

CS 72.1A Course Outline as of Fall 2025

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: CS 72.1A

Title: ADOBE INDESIGN 1

Full Title: Adobe InDesign 1

Last Reviewed: 9/11/2017

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	6	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

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: CS 72.11A

Catalog Description:
An introduction to desktop publishing using Adobe InDesign. Students will create graphically rich layouts with formatted text to create fliers, brochures, slideshows, promotional materials, and newsletters for print, web and PDF.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended Preparation:
Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100

Limits on Enrollment:

Schedule of Classes Information:
Description: An introduction to desktop publishing using Adobe InDesign. Students will create graphically rich layouts with formatted text to create fliers, brochures, slideshows, promotional materials, and newsletters for print, web and PDF. (Grade or P/NP)
Prerequisites/Corequisites:
Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 100 or ESL 100
Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU GE:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
IGETC:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective: Fall 2002	Inactive:
UC Transfer:		Effective:	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Use InDesign to layout and design documents for print and electronic PDF (Portable Document Format) workflow according to industry standards.
2. Use beginning desktop publishing skills with InDesign to combine formatted text and graphics into multiple-page documents.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Manage the InDesign work area.
2. Set up multiple-page documents using InDesign layout techniques.
3. Print and create native documents and PDF files.
4. Integrate text and graphics into simple documents using frames.
5. Design text frames with multiple columns and path type.
6. Create a document that includes imported text and graphic files and InDesign paths.
7. Manage a document with stacked and grouped frames.
8. Analyze graphic file formats and apply text wrap features.
9. Apply the principles of common character and paragraph text formatting.
10. Design documents with text styles and master pages.
11. Manage workflow of fliers, brochures, slideshows, promotional materials, and newsletters for print and PDF output.

Topics and Scope:

I. Basic skills

- A. Using the tools and panels
- B. Navigational skills
- C. Frame essentials and formatting

II. Layout skills

- A. Working with multiple pages

- B. Using rulers and guides
- C. Applying simple master pages
- D. Understanding layers

III. Text

- A. Creating text frames, path type and importing text files
- B. Threading text into multiple columns
- C. Understanding principles of text formatting, including inline rules, OpenType fonts, leading, kerning, and tracking
- D. Formatting text with character and paragraph enhancements
- E. Creating and applying simple text styles
- F. Editing text
- G. Setting text frame properties
- H. Creating path type

IV. Graphics

- A. Creating paths
- B. Understanding image and vector graphic file formats
- C. Importing images and graphics, panning and cropping
- D. Managing image display quality
- E. Designing a text wrap

V. Arranging and combining objects

- A. Grouping
- B. Stacking
- C. Aligning and distributing
- D. Duplicating
- E. Transforming

VI. Workflow

VII. Other features

- A. Special effects with transparency, drop shadows and feathering
- B. Principles of color [process, spot, and RGB (red green blue)]
- C. Gradients
- D. Basic printing options
- E. Creating a PDF file for web, slideshow and print

Assignment:

Assignments will include:

1. Read between 10-20 pages per week from class notes, digital manuals, online references and recommended textbook
2. Four to seven quizzes and a final exam
3. Design the page layout for at least five different types of desktop publishing documents using rules, column, and margin guides
4. Integrate, pan and crop graphic files in a flier
5. Create a promotional document enhanced with text-wrapping around imported images and vector graphics
6. Apply transformations to create an imposition of business cards
7. Format frames, text and objects with spot colors, gradients, and tints and correctly apply RGB (red green blue) and CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black) colors
8. Create a 3-fold brochure with formatted text, applying the principles of text styles, leading, kerning, and tracking
9. Organize a complex magazine cover with layers
10. Design a marketing document using multiple variations of character and paragraph styles
11. Enhance a title page with special effects, including drop shadows, feathering, transparency,

- path type, and inline rules
- 12. Create PDF files for print, web and slideshow
- 13. Build a document using InDesign paths and frames

Projects will include:

1. an eBrochure demonstrating appropriate workflow for web based document
2. a Capstone project building a complex, multi-page marketing newsletter over several weeks of the semester project

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 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.

Assignments and course projects

Problem solving
40 - 60%

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

None

Skill Demonstrations
0 - 0%

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

Four to seven quizzes and a final exam.

Exams
40 - 60%

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

None

Other Category
0 - 0%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Real World Adobe InDesign CC. Kvern, Olav and Blatner, David and Bringhurst, Bob. Peachpit Press. 2013