more times in a semester their course grade will be dropped by a full grade (e.g. from a C to a D, or D to F). It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of their tardiness record; I will not remind them of it. Should you come late to class, you are responsible for catching up.

You should assume that you missed something important and find out what that is. I will not remind you.

Student Needs

Students need to bring to class for every class:

1. A Digital Camera
2. A Thumb Drive
3. Working pens, pencils and color pencils.
4. A binder in which they can store notes, handouts, and their graded materials without losing them.
5. Their sketchbook
6. Their textbook(s).

--Students are responsible for staying organized and for not losing their books, notebooks, handouts, and graded materials. It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of their grades; I will not remind them of it.

--In addition students need access at home to a working computer with Internet access, a word processing program and a working COLOR printer with standard white 8 ½ by 11 printing paper.

Assessment

Assessment is the process of judging in terms of criteria. Assessment is an integral part of expected learning outcomes. Criteria are expected outcomes and observable evidence of learning. The main purpose of assessment should be to improve teaching and learning and to measure student's progress. Evaluation of each student will be by the following methods:

*Projects – 40%	Grading Scale:
*Portfolio Review/ Final– 10%	100-90 = A
*Sketchbooks/Binder –10%	89-80 = B
*Homework –10%	79-70 = C
*Weekly progress/ Effort in class – 30%	69-60 = D
	Below 60 = F

Grading Rubric

Most hands on assignments will be evaluated using the “Assessment Criteria for Art Rubric” that is attached to this syllabus

Due date and late policy

Late or partially completed assignments will not be accepted unless due to an excused absence.

Extra Credit

Extra credit may be earned by attending any art related function outside of normal school/art class activities; such as museum exhibitions, art walks, artist openings/receptions, etc. Proof of attendance will be required and the credit earned will be dependent on specific event.

Sketchbooks, Portfolios and Binders

You will be required to keep a record of all of your homework and assignments in your sketchbook, portfolio and binder. You are expected to keep all work done on this course during the entire school year. **DO NOT THROW ANYTHING AWAY!!** Your work will be reviewed at least twice a semester.

Art Exhibitions

You are required to exhibit at least one art piece in the Awesome Art Exhibition at the Ojai Valley Museum and in both the Fall and Spring HS Showcases.

Class Participation

There are five criteria for class participation

1. Students get involved in class discussions by making comments related to the homework and in class projects
2. Students prepare themselves for the class by doing the homework.
3. Students help the teacher create a relaxed but also serious and educational environment.
4. Students show the teacher, fellow students, and visitors proper respect.
5. Students take appropriate notes in class, work focused on in class projects and do not interrupt class needlessly.

Class Discussion

Students will frequently participate in class discussions about the course material and finished art pieces. The intention here is twofold, firstly to see if we can discover new insights and ways of understanding through sharing our critical and analytical thoughts and opinions on the subject material, and secondly to reinforce mastery of the material and make it our own.

Class discussions have another component however: learning about others and ourselves. When we discuss topics about which we will have divergent opinions we often feel a range of emotions across the scale from strong agreement to strong disagreement. In this class it will be important to learn about this dimension of being with other people as well and to not only focus on the course material. The intention of this aspect of class discussion is also twofold, firstly to create a supportive environment where we can help the person speaking to go deeper into what is alive in them and help them verbalize that, and secondly to create an atmosphere where we look afresh at what is going on inside of us, trusting that we can discover new understandings and insights about who we are.

Class discussions are an integral part of an Oak Grove education. Students learn about and apply skills from Oak Grove's Art of Communication and the Art of Caring & Relationship as well as from the Art of Inquiry and the Art of Engagement. Participation in class discussions consists of discussing readings and content, caring for others and participating in a movement of discovery and will be part of the course grade.

Weekly In-Class Schedule

During our 4 class periods a week we will discuss the homework (usually Tuesday, Thursday and Friday), we will work on hands on projects (most days), we will have

group class reviews of assignments (at least once a week), we will preview the next day's homework (Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays).

Course Outline (this is an approximate schedule and may vary during the year)

Fall Term

- Sep 2-4 Intro to Course
 “How does a Camera Work?”
 Brief History of Photography

- Sep 8-11- Shutter Speed, Aperture, ISO
 Portrait Photography Assignment
 Intro to Mac Lab
 Assign computers
 Intro to Photoshop
 Interface
 File Management
 Bridge
 Workspace
 Pixel Basics

- Sep 14-18- Lighting
 Manual settings
 Portrait Black and White Assignment
 Tonal Adjustments
 History Palette
 Print

- Sep 21-25 HS Camping Trip

- Sep 28 –Oct 2 Studio Photography Assignment
 Photoshop
 Tonal Adjustments
 Color Adjustments

- Oct 5-9 Full Body Portrait Assignment
 Photoshop
 Working in Layers

- Oct 13-16 Still Life Assignment
 Photoshop
 Choosing colors
 Selection

- Oct 19-23 Color theory
 Complimentary Color Assignment
 Children Portrait Assignment

Oct 26-30	B+W/ Color Assignment Meiners Oaks Assignment Photoshop Tools Layers Selection
Nov 2- 6	How to use a scanner Collage Assignment Photoshop Export Retouching Brushes Compositing Type
Nov 9-13	Collage Assignment Photoshop Layers and Masks
Nov 16- 20	Guy Webster Studio Photoshop Exposure Refocus
Nov 23-24	Morphed Portrait Assignment Photoshop Layer Effects Filters
Nov 30-Dec 4	Prep For HS Showcase Photoshop Review
Dec 7-12	Final due Dec 7, Poster Presentations
Dec 14-15	Poster Presentations
<i>Spring Term</i>	
Jan 11- 15	Mini Projects
Jan 19-22	Mini Projects
Jan 25-29	Photography Review
Feb 1-5	Intro to Graphic Design

Logo Assignment
Composition
Color Usage
“What makes a successful logo?”

Feb 8-12 Intro to Illustrator
Intro to Indesign
Logo Assignment

Feb 16-19 Logo Assignment

Feb 22-26 Logo Assignment

Mar 1-5 Logo Assignment

Mar 8-12 Contour Drawings 1 Assignment
“Computer Generated Fine Art”

Mar 15-19 Contour Drawings 2 Assignment

Mar 22- 26 Teen Snack Assignment
Advertising
Marketing
Pitching your Product

SPRING BREAK

Apr 12- 16 Teen Snack Assignment

Apr 19-23 Teen Snack Assignment

Apr 26-30 Teen Snack Assignment

May 3-7 CD Assignment
Refined Graphics
Type Setting

May 10-14 CD Assignment

May 17- 21 Surreal Assignment
Digital Art

May 24-28 Final Project due Thu May 27, Hs Showcase Prep

June 1-4 Final Project Presentations

Finals

Winter Final due Thu, Dec 11

The 1st semester final will be a research poster project in which you will be researching an artist from any century and creating a poster portraying the following information:

- Portrait of a Photographer or Graphic Designer**
- Name of the artist, dates and period of art (ex. - Impressionism, Renaissance, Pop)
- Birth date and location
- Where they lived and studied, perhaps a map of the area (optional)
- A brief biography including: major accomplishments, what made their work unique or changed the direction of art, what style of art did they produce, was the work of this artist accepted by the people of the time, what were this artist's most famous works and where are they today, did this artist create portraits, landscapes, or abstracts, what seems to be the favored subject matter of this artist, how did this artist learn art techniques (art school, taught by a master, self-taught)
- Timeline that relates the artist's life to important art periods and world events
- At least 3 visual illustrations of artist's work – print images from sites online in color

Poster Guidelines:

- Use a poster board as your background
- Utilize any art materials to create handmade poster
- Craftsmanship extremely important
- Good design and layout
- Format is viewer-friendly and information is clearly presented

Summer Final due Thu, May 27

1 digital art piece

At least 11" x 17" in size

Use at least 4 techniques that we have used in class

Include at least 2 elements and 1 principle of design

1 page typed, double spaced artist statement

Address the following questions:

When do you make art?

Why do you make art?

What is your history as an artist?

What is art to you?

How are you creative in what you do?

1 page typed, double spaced visual analysis of your work

Include Description, Reflection, and Formal Analysis (refer to handout on visual analysis)

BE PREPARED TO SPEAK ABOUT YOUR WORK IN CLASS

THIS WORK WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR THE HIGHSCHOOL SHOWCASE