ART 4 Course Outline as of Fall 2012

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: ART 4   Title: PRINCIPLES OF COLOR
Full Title: Principles of Color
Last Reviewed: 5/12/2025

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	2.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	35.00
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	4.00	6	Lab Scheduled	70.00
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	6.00		Contact Total	105.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 70.00   Total Student Learning Hours: 175.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable
Grading: Grade or P/NP
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP
Also Listed As:
Formerly:

Catalog Description:
The study and use of color as an element of art and design. Students are given creative problems exploring the interaction of color and the principles of color harmony.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Course Completion of ENGL C1000 (or ENGL 1A)

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: The study and use of color as an element of art and design. Students are given creative problems exploring the interaction of color and the principles of color harmony. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Course Completion of ENGL C1000 (or ENGL 1A)
Limits on Enrollment:
Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities	Fall 1981	
CSU GE:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	C1	Arts	Fall 1990	
IGETC:	Transfer Area		Effective:	Inactive:
	3A	Arts	Fall 1981	

CSU Transfer: Transferable   Effective: Fall 1981   Inactive:

UC Transfer: Transferable   Effective: Fall 1981   Inactive:

CID:
CID Descriptor: ARTS 270   Color Theory
SRJC Equivalent Course(s):   ART4

Certificate/Major Applicable:
Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate perception and awareness of visual elements of color, such as color grading, value, the interaction of color, and color harmony.
2. Demonstrate perception and awareness of visual relationships which use color as an organizing principle, such as aerial perspective, warm and cool colors, simultaneous contrast, and subtraction principles.
3. Describe color compositions, both verbally and in writing, using a vocabulary of terms pertaining specifically
to color usage.
4. Develop hand skills necessary for basic mastery of various color such as pallette knife, pallette, brush, acrylic paint, and painting ground.
5. Perform analytical operations necessary to color match by applying knowledge of value, hue and saturation.
6. Make critical aesthetic judgments through critique.
7. Implement the creative color process which includes both the development of disciplined work habits and the practice of hand skills, as well as risk-taking and experimentation.
8. Analyze examples of master color usage by contemporary artists and designers.
9. Develop expertise to present work professionally in a portfolio format.
10. Identify health and safety issues that could arise from the use of color mediums.

Topics and Scope:

The primary intent of Art 4 is visual literacy and performance in color usage using specific media in a studio setting. This includes:
1. Basic elements of color (value, hue, saturation, color grading), the interaction of color, color

harmony, and contrast.
2. Decisions and judgments about elements in color composition.
3. Color techniques and elements
   a. color mixing
   b. color toning
   c. color matching
   d. optical mixing
   e. transparent color
4. Use and care for the tools (paint, medium, brushes, pallette knife etc.)
5. Introduction ot concepts, elements and art historical precedents of color usage.
6. Color compositional, expressive and technical concepts.
7. Group critique of color problems and assignments.
8. Color systems used by designers and artists including additive and subtractive color mixing, and the color primary system using six primaries.
9. The three main properties of color: hue, value, and saturation.
10. Color wheel, value scale, and studies showing mixtures of tints, shades, and tones.
11. Designer composition of major principles of color harmony: monochrome, analogous, triad, complements, and split-complements.
12. Spatial effects of color including aerial perspective and advancing and receding color illusions.
13. Josef Albers and the relativity and interaction of color, simultaneous contrast, and subtraction principles.
14. Optical color, painterly techniques, and mixing principles.
15. Master colorist deconstruction and homage.

Assignment:

1. Each portfolio will contain one each of the following assignments:
a. 9-step Gray Scale
b. Cube--3D illusion with value
c. Standards and the six primary system
d. Admising between warm and cool primaries to create various levels of saturation
e. Double primary color wheel
f. Mising tint, tone, shade
g. Chromatic blacks and tones
h. Basic color harmonies and contrasts
i. Discords
j. Building color combinations
k. Abstract composition
l. Transparency and illusion
m. Optical mixing
n. Paint application techniques
o. Artist analysis
p. Color atmosphere and location compositon
q. Portfolio analysis

2. Final Project self-portrait based upon Joseph Alber's ' Homage to the Square'

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

None, This is a degree applicable course but assessment tools based on writing are not included because problem solving assessments and skill demonstrations are more appropriate for this course.

Writing 0 - 0%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Homework problems and exercises applying principles of color

Problem solving 30 - 40%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Various color mixing exercises and composition problems.

Skill Demonstrations 20 - 30%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

None

Exams 0 - 0%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Completed portfolio of work finished over the semester; attendance, growth, and class participation.

Other Category 30 - 40%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:
The Elements of Color. Itten, J. Van Nostrum Rienhold: 1970 (Classic)
The Interaction of Color. Albers, Josef. Yale University: 2006 (Classic)