

**Instructors**

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**Course Description**

This course is designed to be a prerequisite course for all Fine Arts and Practical Arts courses, including Ceramics & Sculpture, Drawing & Painting, Graphic Design, Photography, Journalism, CAD and Fashion Design. Students will explore visual communication as it applies to careers in fine and practical arts. Students will learn technical skills with traditional drawing and painting mediums as well as learn the basics of the Adobe software programs: Photoshop and Illustrator.

**Course Format**

This course is organized to provide students with assignments that will build skills that are relevant for the workplace and meet industry standards. Emphasis is in technical skills in both computer and traditional media.

The course is project based and hierarchical in its structure, in that assignments are built upon knowledge and skills learned in previous assignments. The students will work in a variety of media, including traditional materials such as colored pencil, pen and ink, gouache, and ceramic clay, as well as Photoshop and Illustrator.

**Course Objectives**

Students will...

1. Understand the principles of art and the elements of design, as these are the foundations of visual language. Apply these elements and principles in completed assignments, both by hand and on the computer.
2. Have a basic understanding of the tools and technologies of the design profession. This includes working knowledge of traditional media as well as utilizing Photoshop and Illustrator.
3. Learn more about various media to make informed decisions on how to complete a design project. This includes becoming familiar with four components of the graphic design solution: research, rough, revise, and ready.

**Grading**

Grade distribution will follow the same break down as in the Student Handbook.

**Exams**

There will be a final exam at the end of each semester. The exam is worth 20% of the overall grade. This exam will be project based.

**Assignments**

The assignments are project based. They will include lecture for content, demonstration of techniques and practice. Reflections are a component of the projects. There may also be quizzes and smaller assignments scattered throughout

the quarter. Projects make up a majority of your grade (75-85%). Quizzes and smaller assignments will make up the remainder of your grade. The final exam will be 20 % of your semester grade.

### **Time on Task**

The length of time required for each project varies. You are expected to use your class time to work on your projects and other class assignments, and your grade will be a reflection of how well you used your time.

### **Make Up Work**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out about missing assignments and make up the work.

### **Questions**

Please ask questions if you do not understand a concept or an assignment.

### **Expectations**

We expect you to be prepared for class, use class time to work on class assignments, listen, follow rules, participate, and be respectful.

### **Working on other assignments in class**

This is not study hall. You are not allowed to work on other class assignments during class time.

### **Misuse/Damage of Equipment**

Any misuse or damage to the equipment will not be tolerated and will result in a referral and possible withdrawal from class. You will be liable for replacing damaged equipment.

### **Surfing the Internet**

You are not allowed to use class time to surf the Internet. There will be certain assignments that will require you to use the Internet. We will advise you of these projects. You will lose computer privileges if you violate this rule.

### **Guest Lectures**

Throughout the year we will have the opportunity for guests to come in and speak to our class. You are expected to be an outstanding example of our school. If your behavior is inappropriate when we have a guest speaker you will be removed from class immediately.

### **Academic Honesty**

Every student is expected to produce his/her own work.  
Plagiarism is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.  
This includes COPYRIGHT violations!

### **Dual Enrollment**

This course qualifies for dual enrollment with Scottsdale Community College, SCC, and you can earn 1 credit in Fine Arts with the completion of an A or B. In a couple of weeks, there will be a representative from SCC that will come to FHHS and explain dual enrollment, the costs, and the procedures to you. We are excited to offer this opportunity to you, **please take advantage of it.**

## Positive Learning Environment

Instructors are expected to be professional, courteous, respectful and empathic to students.

- Begin and end class on time
- Be prepared for each class session
- Provide academic feedback and grade assignments in a timely manner
- Be available for individual consultation
- Clarify assignments and inform students of any adjustments to the class schedule

Students are expected to be reflective, courteous, respectful, and empathic to classmates, instructor, and other staff assisting in your learning.

- Be in class and be on time
- Be prepared for class sessions
- Participate in class activities
- Follow instructions and complete assignments
- Keep up with and turn in assignments by the due dates
- Put forth your best effort
- Ask questions when you don't understand
- Maintain knowledge of your grade status
- Contact instructor right away about concerns or situations that interfere with your success in class
- Comply with policies found in the student handbook

We are excited that we can offer this class to your students. Combining traditional and digital methods of art will give your students a unique opportunity to excel in the 21<sup>st</sup> century art world.

If you have any questions please let us know. Thank you.

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