

Fall 2015

FTA 1110

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University of New Orleans

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FTA 1110 Sec.-001

Basic Visual Design for Film, Theatre, and Communication Arts

Fall 2015

PAC 323

MW: 3:30-4:45

Kevin Griffith

PAC 325

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Phone: 504-280-6810

Office Hours/ Advising Hours:

TWTh: 8:00-10:00

Text: Mary Stewart: Launching the Imagination isbn 0.07.248540.x

Description: This foundation course is an introduction to the elements and principles of design.

Objectives: The intention of this course is not to impart information but to stimulate and provide a structure for imagination and inventiveness in visual design. The “problem solving” approach to teaching the class is intended to provoke and, engage the feeling, sensory, and thinking processes that precede and accompany creative activity.

Student Learning Objectives: After successfully completing this course the student will be able to:

Demonstrate a working knowledge over the elements and principles of design.

Analyze any creative work based of the evolution of form and visual order.

Discuss any work based on its form, content, and idea.

Structure: The daily class meetings will be mostly devoted to in-class discussions and critiques of homework assignments, and in-class exercises. Assignments may include visual studies, reading, writing, and research.

Expectations: I expect your attendance and participation at each class meeting. The dynamic that is created by all members of the class being present and prepared to participate is the basis of your learning experience.

It is better to be 15 minutes early than five minutes late. Often the most important information pertaining to the lesson will be presented at the beginning of the session.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Since it is impossible to contribute to class discussions you do not attend, your performance will suffer every time you miss a session. Thus, if you miss more than 3 classes you should expect a final grade of C or below. If you miss 6 classes or more you should expect a final grade of (F). Please note that there are no excused absences. If you arrive more than 20 minutes late for class you will not be given credit for attending class that day. **I solely reserve the right to abrogate the attendance policy in cases of extreme emergency.**

Grading: You will be given a grade for:

Your attendance, commitment, and participation in the class (100 pts.)
This is the most important thing you can do for your grade.

Your portfolio at mid-term and end of term (200 pts.)
Portfolios are cumulative, not selective: You must complete all assignments.

Final Project and Critique (100 pts.)

Not participating in the final class meeting and critique is grounds for failure

Grading Scale:

- A 91-100
- B 81-90
- C 71-80
- D 61-70
- F < 61

Evaluation: Some considerations for grading

1. Is the work conceptually inventive? Have you demonstrated a solid grasp of problem content? Is there a substantial engagement with ideas?
2. Is the composition visually compelling? Is every square inch fully engaged: Have colors been chosen well? Is the image unified? Balanced? Well crafted?
3. What was the nature of your learning process? Did you use class time effectively and come well prepared? Did you take risks? How many solutions did you invent for each problem? How frequent and substantial were your contributions to critiques?

Final Portfolio Due: Wednesday December 09, 2015

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.studentaffairs.uno.edu>.

Accommodations:

It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individualized basis, reasonable accommodations to students who have disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services as well as their instructors to discuss their individual needs for accommodations. For more information, please go to <http://www.ods.uno.edu>.

Concerning classroom conduct:

Civility in the classroom and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. Courteous behavior and responses are expected.