Course Description:
This course will familiarize students with the basic principles, elements and concepts of two-dimensional design and how this information applies to art making and the practical world. We will focus on understanding the creative and conceptual realm of two-dimensional art. Two-dimensional work exists on a flat plane, having height and width. In addition to principles and elements of design, we will discuss color and color theory. There will be focus on process, starting with a loose idea and building up from sketches to drawing and painting, collages etc. We will become familiar with the basic studio tools such as: drawing tools, graphite, ink, acrylic paint, collage, etc. Our intention is to make two-dimensional work to learn about and discuss basic elements of composition, and use composition to better understand drawings, paintings, photography, prints and sculptural objects, etc. We will also discuss idea generation and content in art.

Please dress appropriately for this class.

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts.
This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts. Arts goal: Courses aim to achieve a majority of the following learning outcomes: students will be able to identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary appropriate to that form; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of a work’s underlying concept; analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form and cultural context; analyze and interpret material or performance culture in its social, historical, and personal contexts; and engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Learning Outcomes:

Students who successfully complete a course in the Arts category must meet the first learning outcome and a minimum of two of the remaining four learning outcomes:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic process, and a work’s underlying concept, and where appropriate, contexts associated with the work.
2. Identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary and critique appropriate to that form.
3. Analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form, as well as the work’s cultural significance and context.
4. Analyze and interpret the content of material or performance culture through its social, historical, and personal contexts.
5. Engage in generative artistic processes, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Note: This syllabus may be altered during the course of the semester to respond to as yet unscheduled educational opportunities that may arise during the semester.
**Attendance policy:**
Attendance is taken daily. More than three absences will result in the drop of your final grade by a full letter grade. Every absence after three will result in the further loss of a letter grade from your final grade. If you miss four classes the highest grade you can get in the class is a “B”, five classes the highest you can get is a “C”. I will factor you grade based on the projects and homework and class participation first, then that grade is dropped a full letter grade. If you have missed four or more classes for any reason, your grade will suffer. Your car breaks down is not a good reason to miss multiple classes. These three absences are yours, please do not contact me when you miss class with an excuse or to get missed class work. If you do happen to have situations beyond your control, talk to me, even if the best option for you is to withdraw from the course and retake it when you are not having a crisis. If you miss class do not contact me to get missed assignments. You should contact another student and be prepared to work when you come back in the next class. Do not miss critique days. Do not miss the final critique day. Try very hard not to miss the last two weeks of class. This is when I am evaluating your improvement.

**Three late arrivals or leaving class early** will be counted as one absence. If you are more than a half-hour late, don’t bother coming to class. You will be counted as absent regardless.

**Grading Policy:**
I will not accept projects that I have no seen you working on in class. I will not accept projects I do not see at the due date.

Your grade on a project reflects:
- Your ability to understand and creatively apply the concepts introduced in an assignment
- Your ability to follow the required steps of the assignment
- Your ability to finish the assignment within a certain time frame
- Submission of written analysis of the project on the day of critique

Your grade on written assignments reflects:
- Your ability to address the concepts relevant to the writing assignment
- Your ability to use art vocabulary relevant to the writing assignment
- Your ability to write a clear, concise paper with correct spelling and grammar

Your overall course grade also takes Class Participation into consideration. Class Participation involves things such as:
- Offering relevant comments during class critiques
- Asking/answering questions or offering relevant observations during lectures/discussions
- Helping keep the classroom and your work area clean
- Coming to class prepared with your art materials and making good use of class time

Your Class Participation grade can be negatively impacted by things such as:
- Using your phone or other electronic devices in class
- Talking loudly and being disruptive in class
- Not making good use of class time
- Not participating in class critiques, discussions, etc.
- Not cleaning up after yourself

Numeric grades are as follows: 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59-0=F
**Evaluation**

Assignments are weighted as follows:
- Projects: 60%
- Writing assignments: 10%
- Homework: 10%
- Class Participation: 10%
- Final Project: 10%

**Late work:**

Late work will not be graded. Attendance to critiques is mandatory. This is when I grade your work. If you do not show up for the critique with your project, you will receive a failing grade. You must bring your work, finished or not, to the critique to a grade. If for some reason you cannot be in attendance, make sure your work is here and that I know to grade it. Do not miss the final critique day. Final projects will not be taken late.

If you come in late after homework has been checked or if you miss a day that homework is due, do not show it to me during or after class.

If you show up to class and complete the basic course work you will get a “C”. To earn a “B” will take extra effort. An “A” will take extraordinary effort. This goes for individual projects, sketchbook assignments, research assignments, homework, and your final grade.

**Turn off** any and all personal electronic devices while in class. This includes headphones radios and mobile phones. If you phone rings or you answer your phone during class you will get an F for the day. If you must have your phone on in case of emergency, please turn it on vibrate and put it out of site. Do not text in my class. If you need to use your phone, leave the classroom first.

*** This classroom is considered a “lab” and food in the is not allowed. If you need a snack go outside the room to eat it. However this is not your dinner break, do not leave or come late to eat lunch or dinner. You have two fifteen minute breaks, but not back to back and not at the beginning or end of class.

**Sketch Book:**

Have a sketch book for all of your projects, at least 8x10. Keep records of your projects ideas, working process, general visual observations, and interests in your sketchbook. Bring it to class every day. I will ask to see it every day to see your progression of ideas.

**Field Trips and Art events:**

During the semester you will be required to make gallery and museum visits in DC and attend Art Dept. special events such as guest artist lectures and exhibit openings. Events will be announced and posted in class. You are also required to attend at least one performance at the Center for the Arts. Its free. You will enjoy it, even if we have to make you.

Please attend one of these lectures for one of your Art Events and write a short paper. If you have a time conflict with a class, we will work out an alternative.

**Papers:**

You are asked to write at least a one page paper on shows you go to. Tell me what you think of the show.

I don’t want you to write to me what you have copied from wall text or read in the hand-outs at the gallery or museum or website. I want to know what you think of the work. Try to be articulate. Tell me what you like and why. Tell me what you don’t like and why. Try to include content of the work, subject, materials, construction techniques, compositional elements, etc.
Week to week schedule, subject to change
Fall 2017

Week 1:  1. Tuesday, Jan 23: introduction homework for next class: supplies
  2. Thursday, Jan 25: name project need Bristol board, marker, ink, and brush

Week 2:  3. Tuesday, Jan 30: name project
  4. Thursday, Feb 1: symmetry bring in 9 images from art history. Also need tracing paper

Week 3:  5. Tuesday, Feb 6: symmetry project
  6. Thurs, Feb 8: 2nd asymmetry project

Week 4:  7. Tuesday Feb 13: asymmetry
  8. Thurs, Feb 15: critique

Week 5:  9. Tuesday, Feb 20: composition lecture
  10. Thursday, Feb 22 collage

Week 6:  11. Tuesday, Feb 27: collage
  12. Thursday March 1: collage

Week 7:  13. Tuesday, March 6: collage
  14. Thursday, March 8: collage due

Week 8:  15. Tuesday, March 13: Spring Break no class
  16. Thursday March 15 Spring Break no class

Week 9:  17. Tuesday, March 20: cordel project
  18. Thursday, March 22: cordel project

Week 10:  19. Tuesday, March 27: cordel project
  20. Thursday, March 29: cordel due

Week 11:  21. Tuesday, April 3: color lecture and demos
  22. Thursday, April 5: color demos

Week 12:  23. Tuesday, April 10: color project
  24. Thursday, April 12: Color

Week 13:  25. Tuesday, April 17: Color due
  26. Thursday, April 19: Final

Week 14:  27. Tuesday, April 24: final
  28. Thursday, April 26: final project

Week 15:  29. Tuesday, May 1: final
  30. Thursday, May 3: Last day of class EVERYTHING DUE

Note: This timeline may be altered during the course of the semester to respond to as yet unscheduled educational opportunities that may arise during the semester.

Supplies:
Sketchbook at least 8x10
Big fat marker black
Kneaded eraser
Hard vinyl eraser
18x24 pad of Bristol Board
Tracing paper
Box of push pins
Black ink
Ink brush bamboo brush
Flat or Filbert synthetic brushes: smaller sizes 6 and under. Stiff bristles
Set of basic acrylic paints: get a cheap set, or get cadmium red, cadmium yellow, mars black, titanium white, ultramarine blue.
Optional:
Box for stuff
Ruler or t square at least 24”
Portfolio
Scissors, box cutter, exacto knife
Rubber cement, glue stick, white glue
You can purchase a KIT at Plaza Art on Nutley that has all these supplies included at a discounted price:

https://www.plazaart.com/gmu-avt104-bradley-foundations-kit
Spring 2018 Boilerplate for inclusion in syllabi:

The following is in two sections-Mason Core and General Information for all classes. If you are teaching a course that is part of the Mason Core listed below, please include the following in your syllabus:

(1) MASON CORE CLASSES:

Mason Core Arts: Please include the following for sections of AVT 103, 104, 215, 222, 232, 243, 252, 253, 262, 272, 385:

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Arts. Arts goal: Courses aim to achieve a majority of the following learning outcomes: students will be able to identify and analyze the formal elements of a particular art form using vocabulary appropriate to that form; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between artistic technique and the expression of a work’s underlying concept; analyze cultural productions using standards appropriate to the form and cultural context; analyze and interpret material or performance culture in its social, historical, and personal contexts; and engage in the artistic process, including conception, creation, and ongoing critical analysis.

Mason Core IT: Please include the following for sections of AVT 180:

This class fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Information Technology. IT goal: The purpose of the information technology requirement is to ensure that students achieve an essential understanding of information technology infrastructure encompassing systems and devices; learn to make the most of the Web and other network resources; protect their digital data and devices; take advantage of latest technologies; and become more sophisticated technology users and consumers.

1. IT courses will fulfill a majority of the following learning outcomes: Students will be able to use technology to locate, access, evaluate, and use information, and appropriately cite resources from digital/electronic media.
2. Students will understand the core IT concepts in a range of current and emerging technologies and learn to apply appropriate technologies to a range of tasks.
3. Students will understand many of the key ethical, legal and social issues related to information technology and how to interpret and comply with ethical principles, laws, regulations, and institutional policies.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate, create, and collaborate effectively using state-of-the-art information technologies in multiple modalities.
5. Students will understand the essential issues related to information security, how to take precautions and use techniques and tools to defend against computer crimes.

Mason Core Synthesis: Please include the following for sections of AVT 385, 497 and 498:

This course fulfills a Mason Core requirement for Synthesis. The purpose of the synthesis course is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge, skills and values gained from the Mason Core curriculum. Synthesis courses strive to expand students’ ability to master new content, think critically, and develop life-long learning skills across the disciplines. While it is not feasible to design courses that cover “all” areas of general education, synthesis courses should function as a careful alignment of disciplinary goals with a range of Mason Core learning outcomes.

A general education synthesis course must address outcomes 1 and 2, and at least one outcome under #3. Upon completing a synthesis course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in both oral and written forms, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.)
2. Using perspectives from two or more disciplines, connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns
3. Apply critical thinking skills to:
   a. Evaluate the quality, credibility and limitations of an argument or a solution using appropriate evidence or resources, OR,
   b. Judge the quality or value of an idea, work, or principle based on appropriate analytics and standards

(2) GENERAL INFORMATION; Please include in ALL syllabi:

Important University Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King Day (no classes)</td>
<td>Mon Jan 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First day of classes</strong>: last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed</td>
<td>Mon Jan 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Last day to add classes</strong>—all individualized section forms due</td>
<td>Mon Jan 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to drop with no tuition penalty</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty</strong></td>
<td>Mon Feb 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)</strong></td>
<td>Fri Feb 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunization Record Deadline</td>
<td>Thu Mar 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patrio Web</td>
<td>Mon Feb 19 – Fri Mar 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)</td>
<td>Mon Feb 26 – Fri Mar 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Mon Mar 12 – Sun Mar 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete work from Fall 2017 due to Instructor</td>
<td>Fri Mar 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2017 due to Registrar</td>
<td>Fri Mar 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation/Thesis Deadline</td>
<td>Fri May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Last day of classes</strong></td>
<td>Sat May 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Days</td>
<td>Mon May 7 – Tue May 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)</strong></td>
<td>Wed May 9 – Wed May 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commencement</strong></td>
<td>Fri May 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree Conferral Date</strong></td>
<td>Sat May 19</td>
</tr>
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**ArtsBus Credit and Policies**: You are responsible for knowing and following Artsbus policies and rules. Please go to the ArtsBus website: http://artsbus.gmu.edu "Student Information" for important information regarding ArtsBus policy. For credit to appear on your transcript you must enroll in AVT 300. This also applies to anyone who intends to travel to New York independently, or do the DC Alternate Assignment. * If you plan/need to go on multiple ArtsBus trips during a semester and need them towards your total requirement, you must enroll in multiple sections of AVT 300* Non-AVT majors taking art classes do not need Artsbus credit BUT
may need to go on the Artsbus for a class assignment. You can either sign up for AVT 300 or buy a ticket for the bus trip at the Center of the Arts. Alternate trips must be approved by the instructor of the course that is requiring an ArtsBus trip.

**ArtsBus - Dates for Spring 2018:**
- February 24
- March 24
- April 14

**Visual Voices Lecture Series Spring 2018:** Visual Voices is a year-long series of lectures by artists, art historians and others about contemporary art and art practice. Visual Voices lectures are held on Thursday evenings from 7:20-9:00 p.m. in Harris Theater:
  - January 24 – Brian Noyes
  - February 1 – Teresa Jaynes
  - February 22 – Sharif Bey
  - March 1 – Juliet Bellow
  - March 8 – John Henry

**Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences:** If you have a diagnosed disability or learning difference and you need academic accommodations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester and contact the Disabilities Resource Center (SUB I room 234, 703-993-2474). You must provide your instructor with a faculty contact sheet from that office outlining the accommodations needed for your disability or learning difference. All academic accommodations must be arranged in advance through the DRC.

**Cell Phones:** School of Art Policies in accordance with George Mason University policy, turn off all beepers, cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices at the start of class. The instructor of the class will keep his/her cell phone active to assure receipt of any Mason Alerts in a timely fashion; or in the event that the instructor does not have a cell phone, he/she will designate one student to keep a cell phone active to receive such alerts.

**Commitment to Diversity:** This class will be conducted as an intentionally inclusive community that celebrates diversity and welcomes the participation in the life of the university of faculty, staff and students who reflect the diversity of our plural society. All may feel free to speak and to be heard without fear that the content of the opinions they express will bias the evaluation of their academic performance or hinder their opportunities for participation in class activities. In turn, all are expected to be respectful of each other without regard to race, class, linguistic background, religion, political beliefs, gender identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, age, veteran’s status, or physical ability.

**Statement on Ethics in Teaching and Practicing Art and Design:** As professionals responsible for the education of undergraduate and graduate art and design students, the faculty of the School of Art adheres to the ethical standards and practices incorporated in the professional Code of Ethics of our national accreditation organization, The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD).

**Open Studio Hours:** SOA teaching studios are open to students for extended periods of time mornings, evenings and weekends whenever classes are not in progress. Policies, procedures and schedules for studio use are established by the SOA studio faculty and are posted in the studios.

**Official Communications via GMU E-Mail:** Mason uses electronic mail to provide official information to students. Examples include communications from course instructors, notices from the library, notices about academic standing, financial aid information, class materials, assignments, questions, and instructor feedback. Students are responsible for the content of university communication sent to their Mason e-mail account, and are required to activate that account and check it regularly.

**Attendance Policies:** Students are expected to attend the class periods of the courses for which they register. In-class participation is important not only to the individual student, but also to the class as a whole. Because class participation may be a factor in grading, instructors may use absence, tardiness, or early departure as de facto evidence of nonparticipation. Students who miss an exam with an acceptable excuse may be penalized according to the individual instructor's grading policy, as stated in the course syllabus.

**Honor Code:** Students in this class are bound by the Honor Code, and are responsible knowing the rules, as stated on the George Mason University website’s Academic Integrity page (http://oai.gmu.edu/the-mason-honor-code-2/). “To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, trust, and fairness among all members of the Mason community, and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the university community, have set forth this honor code:
Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related to academic work.

Mason’s Commitment: To create an environment that is innovative, diverse, entrepreneurial, and accessible—helping you avoid accidental or intentional violations of the Honor Code.”

Writing Center Students who are in need of intensive help with grammar, structure or mechanics in their writing should make use of the services of Writing Center, located in Robinson A116 (703-993-1200). The services of the Writing Center are available by appointment, online and, occasionally, on a walk-in basis. The Collaborative Learning Hub Located in Johnson Center 311 (703-993-3141), the lab offers in-person one-on-one support for the Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Blackboard, and a variety of other software. Dual monitor PCs make the lab ideal for collaborating on group projects, Macs are also available; as well as a digital recording space, collaborative tables, and a SMART Board. Free workshops are also available (Adobe and Microsoft) through Training and Certification; visit ittraining.gmu.edu to see the schedule of workshops and to sign up.