

# ART 102-1: 2-D FOUNDATIONS

Northern Illinois University | Spring 2014

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00 – 9:50 A.M. | AB 301

**Instructor:** Danielle Wagner | **Office:** AB 314 | **Office hours:** By appointment

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**Course Description from Undergraduate Catalog:** Comprehensive study of design elements and principles through the study of two-dimensional space. Emphasis on inventiveness using various media. Studio and lecture.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this course, students are expected to:

- Effectively manipulate the elements and principles of two-dimensional design to create non-objective, abstract, and representational compositions;
- Develop inventive concepts using various problem-solving strategies, such as convergent thinking, divergent thinking, collaboration, and brainstorming;
- Speak and write critically about personal and peer artworks and propose alternatives;
- Research an idea and develop an extended series of related images;
- Learn 2-D vocabulary, as presented in lecture, critique and assigned readings;
- Use Photoshop to create photo-based collages and narratives.

**Recommended Readings:** *Launching the Imagination* by Mary Stewart, McGraw-Hill.

**Reading Assignments:** It is the student's responsibility to read and study the text, handouts, and research assignments for understanding the course's content.

**Required Materials:** There is an option at the VCB to purchase a kit with all the following materials at a discounted price. Please *always* bring a 9"x12" sketchbook, pencil, ruler, Xacto knife with cap, tape, and scissors with you to class.

*Prismacolor Pencils:*

Canary Yellow, PC916

Sunburst Yellow, PC917

Poppy Red, PC922

Crimson Red, PC924

Violet Blue, PC933

Non-Photo Blue, PC 919

9"x12" sketchbook

2 Cold-Press Illustration Boards, White

Pencils, HB and 4B

Hand-held pencil sharpener

Utility knife, with blades

Xacto knife with cap with 25 No. 11 blades

24" Cork-backed Stainless Steel Ruler

*Sharpie markers:*

Fine Tip

Broad Tip

Scissors

Artists tape

Uhu Glue Stick

#6 Round Watercolor Brush

½" Flat Watercolor Brush

2GB Flash Drive

12"x18" or larger self healing cutting board

\*Other materials as needed

## **GRADING INFORMATION**

University grading policy:

A	90-100 %	Exceptionally fine work: outstanding achievement against all course learning objectives.
B	80-89 %	Above average work: superior achievement against most course learning objectives
C	70-79 %	Average work: good, meets most course objectives at a basic level
D	60-69 %	Below average work: noticeably weak, fails to meet most course learning objectives
F	< 60%	Clearly deficient against all course learning objectives.

The grade of "I" (Incomplete) is conditional. (According to the 2012-13 UG Catalog: "must be cleared no later than 200 calendar days from the end of the term in which the student received the grade..." According to the 2012-13 GRAD Catalog: "In no case may the deadline be later than 120 days after the last day of final examinations during the term for which the incomplete is assigned. The incomplete must be removed within 120 days."). After the deadline, the "I" becomes an "F."

The grade of "W" (Withdrawal) appears on grade reports when students withdraw from a class by the withdrawal deadline.

## **Evaluation Policies and Procedures:**

[ten point scale]

**Class Work:**

4 points complexity, creativity  
3 points accuracy  
2 points skill  
1 point risk

**Homework:**

4 points development and exploration  
3 points understanding and completion  
2 points technical skill  
1 point presentation

A: An excellent individual performance. Projects are met with an extraordinary answer to the problem presented. The student challenges their skills and ideas, demonstrating the attitude, creativity, and momentum of the working artist. The thoughtful visual risk is employed. Participation in discussion, critiques as well as the support of fellow classmates is evident.

B: An above average performance by the student. All projects are completed creatively, absences are minimal, and the student participates in class discussion and critique. The student strives for personal excellence and skill development.

C: An average performance by the student. All assignments are completed and on time.

D: The student is attending class yet participation in the learning process is not exhibited. Work is not submitted, incomplete or consistently late and usually more than four classes are missed.

F: Failure to show comprehension of skills, objectives and language offered in this class. A majority of the assignments are not turned in or are left unfinished. There are an inexcusable amount of absences.

Grading Scale: 10-9.0 =A, 8.9-8.0 =B, 7.9-7.0 =C, 6.9-6.0 =D, 5.9 and below =F

Grades are given on an individual basis. They are not given on a class curve. You are to consider yourself a part of the entire art student population here at N.I.U.

**Grades are based on three major factors:**

- 1.) Is the work conceptually inventive? Have you demonstrated a solid grasp of problem content? Did you really grapple with the ideas presented in each assignment?
- 2.) Is the composition visually compelling? Is every square inch fully engaged? Have colors been chosen well? Is the image unified? Energized? Balanced? Well crafted? Etc.
- 3.) What was the nature of your learning process? Did you use class time effectively and come prepared to learn? Did you take risks? How many solutions did you invent for each problem? How substantial were your contributions to team meetings and critiques?

*Note: You will be given an additional .5 point for any work kept for display or a slide.*

**Your grades break down as follows:**

Classwork/Projects/Participation = 60%

Homework/Research = 30% → Visual Journal, Art Adventures

Final Project = 10%

**Out of class work hours:** Please be aware that a *minimum* of 6 hours outside work are required for this course.

**ART 102 COURSE CONTENT**

**Elements of 2D Design and Composition:** Space, point/line, shape, color (value/intensity/hue),

texture, and pattern.

**Principles of 2D Design and Composition:** Unity, variety, balance, emphasis-focus-dominance, pattern-rhythm, proportion, contrast-readability and scale.

The above elements and principles hardly stand alone in most compositions, one may dominate, but most times several are present in an interrelationship, and at times it is almost impossible to separate them.

**Aesthetic Components:** Pattern and texture (tactile and visual), unity and variety/similarity, balance (symmetrical and asymmetrical), rhythm (visual and temporal), emphasis (focal point, eye flow, overall distribution), proportion (figure to figure relationships), and scale (composition to its surrounding relationship).

**Guidelines for Working:** A successful artist or designer must see, plan, and try many solutions to a problem. Study a problem's requirements and limitations. Constantly analyze and evaluate the current results of your work, accept or reject your ideas. ***Remember, your most likely will not "get it right" the first time. If you do, you do not need to be here, there are better results to be discovered with experimentation.*** Your job is to work with experiences and new ideas/skills/techniques to create something with your own stamp of originality, intuition, and inspiration. *Do not forget to keep your sense of humor!*

## COMMUNICATION

Using your NIU E-Mail account and Blackboard is a must. Throughout the course I will be putting all assignments, references and inspiration on Blackboard. The university is now paperless so look for announcements though e-mail. Go to the NIU home page and log in with your Z-number and password. For the help desk call: 815-753-8100.

## COURSE POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

**Attendance:** Excessive absences will affect the quality of your work. It is impossible to make up for the planned and spontaneous information experienced in class. Your consistent presence, not only in body but also in motivated and industrious learning behavior, will significantly impact your grade. If you miss a class you are responsible for class material and the assignment. All absences, whether excused or not, will count toward your grade. **Three late arrivals will count as a class absence. After three absences your grade will be lowered. Except for extreme circumstances, more than six absences constitute an F for this class.**

**Class work will be collected and assessed weekly.** You are to keep all class work. If you choose to do the piece over or make improvements your grade may be elevated. This work will be assembled in your final portfolio.

**Assignments are to be completed on time.** Each day the project is late the grade will be lowered one point. If you feel the piece is incomplete, or questionable, bring it to class for the critique. This class will provide a venue for discussion and your fellow students are there for input and guidance. After the critique is completed, you will receive a grade on that project. Grades will be marked on the back of your projects.

**Quarter and Midterm progress assessments** will take place with individual conferences. If you have any questions about how you are doing please do not hesitate to ask and/or schedule an appointment with me.

**Art Adventures:** The advantage to being part of a large university art community is the continuous resources available through visiting artists presentation and exhibitions. **You will be required to attend a minimum of five of these events as part of your final homework grade.** In order to prove to me that you attended an art event, you must attach a program/ticket/postcard to your visual journal and answer the following: 1.) Describe the event you attended 2.) What is your opinion of the event you attended?

\*Please remember that Chicago has multiple resources for the arts as well. You are encouraged to attend exhibitions at various galleries and/or museums there.

**Blackboard:** This class will be on Blackboard. This syllabus, along with all of the assignments and will be posted there. This is to ensure students always have the correct, up-to-date information at hand. Log on using your NIU student Z-ID and password. The link to Blackboard can be found on the niu.edu homepage and in MyNIU.

**Visual Journal:** All students are required to obtain a sketchbook. This sketchbook will be used for ART 102 only! Along with using it to sketch out ideas and practicing assignments, these will be used to reflect on each assignment once you have turned the project in. I would like to know what you learned from the project, what is successful about the project, what didn't turn out correctly, and what grade you believe you deserve. I will be collecting and checking these periodically throughout the semester.

**Critiques:** The goal of a critique is to provide the artist with helpful suggestions and feedback that can make their work stronger. Everyone will be provided with constructive criticism. ***On critique days, everyone is expected to arrive on time with their work.*** Professionalism, participation, and respect will be keys to a successful and productive critique. This is a great time to practice using vocab words.

*Students with special needs should discuss appropriate accommodations with me at the end of the first class. I will do all I can to provide the best learning environment for all students.*

**Note on Classroom Etiquette/Cell Phone/Technology:** Cell phones and other devices are to be off and stored during class. If you have an emergency situation please alert your instructor at the beginning of class. The uses of headphones, and other insulating obstructions to hearing the instructor, are to be used as allowed by the instructor in class. Your brief time in this class is a valuable, applicable learning experience that needs your entire focus. We will be using the cell phone for investigation, documentation and as a learning tool. Drawing from your cell phone is prohibited.

## **DISABILITY STATEMENT**

NIU abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which mandates reasonable accommodations be provided for qualified students with disabilities. Students with a documented disability on file with the University need to meet individually with the instructor

during the first week of classes to discuss special needs to attain appropriate accommodations for optimum achievement and success in this course.

Students with disabilities need to register with the N.I.U. Center for Access-Ability Resources [CAAR], located on the fourth floor of the University Health Services [815-753-1303], the designated office on campus to provide services and accommodations to students with diagnosed disabilities. <http://niu.edu/disability/>

Your success as a student is of utmost importance to me. If you have a disability or any other special circumstance that may have some impact on your work in this class, and for which you may require special accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that accommodations can be made in a timely manner. You should note, however that accommodations may not be made if you have not registered with CAAR.

## **PLAGIARISM POLICY**

Plagiarism is a type of cheating that involves the use of another person's ideas, words, design, art, music, etc., as one's own in whole or in part without acknowledging the author or obtaining his or her permission. Plagiarism is not just restricted to written text, but is applicable to other works such as ideas, design, art, and music.

### **Types of Plagiarism**

Plagiarism can occur in many ways:

1. Direct plagiarism
2. Direct "patchwork" plagiarism
3. Insufficient citation of partial quotations
4. Paraphrasing (or summarizing) without citing sources
5. Insufficient citation of paraphrase (or summary)
6. Plagiarism of graphs, charts, figures, or images
7. Misinterpretation of material as "common knowledge"

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Students guilty of plagiarism may suffer a grade penalty or in extreme cases be reported for academic misconduct to the Office of Community Standards & Student Conduct. Academic Misconduct can result in dismissal from the university.

## **SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY**

This syllabus is both a guide and a legal contract. While every attempt is made to provide an accurate overview of the course unanticipated circumstances or events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Such circumstances may arise as a consequence of the progress, needs, and experiences of the students, or may result from other extraneous circumstances. Changes to the syllabus will be made with advance notice so as not to disadvantage students. Should the indicated change present any unanticipated difficulties please contact the instructor immediately.

# **SEMESTER OUTLINE**

## **PROJECTED CLASS SCHEDULE**

\*\*\*\*\****SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH PRIOR***

***NOTICE\*\*\*\*\****

### **SECTION 1: BASIC ELEMENTS**

#### **1. Week 1: January 13<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup> : Line**

1. **Assignment:** Line Inventory; 4 Lines/4 Times. Implied, actual lines: Calligraphic, Contour/Cross-Contour, Hatching/Cross-Hatching
2. **Assignment:** Line Inventory: Morphing
3. **Assignment:** Biographical statement
4. **Suggested Reading assignment: LTI, Introduction & Chapter 1: 0-6**  
**Materials:** Sharpie marker: fine point, and sketch books

#### **2. Week 2: January 20<sup>th</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup> : Line**

1. **Assignment:** Line Dynamics: Movement, Focal Points, Illusion of Space
2. **Suggested Reading assignment: LTI, Chapter 1: 6-15**  
**Materials:** Sharpie marker: fine point, and sketch books

#### **• Week 3: January 27<sup>th</sup> thru 31<sup>th</sup>: Shape**

1. **Assignment:** Shape Inventory: Positive (Figure)/Negative (Ground), Rectilinear/Curvilinear, Geometric/Organic & Representational, Nonobjective & Abstraction.
2. **Assignment:** Shape Transformation: Organic to inorganic  
**Suggested Reading assignment: LTI, Chapter 3: 9-13**  
**Materials:** Sharpie marker: fine point and extra fine, and sketch books

#### **• Week 4: February 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup>: Line, Shape and Balance**

1. **Assignment:** Balancing Act: Orientation, containment, variation of size and manipulation creating intangible things or nouns like: Stability, Individuality, Opposition and Dominance.
2. **Assignment:** Nature & Shape: interrelationships of simple shapes\_ exploration of abstraction and composition. **Drawing tablet Photoshop & Illustrator.**  
**Materials:** Sharpie marker: fine point and extra fine, and sketch books

**Have you visited a gallery exhibition?**

**REVIEW #1 – Diagnostic Portfolio.**

**INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS**

### **SECTION 2: DEGREES OF REPRESENTATION**

#### **• Weeks 5 & 6: February 10<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup> : Pattern**

1. **Assignment:** Pattern Saturation: ideas concerning unity/variety, value, balance and texture.  
**Suggested Reading assignment: LTI, Chapter 3: 1-8 35-37**

**Materials:** Prismacolor White Pencils, 1 – 15” x 22” sheet of Arches Black paper

- **Weeks 7 & 8: February 24<sup>th</sup> thru March 7<sup>th</sup> :Texture & Value**

1. **Assignment:** Texture & Value: students build a composition with found objects then draw what they see creating a bridge between two and three dimensional translation: texture density, value and lighting. Observational process.

**Suggested Reading assignment: LTI, Chapter 1: 20-23**

**Materials:** Photocopies, material samples, paper, pens, pencils, glue, hot glue, Xacto.

- **Week 9: March 10<sup>th</sup> thru 14<sup>th</sup>: SPRING**

**BREAK!!**

- **Week 10: March 17<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup>: Balance,Texture, and Value (Continued March 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>)**

1. **Assignment:** Balance and Proportion: examine the relationship between visual elements: Dynamic movement, shape, weight, value, color, and texture.

**Photoshop and Scanning**

**Suggested Reading assignment:** LTI, Introduction: 9-14 and chapters 3: 9-

13 & 6: 16-17

**Materials:** Magazine photo approved by instructor, illustration board, markers, xacto knife

- **Week 11: March 24<sup>th</sup> thru 28<sup>th</sup>: Balance, Texture, and Value (Color)**

1. **Assignment:** Balance and Proportion: examine the relationship between visual elements: Dynamic movement, shape, weight, value, color, and texture.

**Photoshop and Scanning**

**Suggested Reading assignment:** LTI, Introduction: 9-14 and chapters 3: 9-

13 & 6: 16-17

**Materials:** Magazine photo approved by instructor, illustration board, markers, xacto knife.

**Have you visited a gallery exhibition?**

**REVIEW #2 – Midterm Portfolio.**  
**INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS**

**SECTION 3: COLOR**

- 3. **Week 12: March 31<sup>th</sup> thru April 4<sup>th</sup> : Color**

1. **Assignment:** Itten's Color Wheel: Color theory: primary, secondary, tertiary, hue, Chroma, additive/subtractive color, temperature, color schemes, process color: **CMYK, RGB, & PMS**

2. **Assignment: Balance and Proportion (revisited): Color Portion: Complementary or Analogous schemes**

**Suggested Reading assignment:** LTI, chapter 2:0-19

**Materials:** Paints, illustration board.



4. **Week 13: April 7<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup> : Color (Continued)**

1. **Assignment:** Color and Value Chart: Shade, tint, tone and intensity

**Suggested Reading assignment:** LTI, chapter 2:0-19

**Materials:** Acrylic paint, illustration board, Low-tack tape, pencil, & Exacto

Knife.

## **SECTION 4: DIGITAL**

5. **Week 14: April 14<sup>th</sup> thru 18<sup>th</sup> : Typography & Composition**

1. **Assignment:** Postcard: Typography & Composition. **Photoshop:** selection, move, drawing, cloning, feathering healing tools, layer, channels & navigator panels

**Reference:** [www.niu.edu/user/u20fxk1/102\\_foundations/](http://www.niu.edu/user/u20fxk1/102_foundations/)

Have you visited a gallery exhibition?

**REVIEW #3 – Final Portfolio.**

**INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS**

## **SECTION 5: CAPSTONE PROJECT: *The Crowning Achievement***

- **Weeks 15 & 16: April 14<sup>th</sup> thru May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Comprehensive final project**

1. **Assignment:** To Be Announced

### **PORTFOLIO EXPECTATIONS:**

- **REVIEW #1 – Diagnostic Portfolio.** Assessment of all work done in Section 1.
- **REVIEW #2 – Midterm Portfolio.** Assessment of all work done in Section 2.
- **REVIEW #3 – Final Portfolio.** Assessment of all work done in Section 3 with emphasis on Week 10 thru 13 individual assignments.