



2-D Design and Color Theory

ART 1311 03E

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025
T TH 8:00 – 10:50 am, room 202
8/25/2025 – 12/12/2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Mary Beth King, M.F.A. (
Office Location: Room 115 in Art Building
Office Hours: by appointment
Office Phone: 903-886-5208
Office Fax: 903-886-5987
University Email Address: Mary.King@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: **email**
Communication Response Time: Within 12 hours, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., not on weekends.

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) There is no required textbook for this class. Supplemental handouts will be given out and/or posted on D2L throughout the semester.

For questions on reserving a book or on research and citing, contact Research and Learning Head, Sarah Northam at the Waters Library, Sarah.Northam@tamuc.edu or 903-886-5714.

Software Required-You will need to have access to and be able to use Microsoft Office, with Microsoft Word the standard word processing software for projects, and PowerPoint for standard presentation software.

Students will need a computer or device to access D2L. Students must have the ability to take photos of their artwork and post to D2L and email to instructor when indicated.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

To help you to navigate D2L or Brightspace, all students are enrolled in: myLeo Online Student Resource Course 2021. <https://myleoonline.tamuc.edu/d2l/home/17951>

If you have further questions, contact Petra Strassberg Petra.Strassberg@tamuc.edu at the Office of Academic Technology or call 903.468.8780

FOR HELP WITH LOGGING IN, CONTACT THE HELP DESK AT HELPDESK@TAMUC.EDU If you want a closed caption option when viewing videos for each week's assignment, click on: watch on YouTube, then the box that contains the letters cc (closed caption button).

Course Description

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION: An exploration of the fundamental elements and organizing principles of two-dimensional design and its integration of color and color theory.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION: Assignments may include demonstrations, lectures, and videos that reference composition, color, the history of art, and specific media. Compositional layout and color mixing will be implemented through drawing, painting, and collage.

Course Purpose: The purpose of 2-D Design and Color Theory is to provide each student with a working knowledge of the elements of art, the principles of design, color interaction and theoretical concepts through a series of interrelated studio projects; and to assist the student in graphic skills development, understanding visual issues, ideas, and creative problem solving.

Course Goals: 2-D Design and Color Theory is designed to extend each student's basis of visual knowledge, critical thinking skills, and working discipline through the exploration of major color theories as well as the practical use and application of media as related to pictorial composition. Varying subject matter will be created, as well as an oral presentation on an artist of choosing. Information on materials, techniques and color nomenclature is provided and experienced through studio projects with a class critique evaluation process.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Translate ideas or objects in the physical world onto a two-dimensional surface.
2. Create designs using proportion, scale, color, value, line, shape, texture, direction, rhythm, contrast, pattern, repetition, variation, balance, and emphasis, gaining an understanding of the Elements of Art and Principles of Design.

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3. Develop a mastery of color mixing and an understanding of value.
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5. Advance visual, physical, and conceptual problem-solving abilities.
6. Work independently.
7. Discuss the content and technique involved in compositions in a thoughtful manner during class critiques, using art vocabulary.
8. Understand how to articulate the formal details of an artwork and the use of metaphor work to communicate emotional affect and/or cultural awareness.
9. Create a comprehensive body and quality of work.
10. Develop behavioral skills by acquiring a positive attitude toward self, other students, faculty, facilities, equipment, safety, organization, and housekeeping in the work area.
11. Carry out directions, meet deadlines, and meet attendance requirements.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Artist research assignment and oral 15-minute PowerPoint presentation using Microsoft Word. Ability to access and complete assignments on D2L and possibly Zoom.

Instructional Methods

-Completion of Projects on a timely basis. Once most of the class is finished with each Project, the class will move on to the next one. If student is not finished with their Project, they will need to complete on their own time and turn in by the deadline. There will also be smaller handouts and exercises to complete throughout the semester.

-Research assignment on a chosen artist, citing sources, 15-minute oral slide presentations, using at least 15 - 20 labeled images. (captions should include title, year, medium, size). For presentation, identify three elements of art and three principles of design that artist utilizes in their art. For help with research methods and citing sources, contact Research and Learning Head, Sarah Northam at the Waters Library, 903-866-5434, Sarah.Northam@tamuc.edu. A Research Guide and Tutorial may also be made available to students through the library. The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

-Participation in critiques.

-Excellent attendance and attitude. Preparedness and promptness with assignments and materials. Regularly check D2L for announcements, grades, etc.

-Basic safety skills are necessary, such as protecting skin and eyes from liquids or paints, disposing of paint and solvents in a proper manner, and keeping a safe, clutter free workspace.

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Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Excellent attendance & promptness. More than three unexcused absences will adversely affect grade. More than six unexcused absences could result in the student being administratively dropped. A tardy or leaving class early (unless with permission) will count as half an absence. If a student comes late to class it is their responsibility to notify the instructor after class. This applies to this in-person class (or possible live online Zoom format in the event of a Covid surge or other extenuating circumstance).
- Following directions on given assignments.
- Positive attitude, degree of involvement, contributions to class discussions and critiques.
- Respect towards classmates and instructor at all times.
- Dedicated scholarship in class work and homework.
- Submitting projects on D2L on time, turning in graded assignments to Instructor on time.
- Understanding of visual and art historical concepts.
- Professionalism. Come to class prepared with art and materials. **Phones must be put away and turned off at the beginning of each class and while the instructor is talking, or during critiques and presentations.** Students may listen to music only while working on projects once all announcements and demos have been given. No viewing of videos. This is an in-person class.
- Academic honesty at all times. There is zero tolerance for academic dishonesty in this class. Be sure that you understand what constitutes academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on exams, theft of instructional material or exams, representing the work of someone else as one's own, etc.). Academic dishonesty is a severe transgression in college and may result in referral to the Dean of Students, dismissal from class, expulsion from the University, and a failing grade.
- Completion of assignments by the given deadline. Students have access to Room 202 24/7 with student ID if they need additional time to refine projects or complete projects on time.
- Control and mastery of art media and techniques.
- Quality and improvement in work.
- Grading of Projects that are successfully executed in the areas of composition and color are based on **technique, presentation and craftsmanship, adherence to parameters of assignment, creativity when applicable.**
- Regularly check D2L for announcements, grades, etc.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

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A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

The following is a general guideline for understanding final grade:

A - Excellent: You should possess exceptional attitude, which is reflected in your participation, response to criticism and professional conduct. Your work must manifest remarkable achievement both in quantity and quality. Your ability to communicate ideas should exhibit noteworthy achievement.

B - Good: You should have a positive attitude, which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism. Professional conduct is expected. Your work must manifest high-quality achievement. You should possess sound, above-average ability to communicate your ideas.

C - Satisfactory: A positive attitude, which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct is expected. Your work must manifest acceptable achievement both in quality and quantity. You should possess satisfactory ability to communicate your ideas.

D - Poor: Exhibiting a below standard or indifferent attitude which is reflected in your critique participation, response to criticism and professional conduct could also result in this grade. A grade of D indicates your work is less than acceptable in quality and/or quantity. This grade could indicate your inability to satisfactorily communicate ideas.

F - Failure: If you possess an unacceptable attitude which is reflected in your lack of participation, response to criticism and professional conduct, and/or your work shows a pattern of low productivity and/or unacceptable quality you could receive a failing grade. Note: Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class.

Assessments

-Projects (6): 60%

-Artist Research Assignment- 15-minute oral slide presentation, and electronic

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submission consisting of 15-20 slides: 15%

-Daily Grade: 20% (attendance and promptness, attitude, six graded assignments, timely submission of Projects, preparedness, class participation in discussions and critiques, utilization of sketchbook)

-Final: 5%

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool

https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

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Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Please feel free to contact the instructor through email. Email mbking21@leomail.tamuc.edu, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., weekdays, not on weekends. Can meet in person by appointment in Room 115 or 202 in the Art Building. Grades entered in D2L within a week of end of project completion.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late assignments: Late assignments will not be accepted unless you make prior arrangements with the instructor before the due date. Your grade will be lowered for late work. If you know you are going to be absent when work is due you may turn work in early and not receive a penalty.

Class participation and promptness: Participation is required. It is important to come to class prepared so you can take part in the studio work and group discussions. You will be called upon even if you do not raise your hand. Be an active and positive learner. You are expected to arrive to class on time and stay the entire period (unless you have permission from Instructor to leave early), whether for an in-person or possible online Zoom format. Leaving early is the same as a tardy. A tardy is considered half an absence. More than three absences will lower your grade. No use of cell phones during class, and phones must be turned off and put away. If there are any extenuating personal circumstances please contact instructor before class.

Attendance: Excellent attendance (a tardy will count as a half an absence, as will leaving class early. More than three absences will lower grade, unless student can provide documentation for excused absence such as illness. More than 6 absences may cause the student to be administratively dropped. Excused absences (such as illness) will be considered with proper documentation and communication with Instructor.

Plagiarism: Do not take credit for someone else's work. According to Texas A & M University-Commerce," the university does not tolerate plagiarism and other

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forms of academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource materials. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course."

From TAMU-C Professor Melynda Seaton: Standard dictionaries define **plagiarism** as *"the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own."*

"Three different acts are considered plagiarism:

- failing to cite quotations and borrowed ideas,
- failing to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks, and
- failing to put summaries and paraphrases in your own words" (231).

Source: Hacker, Diana, and 1942-. **A Writer's Reference**. Bedford/St. Martins, 2006.

Perhaps you are wondering how it is possible to plagiarize in a class devoted to your own creations. If you read the definitions carefully, you will realize that borrowed ideas, language, photos, artwork, music, and so on must be properly acknowledged.

If you write a piece of fiction, for instance, and "borrow" the plot from something you've read, you are guilty of plagiarism. If you write a commercial ad and create a character who strongly resembles a character from a film you have seen, you are guilty of plagiarism. Surprising perhaps, but true.

According to Columbia College's LibGuide, plagiarism can include:

- Copying and pasting from a source without enclosing the text in quotation marks and providing a citation.
- Summarizing or rewording someone else's ideas without providing a citation.
- Reusing an assignment you submitted for a previous course. This is called self-plagiarism.
- Submitting an assignment completed by someone else.
- Collaborating on an assignment with a classmate or friend on an assignment meant to be completed individually.
- Writing a paper that strings together quote after quote or paraphrases, even if cited correctly. Your work must include your own original expression of ideas. To add originality to your assignment, include your own critical analysis, interpretation, and examples.
- Incorrect paraphrasing. When a paraphrase too closely resembles the original it is considered patchwriting.

Plagiarism can be:

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- *accidental* - accidental plagiarism happens when you are not sure when to cite, paraphrase or quote. This tutorial is meant to help you understand when you need to cite!
- *blatant* - this type of plagiarism happens when you purposefully use another person's words and try to pass them off as your own.
- *self* - self plagiarism occurs when you reuse a paper you wrote in a previous semester for a different course. You must submit original, new work for each course!

Source: Joe Haigh, "LibGuides: Plagiarism Tutorial: 1. What Is Plagiarism?," accessed May 18, 2020, [//columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/plagiarism/what_is_plagiarism](http://columbiacollege-ca.libguides.com/plagiarism/what_is_plagiarism).

All written text should be your own original work. All outside sources, if used, should be properly cited. Acts of plagiarism and cheating will be taken very seriously and addressed immediately. The objective here is to take pride in your work, and, if you use the work of others, to acknowledge them.

For more information about plagiarism:

https://library.tamu.edu/services/library_tutorials/academic_integrity/academic_integrity_3.html

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).
<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

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<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or

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veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

AI use policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

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Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructor's guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Department or Accrediting Agency Required Content

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

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