George Mason University School of Art
Fall 2016
Foundations of Design 1 AVT 104
Instructor: Adam Bradley
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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 ect. We will become familiar with the basic studio tools such as: drawing tools, graphite, ink, acrylic paint, collage, ect.. 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, ect. 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.

Mason courses in the film making, visual and performing arts stress generative, inquiry based learning through direct aesthetic and creative experience in the studio environment. Art history courses address the intrinsic relationship of personal and cultural creativity, and the manifestation of aesthetics, visual culture and visual narrative within historical contexts.

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 works 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 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: 70%
Writing assignments and 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, ect.

Week to week schedule, subject to change
Fall 2015

Week 1: 1. Tuesday, Jan 24 introduction homework for next class: supplies
2. Thursday, Jan 26:, name project need Bristol board, marker, ink, and brush
Week 2: 3. Tuesday, Jan 21 : name project
4. Thursday, Feb 2: symmetry bring in 9 images from art history. Also need tracing paper
Week 3: 5. Tuesday, Feb 7:. symmetry project
6. Thurs, Feb 9 : 2nd asymmetry project
Week 4: 7. Tuesday Feb 14: asymmetry
8: Thurs, Feb 16: critique
Week 5: 9. Tuesday, Feb 21: composition lecture
10. Thursday, Feb 23: collage
Week6: 11. Tuesday, Feb 28: collage
12. Thursday March 2: collage
Week 7: 13. Tuesday, March 7: collage
14. Thursday, March 9: collage due
Week 8: 15 Tuesday, March 14 Spring Break
16.Thursday March 16 Spring Break
Week 9: 17. Tuesday, March 21: cordel project
18 Thursday, March 23: cordel project
Week 10: 19. Tuesday, March 28: cordel project
20. Thursday, March 30: cordel due
Week 11: 21. Tuesday, April 4: color
22. Thursday, April 6: color
Week 12: 23. Tuesday, April 11: color
24. Thursday, April 13:. Color due
Week 13: 25. Tuesday, April 18: mash up
26 Thursday, April 20: mash updue
Week 14: 27. Tuesday, April 25: final
28. Thursday, April 27: final project
Week 15: 29. Tuesday, May 2: final
30. Thursday, May 4 Last day of class EVERYTHING DUE

TBA Mandatory clean up day

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

	Design Grading Rubric:					Points
	60-55	53-48	47-42	41-36	30, 20, 0	
Demonstration of the concepts addressed in the assignment and overall design solution	Strong and successful demonstration of the concepts addressed in the assignment. Work is carefully planned. Logical problem solving and creative exploration are strongly evident in the overall composition.	Successful demonstration of the concepts addressed in the assignment. Work is well planned. Logical problem solving and some creative exploration are evident in the overall composition.	Adequate demonstration of the concepts addressed in the assignment. Work is adequately planned. Overall design solution shows logical problem solving. Creative exploration, however, is not evident in overall composition.	Inadequate demonstration of concepts addressed in the assignment. Work shows lack of planning prior to exectution. Overall composition lacks evidence of logical problem solving and creative exploration.	No demonstration of the concepts addressed in the assignment. Overall composition lacks evidence of planning, logical problem solving and creative exploration.	
	10..9	8	7	6	5, 0	
Effective use of the picture plane	Excellent use of the picture plane - 90% - 100% of the picture plane has been considered and contains positive or negative elements that contribute to the composition	Good use of the picture plane - about 80% of the picture plane has been considered and contains positive and negative elements that contribute to the composition	Adequate use of the picture plane - about 70% of the picture plane has been considered and contains positive and negative elements that contribute to the composition	Limited use of the picture plane. Considered positive and negative elements that contribute to the composition cover about 60% of the picture plane	The picture plane has not been considered at all or very minimally. Positive and negative elements that contribute to the composition cover 50% or less of the picture plane	
	10		7		0	
Media, materials, and format	Correct media, materials, and format		Incorrect media OR materials OR format		Media, materials, and format are incorrect	
	10	8	7	6	5, 0	
Craftsmanship and presentation	Excellent craftsmanship and presentation.	Good craftsmanship and presentation.	Adequate craftsmanship and presentation.	Below average craftsmanship and presentation.	Unsatisfactory craftsmanship and presentation.	
	10				0	
Work submitted	The assignment is complete and handed in on time.				The assignment is incomplete and/or handed in late	
	Total Points:					

University and 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.

ArtsBus
Dates for Spring 2017:
February 18
March 25
April 18

ArtsBus Credit:
* Each student must have up to 5 AVT 300/Artsbus credits before graduation. 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. Please go to the ArtsBus website: http://artsbus.gmu.edu "Student Information" for additional, very important information regarding ArtsBus policy.
* 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.

Visual Voices Lecture Series
Dates for Spring 2017:
January 26
February 9
March 9
March 23
March 30

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: http://soa.gmu.edu/visualvoices/
Important Deadlines

January 1 Day of Week	*Sunday*
Martin Luther King Day (no classes)	Mon Jan 16
First day of classes; last day to submit Domicile Reclassification Application; Payment Due Date; full semester waitlists removed	Mon Jan 23
Last day to add classes—all individualized section forms due Last day to drop with no tuition penalty	Mon Jan 30
Last day to drop with a 33% tuition penalty	Mon Feb 13
Final Drop Deadline (67% tuition penalty)	Fri Feb 24
Immunization Record Deadline	Wed Mar 1

Midterm progress reporting period (100-200 level classes)—grades available via Patriot Web	Mon Feb 20 – Fri Mar 24
Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only)	Mon Feb 27 – Fri Mar 31
Spring Break	Mon Mar 13 – Sun Mar 19
Incomplete work from Fall 2016 due to Instructor	**Fri March 31**
Incomplete grade changes from Fall 2016 due to Registrar	**Fri April 7**
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri May 5
Last day of classes	Sat May 6
Reading Days 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.	Mon May 8 – Tue May 9
Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m.)	Wed May 10 – Wed May 17
Commencement and Degree Conferral Date	May 20

Once the add and drop deadlines have passed, instructors do not have the authority to approve requests from students to add or drop/withdraw late. Requests for late adds (up until the last day of classes) must be made by the student in the SOA office (or the office of the department offering the course), and generally are only approved in the case of a documented university error (such as a problem with financial aid being processed) , LATE ADD fee will apply. Requests for non-selective withdrawals and retroactive adds (adds after the last day of classes) must be approved by the academic dean of the college in which the student's major is located. For AVT majors, that is the CVPA Office of Academic Affairs, Performing Arts Building A407.

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 me 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.

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, as stated in the George Mason University Catalog. The honor code requires that the work you do as an individual be the product of your own individual synthesis or integration of ideas. (This does not prohibit collaborative work when it is approved by your instructor.) As a faculty member, I have an obligation to refer the names of students who may have violated the Honor Code to the Student Honor Council, which treats such cases very seriously. No grade is important enough to justify cheating, for which there are serious consequences that will follow you for the rest of your life. If you feel unusual pressure about your grade in this or any other course, please talk to me or to a member of the GMU Counseling Center staff.

Using someone else's words or ideas without giving them credit is plagiarism, a very serious Honor Code offense. It is very important to understand how to prevent committing plagiarism when using material from a source. If you wish to quote verbatim, you must use the exact words and punctuation just as the passage appears in the original and must use quotation marks and page numbers in your citation. If you want to paraphrase or summarize ideas from a source, you must put the ideas into your own words, and you must cite the source, using the APA or MLA format. (For assistance with documentation, I recommend Diana Hacker, A Writer's Reference.) The exception to this rule is information termed general knowledge—information that is widely known and stated in a number of sources. Determining what is general knowledge can be complicated, so the wise course is, "When in doubt, cite."

Be especially careful when using the Internet for research. Not all Internet sources are equally reliable; some are just plain wrong. Also, since you can download text, it becomes very easy to inadvertently plagiarize. If you use an Internet source, you must cite the exact URL in your paper and include with it the last date that you successfully accessed the site.

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.