

Art 120 **Digital Foundations 1** 3 credits | F2008

Three sections (you can only attend the section you are enrolled into)

Monday	8:00 am - 11:50 am	J003 Joppa Hall	Section 1	CRN 40535
Monday	12:45 pm - 4:35 pm	J003 Joppa Hall	Section 2	CRN 40536
Thursday	6 pm - 9:50 pm	J003 Joppa Hall	Section 3	CRN 40537

Course Description

This course establishes the foundation for all other computer-based classes within the Visual Communications Program. Students are introduced to the computer as an art-making tool. Through a series of lectures, demonstrations and studio work, students learn basic computer navigation/practices, scanning, printing, and a variety of select software packages used for image creation/manipulation, graphics and page layout.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency with basic Macintosh navigation, operations and practices.
(Outcomes: Communication, Critical Thinking, Science+ Technology, Computational Skills, Information Literacy)
2. Demonstrate proficiency in the use of Macintosh computers and other peripherals including scanners and printers.
(Outcomes: Communication, Critical Thinking, Science+ Technology, Computational Skills, Information Literacy)
3. Discuss differences between vector, bitmapped and page layout applications and demonstrate proficiency for solving visual problems.
(Outcomes: Communication, Critical Thinking, Science+ Technology, Computational Skills, Information Literacy)
4. Display a developing aesthetic judgement in the creation and evaluation of digitally produced images, graphics and text.
(Outcomes: Communication, Critical Thinking, Science+ Technology, Computational Skills, Information Literacy)
5. Demonstrate an understanding of information gained through manuals and text.
(Outcomes: Communication, Critical Thinking, Science+ Technology, Computational Skills, Information Literacy)

Class Policies

Attendance for class is mandatory. HCC students are bound by the academic policies outlined in the most current HCC Catalog. It is the student's responsibility to review these policies prior to the start of each semester. Students will be familiar with and adhere to the policies and sanctions governing student conduct as written in the HCC Catalog

Please have all notes, assignments and required materials on hand. You are responsible for assignments regardless of attendance; absence does not excuse anyone from assignments or project deadlines. Unexcused late projects will receive at least one lowered grade for each week late.

Active participation in class critiques is also mandatory. This means discussing readings and materials in class and on the blog outside of class, your own ideas and work processes, and speaking/writing constructively about your interpretation of others' work. All projects, assignments and readings are posted on the class calendar online. It is your responsibility to keep up with the calendar and have materials and readings prepared as appropriate. Unexcused late projects will automatically be failed. Please be on time for class and don't leave early, as chronic latecomers will be penalized in final grading and skipping out early equals an absence. While in class please refrain from working on projects assigned in other classes or you will be dropped from the class.

Instructor: **Kenneth Jones**
Associate Professor
Art

Joppa Hall J123
410.836.4326
kjones@harford.edu

Office Hours:

Monday
11:50AM - 12:45PM

Tuesday
12:20 - 2:25PM

Wednesday
10:45 - 12:45PM

Class Website & Calendar

faculty.harford.edu/faculty/kjones

Click link on Art 120 class calendar.

You are responsible for materials posted on this website and due dates associated with them. If you miss a class, check the website to see what you need to make up. Visit the website at least weekly, as it has up-to-date class assignments and a schedule you can view for the entire semester. You are responsible for assignments, updates, readings or messages posted on this site, so make sure you check it prior to starting any work. You can view this website from any computer with internet access.

Grading Policy

Please see the link on the class website for a downloadable PDF file with current information on how you will be evaluated in this class.

Rules

Three unexcused absences will result in failing the class.

No cell phone calls, online surfing, instant messaging, shopping or web based interaction other than class based work while we are in session.

Violators of this policy will automatically be dropped from the class. Cell phones must be turned off and only used on break.

About This Class

In order to complete your work to a satisfactory level, you will have to spend a considerable amount of time outside of class in the MAC LAB working on your projects. **Expect to schedule at least 4-6 hours weekly on projects and assignments for this class.**

Students will have access to a Mac Xserve on the local network in the lab. The Xserve gives each student storage space for files you generate in the mac lab. It is very useful for keeping your files backed up on a remote server or for storing large files, digital video or sound. In order to successfully complete the class, **all students are required to use their Harford Community College .edu email accounts***. Many class materials and important information will be sent and communicated to your harford.edu address. All matriculated students can sign up for a harford.edu email by visiting the college web page.

*Usung OwlNet at owlnet.harford.edu allows you to check email, your class schedule, and other academic resources.

Mac Lab

Upon entering the Mac Lab, outside of class time, you must sign-in noting your station number. STUDENTS WITHOUT ID WILL NOT BE PERMITTED INTO THE LAB. Open lab hours will be posted outside of the Mac Lab as soon as they are available. There is absolutely no drinking nor eating in the Mac Lab. Please do not bring children in the lab. Violators of these rules will be dropped from the class. Preference of stations is given to matriculated students working on class assigned projects.

Critiques

Class Critiques are our most valuable times together. Critiques are a time for sharing, giving, reflection and evaluation of your work and projects. The nature of a critique is much like a debate meeting a poetry reading. The only way to prepare for a critique is to have your work ready and have an open mind. More importantly however, is your evaluative attention and creative spirit interpreting the work of other students. It is better to arrive with more questions than answers. On critique days, please make sure that you arrive well before class and have your work prepared and ready for review. No work or prints will be accepted after critique begins. Disruptive behavior and lateness will not be tolerated during scheduled critiques and may result in failure of the class.

The Spirit of a Group Lab Environment

In the spirit of the community college, a diverse group of students at many levels enter a given program. Here in the Mac Lab, we promote collaborative learning, open discussion and provide a non-judgemental forum for the expression of your ideas as art. Harford Community College and the Visual Communications Program establish this arena as a fertile ground for learning through experiment, question and open access. Please realize however, that with intense learning comes frustration; especially when the learning is entwined with changing technologies of hardware, software and mysterious devices of imaging. Mistakes illuminate unmapped terrain, failures open new doors. Infinite patience will provide immediate results. Ask your teacher and classmate for help, but don't depend on them as solutions. Producing original content is paramount to your success as an artist.

Gallery Visits, Exhibition Papers and Alternative Printing Resources

You are required to write (2) exhibition papers featuring work you have personally viewed at galleries within the area. Throughout the semester we will have the chance to take tours of local exhibitions in the DC-NYC corridor. You will also be asked later in the semester to find alternative printing venues like service bureaus, Kinkos, and other local digital imaging houses to print your work on other media and in different sizes than we have available here at HCC. More discussion on this later in the semester.

Current Lab schedule:

faculty.harford.edu/faculty/kjones/f08lab.pdf

A cafe is around the corner, please eat and drink outside of the lab.

Kurt Tesnau, Program Assistant:

ktesnau@harford.edu

If needed, e-mail to schedule tutoring sessions with Kurt in advance.

Monitors:

Monitors can be a helpful resource when you are working in the lab. The current monitor is identified on the board outside of J003 & J005.

Class critiques are your verbal evaluations. **If you miss a critique, your grade for that work will be reduced by one full letter (ex A to B).**

Don't even think of printing out or finishing work at your computer while critique is in session. This work will automatically be failed. You may not be granted access if you arrive after a critique is in progress.

IMPORTANT

Your studio lab time should be dedicated to the big three: **WORK, SEEK and EXPERIMENT**, not distracting yourself with the web or other entertaining features of the computer.

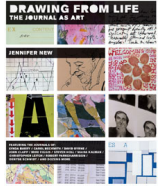
You might just need to pull the internet plug while you are working to spend real time on your projects in the lab. Remember, a full load of classes is like working a full-time job, plan your time appropriately.

See the paper writing guidelines published on my webpage under **RESOURCES**.

Course Goals

The objective of ART 120 is to provide you with a working knowledge of, and experience with, the fundamental tools used in the creation of digital art today. We will consider both fine and commercial art applications concentrating on the design, production and critique of artwork. You will be using Macintosh computers with various software packages to create and design original work that consists of images and text. You will produce digital files for both screen and print media. This course is grounded in the foundations of design as they relate to the fine arts. Along with the technical aspects of digital imaging, we will also be concerned with formal, aesthetic and conceptual questions regarding new media and its relationship to contemporary art and design.

Texts/Concepts



REQUIRED: DRAWING FROM LIFE, THE JOURNAL AS ART by Jennifer New, Princeton Architectural Press, 2005. \$25

There is no “required” technical text for this class that everyone must use. That said, owning a book on Adobe CS3 can be valuable, as you begin learning about it. You are required, however, to purchase, check out, rent or borrow a book that you will share portions of in class during the semester. You must get it prior to the 2nd week of the semester. There are so many good books on the market- invest in one if you believe you will use it. We won't be learning out of a text, but in part through demonstrations and individual investigations into the software that you will lead in skill sharing workshops we will hold throughout the semester. The help features within software these days include the heavy paper manuals of yesteryear and include additional resources as they are live connections into the web. Please investigate the “Help” features of your applications in the menu bar on your own or as instructed.

Visual Journal/Idea Book

Students are required to keep a visual journal throughout the class, IT WILL MAKE UP PART OF YOUR FINAL GRADE ! A simple composition book, unruled, is something that's portable and scannable. This journal is an idea repository and visual index of your creative mind and should be vigorously kept as inspiration. This book is separate from your sketchbooks you may have in other studio classes. Students will discuss their journal throughout the semester in review sessions. More on this in class.

FTP Directory

ART 120 has its own FTP directory. We will be using this FTP site in many ways throughout the semester, eventually building web pages and posting assignments and portfolios. You can get access to the site by using an FTP program like Transmit or Cyberduck available in the Mac Lab and entering the following info shown to the right.

Please do not use this sight for personal hosting, image hosting or temporary storage. Any misuse of this site will result in automatically failing the class

Supplies

Invest in a portable firewire hard drive (buy as many GB as you can afford, storage is under \$1 per GB these days) to port your files to and fro' and for backup purposes. This will be the first of many hard drives you'll own. You should also have a supply of media to archive and backup projects such as CD-Rs, DVDs (you'll need them for your final portfolio). Keep a live sketchbook with you at all times, and a camera. You will be turning your sketchbook in from time to time this semester and will receive a grade for it. A portable portfolio to transport your work to and from the lab is a necessity. Additionally, you should purchase a presentation portfolio such as an Itoya 13 x 19 with 48 archival sleeves to start a portfolio. Buy all of this stuff now.

It is important that you use the macs and software in the digital arts studios to investigate, develop and produce your work.

Make sure you have completed the reading prior to our discussion of it.

Completing a reading means having notes and questions ready to discuss about it. Completing readings when due is part of the assessment of your grade. Late assignments are lowered by a lettergrade for each day



Sketchbooks are a “private laboratory of a million experiments.”

–Katherine McCoy
(former Chair
Cranbrook Academy
Dept. of Design)

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Server= student.harford.edu
User= HCC15\art120
Pass = art120pass
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It is required that your assignments be mounted on acid free black matt board, foam core, or presentation boards, which can be purchased at most art supply stores. Your print based assignments should be mounted on the presentation boards for critique.

On Collecting

Start collecting things...photographs, found objects, old letters, drawer residue, printed materials, old magazines... anything you find interesting or visually stimulating. Ideas are the hardest part of the art making process...keep collecting them inside your journals, and keep boxes of materials for scanning and imaging. Working with digital media requires the artist to have access to materials digitally, so you will be scanning and inputting your materials throughout the semester. Plan to have your materials digitized before open lab periods so you can best spend your time in the digital art studio creating, designing and sharing your work.

General Statements

COURSE POLICIES (See Link to right)

HCC students are bound by the academic policies outlined in the most current HCC Catalog. It is the student's responsibility to review these policies prior to the start of the semester.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

HCC is committed to serving students who have documented physical, learning, psychological, or other disabilities. Students who have a disability are responsible for contacting Disability Support Services at 410-836-4402 to discuss their needs for accommodations. All information shared with Disability Support Services will be held in confidence.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students will be familiar with and adhere to the policy governing academic dishonesty and its sanctions as written in the HCC Catalog 2008-09. Any student who plagiarizes material in written, oral or visual works may fail that assignment and/or course.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Students will be familiar with and adhere to the policies and sanctions governing student conduct as written in the HCC Catalog 2008-09.

EXPLICIT MATERIALS STATEMENT

This course involves the access of the internet and other materials that may be considered as having a sensitive and controversial nature. This course may include the presentation of, or exposure to such materials in a classroom setting with the hope of developing a forum for debate on these contemporary issues.

DISCLAIMER

The professor reserves the right to change the syllabus at any time throughout the semester, and will provide advance notice of such alteration.

HCC Academic Policies
www.harford.edu/Catalog/Current/acadPol.pdf