

### **Syllabus Section 3 MW 12-3**

Course Syllabus

Art 161/Basic Design/Section03

Basic Design I

3hrs credit

Spring Semester 2008

Room 119 Building D Art Complex

12:00PM \_ 2:50PM Monday and Wednesday

Mr. Patric Kevin Lawler

Office: Room 105 Building D

Phone: 936-294-3726 E-mail: art\_pkl@shsu.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

"Basic design is the study of two-dimensional design elements or principles and the introduction to artist methods of creating art. These principles include, but are not limited to: line, pattern, texture, value, similarity, repetition, form, shape, and space. Consider them to be the rules of organizing objects and space. We also must look at content as it relates to the message/meaning of the artwork. Content is the subject matter of the artwork.

"Prerequisite: None.

"Nine elements will be lectured upon and examples shown. Subject matter or content will be addressed at the time the work is being produced. This will be dependent on the student's intention and will be unique to the individual artwork. Example pieces will be shown as well. Each student works at their pace, so the instruction is one on one, usually critique. An artist works and makes decisions based on visual assessment of work in progress. This "design process" must be learned and the student is exposed to it each solution, as the professor critiques the work and asks questions of the student about the work. This question and answer time requires the student to participate actively. The intention is for the students themselves to adopt the procedure, improving their own process of evaluating their own work. When the student adopts this process the questions begin to move the student into deeper areas of expression. A steady pace enhances learning/understanding/and utilizing this process. This steady pace rewards the student with better solutions, and is rewarded with a better grade. Think the tortoise not the hare. All solutions will require the student to continue to work outside of class.

Goals:

1. In lecture, have the 9 elements of design defined for you. Others will be introduced and shared in the common Wiki. Learning these fundamental principles, generalizations, or theories is an essential goal.
2. To produce a body of work in your chosen materials showing understanding in two areas. The first area involves the principles of design and the second area involves content.
3. Develop craftsmanship through repeated efforts at demonstrating this understanding in #2. This development of creative capacities is another essential goal.
4. Develop creativity by rejecting the obvious solutions and seeking the unique.
5. Actively engage in the Q&A part of the process.

Required text:

The Critique Handbook, by Buster & Crawford, ISBN 0-13-150544-0

(It is the student's responsibility to obtain course materials at the beginning of the semester in order to avoid complaints that they were unable to find the books/materials.)

Supplies:

"Canson Drawing pad, 18x24 Classic Cream, acid free, 80 lb., 24 sheets. - no substitutes

"Pencils one -2H

"Woodless pencils one each 4B, 6B \_ no substitutes

"Brushes 3, one small, one medium, one large (recommended - #2, #6, #10, all Round)

"Acrylic paint 2oz jars (one-white, one-black)

"Compressed Charcoal 2 pieces, both round (one-4B, one-6B; two-4B is acceptable) - no substitutes

"Erasers 3, one each- (kneaded, gum and white)

"Chamois

"Hand held pencil sharpener

"Roll artists tape, low adhesive

"Inking handle

"Inking Nib, preferably a bowl-tip for drawing

"Bottle of india ink, approx.1oz.

"Marker one \_ 0.3 or 0.5 Staedtler Pigment Liner \_ no substitutes

"Cold Press Board 16x20

"Hot Press Board 16x20

"BFK sheet 22x29 \_ no substitutes

"Other materials as student solution dictates

(You may put these supplies in any locker in the halls of the building. There are a limited number of lockers in the classroom as well but are for instructor use. If a locker in the hall is empty and has no padlock on it, it is available for your use. You will be discouraged from being a constant borrower, trying to get through 4 years of college art using a single 2B test taking pencil and a beginners sketch book is unacceptable. A brown paper portfolio can be purchased to help carry your supplies around.)

#### Attendance:

Attendance is required. Two absences only for any reason are allowed for the semester. (Medical, religious, legal and university obligations can always be excused when they are first person - concerning you.) Additionally, for each subsequent absence, after the 2 allowed, your grade will be lowered one full grade for each. For example, the best grade you can get for the course with 3 absences is a B. This reducing of a grade continues to 6 absences - this will result in an F for the course.

#### Assignments:

There are 4 assignments, call them solutions, to be completed for the semester. The goal is to produce artwork not project or craft work. Some solutions will require significant reworking or change, this is to be expected. Also, expect to work outside of class approximately 12 hours each week.

#### Grading plan:

Creating artwork is unique and as such the evaluation process needs to reflect that. A premium is given to a quantity of work done at a high level of craftsmanship while exercising creativity in the execution of the work or in the idea behind the work, "it's personal expression". The newness of the "design process" and the demands on the student artist to utilize it, require a flexible work-at-your-own-pace schedule in the beginning. This process develops through steady pacing, not brief periods of intense activity.

Course grades. There are 3 factors that determine your grade.

1. The 4 solutions will be graded on face value. This will be 50% your coursework grade.
2. Participation grade will be the other 50% of the coursework grade.

3. Attendance is the final factor. (See attendance above). It impacts the full coursework grade for the course grade.

If you are missing any solution your course grade will be an F.

Individual solution grades. You can tell a first draft in writing from a polished finished work, well done artwork and poorly done or hurried artwork can be distinguished, as each has a character easily read. My intention is to give you a standard of quality and quantity to help pursue a grade you may desire to earn in the session. See specifics in the Grades handout.

The participation grade is determined by averaging the following 5 areas of participation. All areas of participation are graded A or F. An A grade is given when all the activities in an area are done on time and done satisfactorily. In some areas there are 5 or more activities, one not done on time or satisfactorily will result in the whole area receiving an F grade.

1. Wiki and Blog contributions. There are 5 wiki entries and 4 blog entries.
2. Print outs and copies. The syllabus is printed; Internet and University resources, etc. are accessed, each has a hard copy requirement.
3. A first artwork exercise.
4. Exercises that explore specific principles. There are 5.
5. Development of the design process requires learning to make decisions from physical examples. That involves doing quality preliminary work as well as multiple finished quality work. The question and answer process engaged in between professor and student requires the student to participate and not shrug off this part of the art production process. This assumes, when you are here, in class, you are prepared, coming in on time and with the appropriate materials ready to work and that you stay and work the whole period. It also assumes that you participate willingly in the question and answer part of the individual professor and student interaction. If any of these are problems, which when I point them out to you, they go uncorrected your area grade will be an F. (See Grades handout.)

Academic Honesty. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

For the purposes of this course it means simply, each student is held accountable for producing their own solutions. Any work done by someone else or is a copy of another student's work will be considered to be a form of academic dishonesty. Turning in work done for another class is dishonest. Turning in work created before the current semester is dishonest. The faculty member may impose failure or reduction of a grade in a test or the course, and/or performing additional academic work not required of other students in the course. If the faculty member believes that additional disciplinary action is necessary, as in the case of flagrant or repeated violations, the case may be referred to the Dean of Student Life or his designated appointee for further action.

Visitors In The Classroom. In the event an unannounced visitor attends a class, the instructor should request identification in the form of a current and official Sam Houston State University identification card. If the visitor is not a registered Sam Houston State University student, the instructor should act at his/her own discretion or refer the visitor to the department chair. This policy is not intended to discourage the occasional visiting of classes by responsible persons.

Obviously, however, the visiting of a particular class should be occasional and not regular, and it should in no way constitute interference with registered members of the class or the instruction thereof.

**Classroom Rules Of Conduct.** Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. The following are listed as violations of these rules of conduct in Section 5 of the Student handbook. Unless faculty permission is obtained first, these are considered violations in this course. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. (In this course you may leave your phone on vibration to alert you to a potential emergency. You may not however, hold a phone conversation within the classroom during class time, nor should you text someone while there is any form of corporate lecture/explanation going on. Go out into the hall and conduct that business.) Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

**Student Absences on Religious Holy Days.** Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

**Disabled Student Policy.** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities from their instructors, school/department chair, or by contacting the Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students and Director of the Counseling Center, Lee Drain Annex, or by calling (936) 294-1720.

**The BFA review.** The Art department has started the process of having Art students go through an evaluation process allowing them into the BFA Art programs. Upon completion of the 6 foundation art classes ( Art 161, 163, 164, 265, 271, 260) the student applies to participate in the review, by signing up in the Art office.

During the later part of the semester, you will be asked to do an evaluation.

Holidays this semester

Martin Luther King Birthday Monday January 21, 2008

Spring Break March 10 to 14, 2008

Last Class day May 07, 2008

Final time: you will pick up work and receive your grade. Tentative May 07, 2008 during class time. Subject to change.