

California State University, Sacramento
College of Arts and Letters

Department of Design www.csus.edu/design
Phone: 916.278.3962
Fax: 916.278.6116

Course #and title: GPHD 10 Introduction to Digital Design.
Semester: Spring 2004
Section: 2
Units: 3
Meetings: Wednesday, 4-7:20 pm
Location: Mariposa 1003

Instructor: Scott Olling
Office: Mariposa Hall, 6000 -J- Street, Sacramento
Phone: 916.278.3962
E-mail: solling@csus.edu
Web site: www.csus.edu/indiv/o/ollings/
Office hours: ...by appointment

Course description: Survey course designed to familiarize students with basic understanding of the digital hardware, software, and vocabulary used by visual artists from a variety of disciplines. Creative and efficient application of digital tools and techniques. Students will use a variety of applications which may include: page layout, illustration, digital image processing and rendering software.

Course objectives: To develop an understanding of the following subjects and how they relate to the creative environment:

- basic internal functions of a computer;
- basic operation of the Macintosh operating system;
- overview skills required to function in the creative computer environment;
- history of computer development and how it relates to the creative community;
- survey of copyright issues surrounding digital type and photography.

...and:

- the ability to operate vector- and pixel-based graphics applications;
- the ability to operate page-layout graphics applications;
- the ability to create and define native, .eps and .pdf file formats from a variety of graphics applications;
- an understanding of the basic concepts used in graphics applications;
- an understanding of modern printing processes;
- familiarity with terminology of technical graphics production;
- professional levels of behavior and punctuality.

Required texts: • Adobe Illustrator 10: Classroom in a Book; publisher: Adobe Press ISBN 0-201-75624-2
• Adobe Photoshop 7.0: Classroom in a Book; publisher: Adobe Press ISBN 0-321-11562-7
• Adobe InDesign 2.0: Classroom in a Book; publisher: Adobe Press ISBN 0-201-78720-2

Recommended texts: • The Little Mac OS X Book; author: Robin Williams; publisher: Peachpit Press ISBN 0-201-74866-5
• The Non-Designer's Scan and Print Book; authors: Sandee Cohen and Robin Williams; publisher: Peachpit Press ISBN 0-201-35394-6
• Adobe Acrobat 6: Classroom in a Book; publisher: Adobe Press ISBN 0-321-19374-1
• Photoshop Color Correction; author: Michael Kieran ISBN 0-321-12401-4

- Attendance:** Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. If the student arrives late it is the student's responsibility to speak with the instructor after class to insure the proper marking of attendance. Attendance is required. Your final grade will be lowered for every unexcused absence. During the semester three notified absences are allowed: notify the instructor by email or by phone before the beginning of class that you will be absent and you will be excused. Non-notified absence will only be excused for documented illness or emergency.
- Late arrivals/early departures:** This class starts at 4:00. Excessive or persistent tardiness will effect your final grade. 3 late arrivals or un-notified early departures will count as 1 absence.
- Missed work:** Any missed work or lecture material is the student's responsibility to hand in or recover. If a meeting with the instructor is required please take care of this at the earliest eventuality.
- Machine performance:** If your machine malfunctions during the taking of an exam, arrangements must be made with the instructor immediately to complete the exam.
- Participation:** The student is expected to be self-motivated and a self-starter. Part of a student's grade will be a reflection of his/her work ethic in, as well as out of class. Come prepared with finished homework, and be ready to participate in class. Much of the skills learned in class come through close observation and dedicated practice while participating in lecture and activity sessions.
- Project Deadlines/make-ups:** Projects turned in past the deadline will have the final grade lowered by 10 points for every class period late. An exam cannot be made up unless there is a documented, serious and compelling reason (i.e., physician's note for major illness). Projects will be due within the first five minutes of class.
- Practical precautions:** Stolen or damaged projects will not be excused. When dealing with digital files, save early and save often. Back up all files, whether done at home or in the lab. Corrupt files and defective disks will not be excused. For your own protection, be sure to keep a copy of your work in a secure space at home, and, use another copy to travel with to school and labs.
- Withdrawal dates and procedures:** Students are expected to know the university's policy on dropping classes. Drops requested beyond prescribed deadlines will require a 'serious and compelling reason.' Refer to the official drop policy found in the class schedule for more details.
- Academic Dishonesty:** Cheating is unacceptable at CSUS. If cheating, copying or plagiarism is discovered, the work in question will receive a zero in the grade record. The student will then be referred to the proper university authorities to determine if any additional action by the university must be taken.
- Students with special needs:** If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, 916-278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours as soon as possible early in the semester.

Semester schedule:
please see the
separate document
“Semester schedule”
for up-to-date
information.

Week 1
Wednesday, January 28
Introduction, Adobe Illustrator, save as .PDF.

Week 2
Wednesday, February 4
Adobe Illustrator demo.
Read: Adobe Illustrator 10 CIAB (Classroom In A Book): -Getting started; -A quick tour
. . . and do the following:
Lesson 1: Getting to know the Work Area
Lesson 2: Creating Basic Shapes - at instruction #13, also save a copy of the file as a PDF and send it to me. Remember to name the file appropriately (GPHD10_02_L2_initial).
Lesson 4: Drawing with the pen tool. When you get to “Painting the artwork,” at instruction #4, save a copy of the file as a PDF and send it to me. Remember to name the file appropriately (GPHD10_02_L2_initial).

Week 3
Wednesday, February 11
Adobe Illustrator demo.
Read: Adobe Illustrator 10 CIAB (Classroom In A Book)
Lesson 6: Transforming objects - in “Modifying and redefining a symbol,” at instruction #9, also save a copy of the file as a PDF and send it to me. Remember to name the file appropriately (GPHD10_02_L6_initial).
Lesson 7: Working with type. When you get to “Creating type masks,” at instruction #9, save a copy of the file as a PDF and send it to me. Remember to name the file appropriately (GPHD10_02_L7_initial).

Week 4
Wednesday, February 18
Scanning demo, Adobe Photoshop demo, Adobe Illustrator demo
Project #1 assigned
Read: Adobe Illustrator 10 CIAB
Lesson 10: In “Applying appearance attributes to layers” at instruction 13, use Save as... to save a PDF version & email to me. Name the file using the class number, the lesson number and your initial in the document title. (GPHD10_02_L10_initial).
Lesson 12: At “Constructing the box” at instruction 20, use Save as... to save a PDF version & email to me. Name the file using the class number, the lesson number and your initial in the document title. (GPHD10_02_L10_initial).

Week 5
Wednesday, February 25
Adobe Illustrator demo
Project #2 assigned
Study for exam.
Read: Adobe Illustrator 10 CIAB
Lesson 13: Answer the subset of Review questions at the end of the chapter. Use your own words, and use complete sentences. Question subset: answer questions 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8. Type out your answers using any application you please, just send me a PDF, with the class number, lesson number and your initial in the document title.

Semester schedule,
continued

Week 6

Wednesday, March 3

Adobe Illustrator exam: practical demonstration of skills used in Lessons and Project #1. Open notes, open book.

Project #1 due.

Read: Adobe Photoshop 7 CIAB

Lesson 1: review the chapter.

Week 7

Wednesday, March 10

Adobe Photoshop demo 1

Project #3 assigned

Read: Adobe Photoshop 7 CIAB

Lesson 2: review the chapter.

Lesson 3: 1.) At the section, "Applying the Unsharp Mask filter," follow the five steps, then save your file using the appropriate naming convention (gphd10_02_PL3a_sno).

2.) Use Save as... to create a copy of your file. Now return to the Unsharp Mask filter, and use Amount 500, Radius 100, Threshold 0. Notice the results. Now, reset the filter settings to create a posterized version of the image (with Amount over 350%) to your preference. Save this file using the appropriate naming convention (gphd10_02_PL3b_sno).

3.) Now, continue through the next section, and, at instruction 4, save both files also as PDFs, and send to me.

Week 8

Wednesday, March 17

Adobe Photoshop demo 2

Project #4 assigned

Read: Adobe Photoshop 7 CIAB

Lesson 4: When finished, save your version of the collage (named appropriately, of course) as a PDF and email to me.

Lesson 5: From the section, "Flattening and saving files," at instruction 6, use Save as... to save a PDF version & email to me. Name the file using the class number, the lesson number and your initial in the document title. (GPHD10_02_PL5_initial).

Week 9

Wednesday, March 24

Project #5 assigned

Adobe Photoshop demo 2

Read: Adobe Photoshop 7 CIAB

Lesson 6

Lesson 7

Lesson 8

Week 10

Wednesday, March 31

Caesar Chavez Birthday

No class meeting

Read: Adobe Photoshop 7 CIAB

Lesson 9

Lesson 10