

## ART 133 VISUAL ARTS FOUNDATION COURSE SYLLABUS - SPRING 2011

Instructor: Thomas Wells ( tjthemaxx@cox.net - 540.797.5620 )  
Office Hours: One hour prior to class or by appointment  
Class Time: 430-7:30PM Mondays and Wednesdays  
Lab Hours: Required  
Location: SVHEC Earp Lab  
Course Weblog: <http://art133spring2011.blogspot.com/>  
DCC Course# ART133 - 4 Credits  
First day of class: Monday, January 10, 2011  
Last day of class: Monday, May 9, 2011  
College Holiday: Monday, January 17, 2011 (We will not meet.)  
Last Day to Withdraw with Full Tuition Refund – Wednesday, January 26, 2011.  
Last Day to Withdraw Without Mitigating Circumstances – Friday, March 25, 2011.

### Course Objectives:

FROM THE VCCS CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Covers tools and techniques, design concepts and principles, color theory and an introduction to the computer for graphic use. Applies to all fields of Visual Art.

The goal for this course is to get the student acquainted with basic tools needed to begin a career in the graphic arts. You will begin to develop a skill set to aid in both your understanding and appreciation of art, as well as the operation of the Adobe Creative Suite CS5 and Macintosh operating system. You will also start to develop your own sense of aesthetic as well as practical knowledge of art, both digital and physical. A strong focus on the Bauhaus school's methods will come into play during this course. This class will make extensive use of the internet for research, collaboration, presentation, and communication. Students in this course will need reliable access to email.

### Textbook & Course Materials

- Digital Foundations - Intro to Media Design ISBN:9780321555984
- Sketchbook - You must bring it with you to every class.
- USB flash drive (1MB or larger) - You are required to bring it with you to every class. Must have enough free space to save ALL of your work.

### LECTURE & DEMONSTRATION

Lecture and demonstration will be provided (most often) by the instructor. Discussion, presentation, and critique will be expected of all students as they are fundamental activities for designers and artists.

### PROJECTS

You will be responsible for individual and possibly collaborative projects throughout the semester.

### QUIZZES

Short exercises and/or questions. Sometimes announced and sometimes not. Be prepared!

### SKETCHBOOK ASSIGNMENTS

Sketchbook assignments may be required throughout the semester. As with any assignment, sketchbook assignments will also be graded.

### Course Requirements and Grading

The world of graphic design is a deadline-driven industry. Having said that, ALL assignments must be completed BEFORE coming to class on the date work is due. Neither the instructor or the SVHEC are responsible for loss of your computer files. Back them up. OFTEN. No excuses will be accepted for missing work. One letter grade will be deducted for each class period an assignment is late. Again, late work must be turned in at the BEGINNING of class to be counted only one day late. Turning it at the end of the next class constitutes TWO days late and two letter grades deducted. If, for any reasons, circumstances beyond your control prevent you from turning in work on time, please contact me to discuss. Email and phone contact information is provided above. Individual projects are graded on whether or not they meet, exceed, or disappoint instructor expectations outlined at the beginning of projects. Take your time, finish all work and try your best to achieve all objectives for your assignments. Poor scores can often be raised by submitting a project a second time. See the instructor on an individual basis about re-submitting assignments.

### Attendance Policy:

**Mandatory 25% attendance policy. Refer to the Attendance section in the DCC catalog.**

Students who are receiving financial aid, please note: If a faculty member submits a continuous alert for a student because of poor attendance, disbursement of financial aid proceeds by check will be blocked until each faculty member submitting such an alert has given Admissions permission to remove the alert. In addition to blocking the check request, a continuous alert blocks enrollment for future semesters until the block is removed. If a student never attends a class or only attends one time before the refund deadline, the student will be considered a "no show" and withdrawn from the class. Faculty will report "no shows" to the division office by the refund deadline for all classes they teach.

### PARTICIPATION

You will receive a grade for class participation at the end of the semester. Meaningful contributions to class discussions, blog posts, helpful commentary, peer mentoring and classroom leadership will not only help your grade (and life) significantly, but are expected. Paying attention in class is REQUIRED. You will be allowed to miss TWO classes during the course of the semester without affecting your participation grade. After two absences, each further absence will deduct 5 points from your participation grade. Your participation grade will be averaged in with all other grades at the end of the semester.

### GRADING SCALE

If a student has adequate attendance and is not delinquent in any of the above course requirements, the final grade will be at least as follows as determined by the student's average on graded work:

- A = 91-100 Superior
- B = 81-90 Above Average
- C = 71-80 Average
- D = 61-70 Below Average
- F = 60 and below Failure

### In-Class Conduct

The equipment in the Earp Learning Lab represents a substantial investment in education in Southside. Also it is not yours. For both reasons you should treat the room and its contents with respect. Lab rules will be posted. The provisions of the College Honor Code are in effect for this course. You are encouraged to learn and interact with each other to get projects done, but you may NOT pass off someone else's ideas or work as your own; that cheats both you, the person stolen from, and the instructor. Disruptive behavior is (in general) not allowed. This course makes extensive use of the internet. It is essential to your education and future career opportunities that you be comfortable and capable online. My aim is to ensure that you have a safe, productive, and enjoyable internet experience. Be advised that instructor/adult supervision is near-constant during class time, and internet content is monitored both in person and digitally. Inappropriate content will NOT be tolerated and is grounds for permanent dismissal from the class and, DCC and the VHEC.

### Additionally:

DO NOT store your backpacks and book bags under your computer station. DO NOT bring food or drink into the lab. DO NOT leave until dismissed by the professor. DO NOT surf the internet, chat aimlessly, text, or listen to music (w/ or w/o headphones) during the lecture or when I otherwise ask for your attention. Viewing inappropriate content will be punished. Keep in mind that I can see your computer screens from my desk. During class time when you are working on a project, you may listen to music using the audio headphones. You may use YouTube to find music while working. Facebook and MySpace are to be avoided. DO dress appropriately when we have client interviews, speakers, or other guests scheduled to visit the classroom either in person or virtually. DO put away headphones, tidy keyboard, and straighten your station before you leave. Other classes use this space. DO ask questions. Children are not allowed in any classrooms or computer labs, nor should they be left unattended in any part of the building. Only Southern Virginia Higher Education Center students are allowed to use the computers. You should not share your computer account access with anyone.

Danville Community College is committed to meeting the needs of all students and providing access for persons with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are available to those students with diagnosed disabilities. Students with diagnosed disabilities wishing to receive specific accommodations must be registered with the Disability Services. For more information, please contact Laura Daniel, Counselor and ADA Coordinator, at 797-8572 or ldaniel@dcc.vccs.edu.