## Course Outline

**Course Number:** ART-225  
**Title:** Computer Graphics I  
**Date Approved:** 3/1/2013

**Credits:** 3  
**Length of Course:**
For each credit, the student will be expected to spend, on average, 3 hours per week in combination of in-class and out-of-class activity.

**Grading Method:** A-F or Pass/No Pass  
**Prerequisites:** None  
**Co-requisites:** None  
**Recommended:** ART-115  
**Required:** None  
**Related Instruction Area:** None  
**Uses Library Resources:** No

---

**Department:** Art  
**Outline Developed by:** Thomas Wasson  
**Course Approved as:** Lower Division Collegiate

**Course Description:**
Introduction to the use of digital graphics programs. Photo manipulation, illustration, and compositing techniques will be explored. Design principles and creative composition will be emphasized. Historical and contemporary issues related to graphic design aesthetics will be considered.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. identify the concepts and language of Graphic Design,  
2. present an understanding of the modern tools of this trade (the industry standard software applications),  
3. use Photoshop, Illustrator, and In-Design,  
4. use media hardware, including pressure sensitive drawing tablets;  
5. identify Graphic Design's significance to social, cultural, political, and economic change; (AL2) (CL1)  
6. design works that explore personal expression, iconography, and purpose; (AL1)  
7. identify the historical, cultural, theoretical, and aesthetic evolution of the Graphic Design practice; (AL2) (CL1)  
8. utilize personal and public critical evaluation of design concepts. (AL2)

**Major Topic Outline:**
1. Introduction to computers and formats.
   a. Moving, saving and storing information.
   b. Use of keyboard, scanners, printers, removable storage devices, etc.
2. Introduction to Photoshop.
   a. The concept of bit mapping.
   b. Creating a document, document size.
   c. Photoshop tools, and commands.
3. Introduction to Illustrator.
   a. The concept of vector graphics.
   b. Creating a document, document size.
   c. Illustrator tools and commands.
4. Design and composition.
   a. Elements of design: line, space, texture, shape, color, value.
   b. Principles of design: harmony, variety, unity, balance, gravity.
   c. Dissection of the picture plane in composition
5. The Design Process in Photoshop:
   a. Importing and transporting images.
   b. Making selections of images.
   c. Moving and isolating images.
   d. Layers of images.
6. The design process in Illustrator.
   a. Importing and transporting images.
   b. Making selections of images.
   c. Moving and isolating images.
   d. Layers of images.
7. Design concepts:
   a. Compositing images.
   b. Visual communication of synergistic relationships.
   c. Psychology of multiple images, gestalt.
8. Introduction to the history of graphic design.
   a. Digital culture.
   b. The development of digital media.
9. Group critiques of finished projects.
Outcomes addressed by the course:

'C' - this course completely addresses the outcome. Students who successfully complete this course are likely to have attained this learning outcome.

'S' - this course substantially addresses the outcome. More than one course is required for the outcome to be completely addressed. Students who successfully complete all of the required courses are likely to have attained this learning outcome.

'P' - this course partially addresses the outcome. Students will have been exposed to the outcome as part of the class, but the class is not a primary means for attaining the outcome and assessment for general education purposes may not be necessary.

As a result of completing the AAOT/ASOT general education requirements students will be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AL: Arts and Letters Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S 1. Interpret and engage in the Arts &amp; Letters, making use of the creative process to enrich the quality of life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S 2. Critically analyze values and ethics within a range of human experience and expression to engage more fully in local and global issues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CL: Cultural Literacy Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S 1. Identify and analyze complex practices, values, and beliefs and the culturally and historically defined meanings of difference.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>