

Art 3 - Introduction to Art & Design (2273)

TTH 1:30pm-4:30pm Location: PC130

Instructor Information

Name: Christopher Synicky

Office Location: PC 129

Office Hours: MTWTH 11:00am-12pm or By Appointment via Zoom

Textbook: None (suggested Design Basics by Lauer/Pentak)

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I will do my best to make this course an excellent and safe learning experience for you – well-organized, interesting, relevant, with meaningful assignments and the support you need to succeed. I will take suggestions for improving the learning environment seriously. I will do my best to grade your work fairly and in a timely fashion.

I am a proud supporter of the LGBTQ community, Dreamers, BLM, Veterans, and I am committed to supporting students with disabilities. I will always approach issues with a nonjudgmental attitude and an open-mind. I believe that our goal in earning a higher education is not only expanding our ability to become more culturally sensitive, but also learn to creatively problem solve. My mission statement as your teacher is to connect the importance of what we learn in class to real world applications. I want to work with you to help you succeed. Please talk to me, since only you can properly communicate your situation. Syllabus provides a list of helpful on and off campus resources. Please always remember - I am on your side!

Course Introduction

I appreciate it when students pay attention to class happenings, when you're willing to try new things and to ask questions, and are not scared of getting things wrong.

This class is an opportunity to practice "professionalism," in addition to learning about design. In design, and in a lot of other areas, being professional includes thinking carefully, doing work that's well beyond the minimum of quality, being respectful and courteous to others, and meeting obligations without fuss. For this class specifically, professionalism means:

- Doing the work – The learning activities in this class are carefully selected and offered to help you learn. I strive to avoid busywork. If you don't understand why we're doing something, please ask! Since we're remote, you will need to exercise more personal initiative than if we were meeting face to face, and that's a great skill to have for your future.
- Professional courtesy – Come on time, prepared, and tune in the whole time. Pay attention, listen to others and be ready to talk and participate. If you can't attend a class meeting, make sure you contact another student to see what you missed and fully participate in the digital interactions.

This class will demand significant time, at least 7 hours per week, depending on the assignment. Calendar the time!

The course is organized into cumulative assignments in the form of exercises and projects. Each assignment topic will contain tutorial videos and demonstrations, assignment examples, critique discussions, learning outcomes, lectures and handouts.

This course is cumulative which means that you will need to complete the exercises in sequential order to be successful. For example, in mathematics, it would be really difficult to understand multiplication without first comprehending addition, right? Design is the same!

Course Information

Catalog Description

An introductory studio course in the fundamentals of art and design using shape, value, texture, line, pattern, color and space through exercises in drawing, painting, and collage. The course is accepted for transfer at both the UC and CSU systems.

Prerequisites

None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe visual composition by using a vocabulary of terms pertaining specifically to art and design.
2. Create a portfolio that synthesizes design elements such as line, value, texture, positive and negative shape, and color principles.
3. Practice various techniques, such as drawing, collage and painting.
4. Demonstrate the ability to look at a work of design or art and evaluate how the visual elements communicate to the viewer.

Objectives:

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

1. Develop perception and awareness of visual elements such as line, shape, value, texture, color, volume and space.
2. Define basic color terms such as hue, complement, analogous, saturation, grey scale and color wheel.
3. Develop perception and visual awareness of visual composition and ways of organizing the visual elements such as positive/negative shape, harmony/tension, unity/variety, organic/geometric.
4. Employ hand skills necessary for the basic mastery of the control of various artists' media including: charcoal, paper, acrylic paint and tools such as palette knives, brushes and X-acto knives.
5. Develop and exercise ability to perform basic measuring, scaling and positioning necessary to organize the two-dimensional picture plane.
6. Exercise ability to make critical aesthetic judgments through class critiques.
7. Combine risk-taking and experimentation with disciplined work habits as part of the creative process.

8. Examine and analyze examples of fine art and applied design, historical and contemporary, within a global context.
9. Define health and safety issues that could arise from the use of artists' materials.
10. Describe the values, themes, methods and history of the discipline and identify realistic career objectives related to a course of study in the major.

Technical Requirements (Canvas)

Hardware

- PC/Mac
- Monitor with minimum resolution of 1024x768
- Speakers or headphones

Software

- [Adobe Acrobat Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) (https://get.adobe.com/reader/)
- [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)
- [Java](https://java.com/en/download/) (https://java.com/en/download/)
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe Creative Suite

Students' Obligations

Minimum Technical Skills

You are expected to have basic computer knowledge including, but not limited to:

- Using email and attachments
- Downloading, editing, saving, and submitting files
- Copying and pasting
- Downloading and installing software

Clean Up

It is important to make sure the room is clean at the end of each class session. This includes making sure your chair is pushed in, your area is clean, and all trash goes in trashcan. Failure to do so will count against participation grade.

Lockers

To avoid not being prepared with necessary materials on any give class, I advise utilizing a locker. You will be required to clean out your locker at the end of the semester.

Standards of Conduct

The Sonoma County Junior College District supports a safe, productive learning environment to foster intellectual curiosity, integrity and accomplishment as defined in the District Mission and Goals.

The District holds that students shall conduct themselves in a manner which reflects their awareness of common standards of decency and the rights of others. Interference with the District's mission, objectives, or community life shall be cause for disciplinary action.

A student is defined as a person who is currently enrolled as a student in a credit or noncredit class or in community service offerings of the District; engaged in District activities in preparation for enrollment; or enrolled as a student or preparing for enrollment at the time of an alleged violation of the Standards of Conduct.

In some circumstances these standards of conduct may apply to conduct that occurs off campus when the Conduct Dean determines there is reasonable association with the District. In cases involving sexual misconduct, the jurisdiction will be determined by the Title IX Officer/Vice President, Human Resources.

[Policy 8.2.8: The full policy may be found here.](#)

[Procedure 8.2.8P: The full procedure may be found here.](#)

Do not have your cell phone out of your pocket, backpack, etc., during class time or you will be asked to leave the class for the remainder of the day.

Grading

Assignments in the form of projects and exercises will be given throughout the course. All assignments must be completed on time and will be due at the beginning of class on the due date, unless specified otherwise. Assignments not turned in on time at the beginning of class will be considered late. Late assignments will be graded down one entire grade for each day they are late, up to two class periods. Any work not turned in within the two class periods after due date will no longer be accepted and student will receive a zero for the assignment. Late final projects will not be accepted.

- *Exercises* are small assignments, worth fewer points than projects and are practiced to introduce a larger concept. Will be executed both at home and in the classroom and vary depending upon class necessity.
- *Projects* are larger assignments; worth approx. 50% of course grade and will combine multiple concepts. Will be executed both at home and in the classroom.

Grading Policy:

All assignments will be graded on a point system. The number of points per assignment will vary depending on the type of assignment. Grade evaluation is as follows (as applicable to a given assignment):

- how well the student fulfills the goals of a given assignment, comprehension of concepts
- technical quality and overall craft
- aesthetic quality/visual effectiveness of design
- work habits, time management and time commitment as evident in finished work
- creative and conceptual involvement and quality
- please note that a heavy time commitment does not necessarily mean a high grade on any given assignment

Grading Breakdown:

Exercises (total 200 points, 25% of total course points):

- Exercise 1: Line /25
- Exercise 2: Shape Inventory /25
- Exercise 3: Positive and Negative Space /25
- Exercise 4: Balancing Act /25
- Exercise 5: Typography /25
- Exercise 6: Achromatic Value Scale /25
- Exercise 7: Color Wheel/Tints, Tones, & Shades /50

Projects (total 400 points, 50% of total course points):

- Project 1: Asymmetrical Balance /50
- Project 2: Pattern, Texture, Motif w/Typography /50
- Project 3: Compositional Structures /100
- Project 4: Self-Portrait /200

Other (total 200 points, 25% of total course points):

- Quiz 1: Principles and Elements of Design /25
- Quiz 2: Principles of Gestalt /25
- Test: Principles/Elements of Design, Gestalt, Color, Space and Value /50
- Descriptive Analysis Essay /100

Final Grade: total earned points/800 total points = %

Grading Scale:

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 79-70 C
- 69-60 D
- 60 –Below is Failing Grade

Final Exam Policy:

A student who does not take a final exam and who does not qualify for an incomplete will be assigned a failing grade for the exam/project. Note that this course has a lecture and lab final exam. Students are required to attend both final exam classes during finals week.

Late Work Policy

Late assignments will be graded down one entire letter grade for each day it is late, up to two class meetings. Any work over two class periods will not be accepted and student will receive a zero. Late final projects will not be accepted. If a student misses a due because due to illness, he or she must provide a doctor's note by EOD the assignment is due. Any documentation must be original.

Homework and Staying Focused

Please be aware that the general homework policy is for every 1 hour of class time, allow 2 hours for homework. Some assignments may take more time, depending upon your commitment towards the grading policy. Studio courses and projects are time consuming and may take hours to formulate, thus the project deadlines have been designed to give the student optimum time to execute. Stay focused and balanced throughout the semester as to not become overwhelmed near the due date of any given assignment.

Critiques and Quizzes & Tests

A critique is designed to constructively facilitate discussion to help evaluate any given assignment. Students are expected and required to participate. Lack of participation will impact project grading. The class will be forewarned before a quiz is given. For each project there will be a critique. Two quizzes will be given during the semester. Critiques will be conducted in both group, classroom and individual settings. A test on all terminology, principles and elements of design and Gestalt as well as value and color will also be given. Look to the course schedule for dates of tests and quizzes.

Participation and Attendance

Students are required to work during scheduled class time and are expected to be in class on time. Timely attendance is your responsibility; I do not want to waste class time reminding you about it, but you are accountable. If you miss a class, take the initiative to talk to a classmate about what you have missed, then to me about make up work.

Since this is a studio course, attendance and participation are mandatory. In order to participate you must be present and on time for each class. Each student must come prepared to each class with necessary materials, ready and engaged with a positive attitude. Poor work ethic, lack of materials (get a locker to house supplies), inadequate willingness, leaving early and habitual tardiness will result in low marks towards participation. If a student is working on any other assignment not pertaining to course or not on task with assigned material, student will be asked to leave and marked as absent for the day. Each student is required to fill out and sign an attendance sheet. Your final grade for the course will drop by 5% each class meeting the attendance sheet is late. Attendance sheet is due first class of the second week. We will take one 15 min. break at the half-way mark of class unless stated otherwise by the professor. Returning late from break will count as a late. Please begin clean-up only when prompted by instructor.

Absence Policy:

Being prompt and prepared for each class meeting is necessary to successfully complete the course. If you are late you will be marked absent for the meeting. Absences will affect your grade as follows:

- 1-2 absences will not affect grade
- 3 absences drop grade by 5%
- 4 absences drop grade by 10% (one letter grade)
- 5 absences drop grade by 15%
- 6 absences drop grade by 20%
- 7 absences, student will receive a failing grade or dropped if accrued before the drop date

Absences due to emergencies, such as accidents, death in the family, etc. may be excused at the professor's discretion after the two absences have been used. Must have appropriate documentation/proof of extenuating circumstances in order to have absence considered for removal.

It is the student's responsibility to find out what you missed during your absence. I advise that you obtain two student contacts at the beginning of the class to help retrieve any missed information. I will not repeat course information or demonstrations to students who were absent and an email asking what you missed will be ignored.

If a student is late 3 times it will count as an absence. Every late after will continue to count as an absence. Leaving the meeting early, lack of preparation, disruption of class, etc. will be marked as a late towards attendance.

Course Policies

Academic Integrity

All of the work completed in this course is expected to be your own. Plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated in this course. For more information, visit <https://rightsresponsibilities.santarosa.edu/academic-integrity>

Image Policies, Copyright, and Plagiarism:

- Students may not use Found Images in their student projects.
- Students may use photographs from the Public Domain in student projects if such use is approved by their professor, appropriate to the project, and they do not claim them as their own.
- Students may not use Stock Images in their student projects with the following exception. Students may use stock photos when working on historical projects or historical documentation if approved by their professor.
- The art/design do not allow the use of clip art in student projects.
- The faculty do not support infringement in any project.
- The department does not support infringement (the unauthorized use of someone else's work) in any form.

Response Time and Feedback

The best way to communicate with me is through campus email address csynicky@santarosa.edu I will respond to all questions within 48 hours at the latest, but often sooner. You are also welcomed to contact me via Instagram [@christopher_synicky](https://www.instagram.com/christopher_synicky) (I use this as an educational tool and highly recommend that you subscribe) or schedule (24 hours in advance) a Zoom meeting during my office hours.

If you need an answer to something right away that others in the class might be able to clarify, contact me during office hours. I highly recommend connecting with a few of your classmates, creating a text thread for class questions, and creating discussion forums (discord, groupMe, Instagram, FaceBook, etc.).

College Student Support

The college offers students many support & services to help improve your overall college experience & provide help for those students who are struggling. Please visit the [student resource](#) page on the website or a list of helpful links and support systems. Use these! If you are having any trouble please allow me to assist you. I am here to help you in anyway I can.

Important Semester Dates

Day Class Begins:	Tuesday, August 17, 2021
Day Class Ends:	Thursday, December 9, 2021
Day/Time of Final Exam:	Thursday, December 16, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:45 PM
Last Day to Add without instructor's approval:	Sunday, August 22, 2021
Last Day to Add with instructor's approval:	Sunday, September 5, 2021
Last Day to Drop and be eligible for enrollment/course fee refund:	Sunday, August 29, 2021
Last Day to Drop without a 'W' symbol:	Sunday, September 5, 2021
Last Day to Drop with a 'W' symbol:	Sunday, November 14, 2021
Last Day to Opt for Pass/No Pass:	Friday, December 17, 2021

Course Materials

General Materials:

- mechanical pencil (2B or 4B graphite pencil)
- eraser/kneaded eraser
- x-acto blade #11
- cutting mat 11" x 17" or larger
- scissors
- blue painters tape (Scotch brand)
- 18" cork bottom ruler
- 6" or larger triangle ruler
- compass
- Copic Sketch Markers (Cool or Neutral 1,3,5,7,9,Black)
- color wheel
- Value finder & Gray Scale

Paper:

- Bristol Board Pad 14" x 17"
- Tracing paper Pad 14" x 17"
- 15"x20" medium weight illustration board

Paint Brushes: (refer to notes during materials introduction)

- Wash/Bright 3/4" & 1/2"
- Shader/Flat #6
- Round #0

All brushes are synthetic, sable, with short handles. Loew Cornell, Robert Simmons (Sable), and American Painter Golden Taklon are good quality. Blick brand brushes are decent quality.

Paint:

Liquitex Heavy Body Artist Colors (*Do not buy Basics brand or any other*)

- Titanium White 4.65 oz
- Ivory Black 2 oz
- Naphthol Crimson 2 oz
- Manganese Blue Hue 2 oz
- Cadmium Yellow Light 2 oz
- *Optional or (may be necessary):* Permanent Green Deep, Dioxazine Purple, Cadmium Orange

Additional Paint Supplies:

- container for water
- palette 14" x 17" disposable
- terrycloth or towel
- paintbrush soap
- palette knife #44

Art Stores:

[SRJC Bookstore](#)

[Riley Street Art Supply](#)

[Village Art Supply](#)

SRJC Petaluma Course Schedule

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
1	<p><u>Introduction:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Syllabus• Course Materials• Blackboard <p><u>Lecture:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is Design? Line and Movement <p><u>HO:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principles of Design• Elements of Design• Line	<p><u>Exercise #1:</u> Line & Movement: Content through Form</p>	<p>Class Zoom Meeting @ 9am Wed.</p> <p>Class Zoom Meeting @ 9am Fri.</p>	N/A

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
2	<p><u>Topic:</u> Gestalt Theory</p> <p><u>Lecture:</u> Gestalt Theory</p> <p><u>H/O:</u> Gestalt</p>	<p><u>Exercise #1:</u> Line & Movement: Content through Form cont.</p>	<p><u>Discussion #1:</u> Line: Content and Form</p> <p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Group Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Exercise #1 due</p>

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
3	<p><u>Topic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shape • Unity with Variety • Repetition and Scale <p><u>Lecture :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shape, Scale and Proportion • Unity and Variety • Positive and Negative Space <p><u>H/O:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shape, Unity with Variety • Positive and Negative Space Figure Ground Relationships Equivocal or Ambiguous Space Relationships 	<p><u>Exercise #2:</u> Shape Inventory Exercise</p> <p><u>Exercise #3:</u> Dynamic Positive and Negative Space</p> <p><u>Exercise #4:</u> Meaning in Composition: Balancing Act</p> <p>Quiz: Elements and Principles of Design</p>	<p><u>Discussion #2:</u> Shape Inventory Exercise</p> <p>Class Meeting (zoom) WeF</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Exercise #2 due</p> <p>Exercise #3 due</p> <p>Exercise #4 due</p>

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
4	<p><u>Topic:</u> Balance</p> <p><u>Lecture:</u> Balance</p> <p><u>H/O:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Types of Balance • Balance Dynamics 	<p>Quiz: Gestalt Principles</p> <p>Adobe Illustrator/Photoshop Tutorial</p> <p><u>Project 1: Asymmetrical Balance - Unity within Variety w/Dynamic Positive and Negative Space</u></p>	<p><u>Discussion #3:</u> Meaning in Composition: Balancing Act</p> <p>Class/Group Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Project 1 due</p>
5	N/A	Work on Project 1	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Group Critique (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	N/A

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
6	<p><u>Topic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern and Texture, Typography <p><u>Lecture:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patter, Texture and Motif w/Typography <p><u>H/O:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern • Texture • Typography 	<p><u>Exercise #5:</u> Typography</p> <p><u>Project 2: Dynamic Typeface w/Pattern, Texture and Motif</u></p>	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p> <p>Group Critique (zoom) Fri.</p>	<p>Exercise #5 due</p> <p>Project 2 due</p>
7	<p><u>Topic:</u> Value</p> <p><u>Lecture:</u> Value & Spatial Effects</p> <p><u>H/O:</u> Value: Relative Degree of Lightness and Darkness</p>	<p>Work on Project 2</p> <p>Exercise #6: Achromatic Value Scale</p> <p>Paint Mixing Technique and Palette Strategies</p>	<p>Group Critique (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Exercise #6 due</p>

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
8	<p><u>Lecture:</u> Project 3: Compositional Structures with Spatial Effects (Achromatic Design)</p> <p><u>H/O:</u> Space Chiaroscuro Compositional Structures</p>	Project 3: Compositional Structures with Spatial Effects (Achromatic Design)	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	Project 3 due
9	N/A	Project 3: Step 1 & 2	<p>Group Critique (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	Step 1&2 due
10	N/A	Project 3: Step 3 & 4	<p>Group Critique (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	Step 3 & 4 due

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
11	<p><u>Topic:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color <p><u>Lecture:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Theory • Color Properties <p><u>H/O:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Theory • Color Properties • Simultaneous Contrast 	<p><u>Exercise #7:</u> Color Wheel, Tints, Tones, and Shades</p>	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Exercise 7 due</p>
12	<p><u>Lecture:</u></p> <p>Project 4: Self-Portrait: Complimentary Color Design</p>	<p>Work on Project 4</p>	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
13	<p><u>Lecture:</u></p> <p>Project 4: Self-Portrait: Complimentary Color Design</p>	<p>Project 4: Self-Portrait: Complimentary Color Design</p> <p>Step 1, 2 & 3</p>	<p>Class Meeting (zoom) Wed.</p> <p>Office Hours by Apt.</p>	<p>Project 4 due</p> <p>Steps 1, 2 & 3 due</p>

Week	Topic/Lecture	Activity/Assignment	Assessment/Effective Contact	Due Date
14	N/A	Test: Elements and Principles of Design, Gestalt, Value and Color Steps 4 & 5	Class Meeting (zoom) Wed. Office Hours by Apt.	Steps 4 & 5 due
15	N/A	Steps 6 & 7	Group Critique (zoom) Wed. Office Hours by Apt.	Step 6 & 7 due
16	N/A	Work on Project 4	Group Critique (zoom) Wed. Office Hours by Apt.	N/A
17	N/A	Work on Project 4	N/A	N/A
Finals Week	N/A	Final Project Critique	Final Project Critique	Final Project Due