



# Nassau Community College

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## MicroComputer Graphics Art 130

Section M1-1

Fall 2009

Saturday 9:00 - 2:00

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Nassau Community College

Art Department

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### Course Description

This course will start with an introduction to the computer lab complex and Macintosh computers. Course instruction will be an introduction to Adobe InDesign, Adobe Acrobat, and Quark Xpress. Students should know the basics of Adobe Illustrator and be experienced in Adobe Photoshop. Students will be instructed in techniques of Postscript drawing, logo design and 2D design. Students will gain knowledge of page layout and design on computers. Emphasis will be on developing technique, style and accuracy with emphasis on 2D design principles. Students will design and compose a variety of graphic design projects including business cards, logos, flyers, photomontages, and advertisements.

### Course Objectives

This course will provide the student with a basic foundation for accomplishing page layout, computer graphics, digital image manipulation, illustration and design on the computer. The course will reinforce and encourage use of basic art and design principles such as balance, emphasis, variety, transition, etc. The student will gain experience with a variety of computer graphic and design projects. In addition, some basic fundamentals of computer graphics and desktop publishing will be introduced. Throughout the course, the student will practice basic computer operations (such as menu commands, keyboard short cuts and window management).

### Textbook and Materials

USB storage device

Notebook or sketch pad

There is no specific textbook required. However, students should purchase one or more of the following: a training CD a book such as Visual Quick Start Guide or from the bibliography.

### Instructional Procedures

Lectures, demonstrations, and instruction.

Critiques and group discussions.

Class direction on projects and individual development.

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## MicroComputer Graphics Art 130

### Assignments

Eight to ten projects and an extensive final project will be assigned. Projects will generally be assigned each week and will be due the following week. Late projects will either not be accepted or will result in a lowered grade. Students are encouraged to substitute any of the assigned projects with one of their own projects as long as they relate to the material presented in class and are discussed with the instructor (for approval) at the time the class project is assigned. Students will need to spend time in the lab or on their own computer (outside of class time) to complete these projects. One term paper (four to five pages, double spaced and typeset) will be due near mid semester. In addition, there will be tutorial assignments worked on in class. Finally, all students should maintain notes on class lectures, demonstrations and instruction. Class attendance is essential. Any forms of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating or lying may result in serious grade reductions.

### Term Paper

The term paper should be four to five pages of text, double-spaced and typeset. Topics may include but not be limited to: a short biography of an artist or graphic designer, a summary of any work of art, a description of an art related event, or a step by step documentation of any project or technique that you wish to research. Please feel free to use the Internet for source material but be aware that anyone can put information on the world wide web so not everything you read is reliable. Try to develop a feel for the accuracy of your resources. Please state your sources and write in your own words.

### Gallery Questionnaire and Art Forum

Attend an exhibit at the Firehouse Gallery. Pick up questionnaire at the front desk (see back of syllabus), and hand in answers, typed. Attend an Art Forum (schedule located in art office). Receive forum postcard (see back of syllabus) and have approved by professor. Questionnaire and forum each worth 5% of final grade.

### Grading

Your final grade will be determined by the sum of points awarded for your performance in the following areas:

		Percent	Grade
Term projects as assigned (usually 8 to 10)	50	90-100	A
Final project	10	85-89	B+
Midterm and Final exams	10	80-84	B
Term paper (usually four to five pages of text)	10	75-79	C+
Class participation/class tutorials	5	70-74	C
Progress	5	65-69	D+
Firehouse Gallery Questionnaire	5	60-64	D
Art Forum Attendance	5	0-59	F

All assignments will be handed in as a hard copy as well as in the artserver drop box. Assignments handed in late will result in a lowered grade or will not be accepted at all. No assignments will be accepted past the final class date. You may request to better your grade by a maximum of one letter grade or ten points on any project handed in on time except the final project. To do this, ask me after the project is graded and simply follow the revision instructions I give you. You are responsible for the material, notes and assignments for any classes you miss. No more than two absences are permitted. Each absence in excess of two will lower your final grade by one full letter grade. Absences above four will result in your being dropped from the course or failure. Habitual or excessive lateness will count each two occurrences of lateness as one absence.

Exams are only offered once. There are no make-ups for any reason. If you miss an exam, you forfeit the grade.

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## MicroComputer Graphics Art 130

### Assignment Descriptions

- Week 1**  
9/12      **Lecture: Syllabus and Introduction**  
Introduction to the computer lab, Color Theory, Composition  
**Assignment: Purchase USB Device**
- Week 2**  
9/19      **Rosh Hashannah No Class**
- Week 3**  
9/26      **Lecture: Introduction to Adobe Photoshop**  
**Assignment: Experiment with Tools of Photoshop**  
Size: 5"x7" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. No experience necessary.  
See what you can discover on your own after a brief tour of the basics.  
Emphasis on usage of various tools and swatches or picker palettes
- Week 4**  
10/3      **Lecture: Photoshop Toolbar, palettes, pull down menus**  
**Assignment: Surreal Photomontage**  
Size: 5"x7" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. Using scanned images, copy and paste selections, duplicate, flip, rotate, and use marquee tools and layers to create an interesting surreal photomontage. Enhance the image using tools and menu commands.  
Emphasis on style and composition. Use color theory as discussed in class.
- Week 5**  
10/10      **Lecture: Masking and advanced image manipulation**  
**Assignment: Texture and Type Montage**  
Size: 5"x7" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. Using scanned images, copy and paste selections to create a texture montage. Enhance the image using tools and menu commands.  
Add type. Emphasis on style and composition. Use color theory as discussed in class.
- Week 6**  
10/17      **Lecture: Introduction to Adobe Illustrator**  
**Assignment: Experiment with Tools of Illustrator**  
Size: 8"x10" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. No experience necessary.  
See what you can discover on your own after a brief tour of the basics.  
Emphasis on usage of various tools and the paint style palette.  
**Paper Due Next Week**
- Week 7**  
10/24      **Lecture: Toolbar, palettes, pull down menus**  
**Assignment: Seed Package Design**  
Size: 3"x4" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. Using Adobe Illustrator create three different designs for seed packets. Keep your compositions simple (one to three objects).  
Remember to close all shapes and build volume with overlap. Emphasis on style and composition. Use the pen tool to draw objects.  
Review for Mid-Term  
**Paper Due**

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## MicroComputer Graphics Art 130

- Week 8**  
10/31      **Lecture:** Masking in Illustrator, BA Logo of Letters  
**Assignment: Business Card**  
Size: 3.5"x2". Resolution 150 dpi. Create several samples of possible cards.  
Start by creating a logo in two colors, than add the contact information.  
Try several different layouts and print as color separations.  
**Mid-Term**
- Week 9**  
11/7      **Lecture:** Introduction to InDesign  
**Assignment: Experiment with tools of Quark Xpress or Adobe InDesign**  
Size: 5"x7" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. No experience necessary.  
See what you can discover on your own after a brief tour of the basics.  
Emphasis on usage of various tools and text tools.
- Week 10**  
11/14      **Lecture:** Advanced Page Layout in Indesign, BA Small Poster  
**Assignment: Flyer or Advertisement**  
Size: 8"x10" or optional. Resolution 150 dpi. Emphasis on intelligent and creative use of type and images. think about how 4 color mechanicals are created.
- Week 11**  
11/21      **Lecture:** Indesign Style Sheets  
**Assignment: Final Project CD Artwork**  
Size: research and use standard size. Using Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign, choose your favorite artist or collection of songs to create an original and complete compact disc cover. Use your own artwork. Include inserts and labels. You must discuss any ideas with the instructor prior to execution of the assignment. Consider using additional materials and tools besides the computer. Matting is required for flat artwork. Presentation is extremely important; no disks or prints on plain white paper will be accepted.
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- Week 12**  
11/28      **Thanksgiving Recess - No Class**
- Week 13**  
12/5      **Work Day**
- Week 14**  
12/12      **Final Project Due**
- Week 15**  
12/19      **Final Class**

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## MicroComputer Graphics Art 130

### Bibliography

#### Imaging Essentials

by Luanne Seymour Cohen, Russell Brown and Tanya Wendling  
Adobe Press, 1993 (ISBN# 1-56830-051-4)

#### Design Essentials

by Luanne Seymour, Russell Brown, Lisa Jeans and Tanya Wendling  
Adobe Press, 1992 (ISBN# 0-672-48538-9)

#### Advanced Adobe Photoshop

by the staff of Adobe Systems Incorporated  
Adobe Press, 1994 (ISBN# 1-56830-117-0)

#### Photoshop f/x by Cathy Abes

Ventana Press, 1994 (ISBN# 1-56604-179-1)

#### Professional Photoshop

by Dan Margulis  
John Wiley & Sons, 1994 (ISBN# 0471018732)

#### Photoshop Filter Finesse

by Bill Niffenegger  
Random House, 1994 (ISBN# 0-679-75324-0)

#### Photoshop Wow! Book Tips and Tricks

by Dayton & Davis  
PeachPit Press, 1993 (ISBN# 1-566-09-004-0)

#### Photoshop In Black And White

by Jim Rich and Sandy Bozek  
PeachPit Press, 1994 (ISBN# 1-56609-117-9)

#### Photomontage

by Dawn Ades  
Thames and Hudson Inc., 1986 (0-500-20208-7)

#### The Gray Book: Designing In Black and White On Your Computer

by Michael Gosney  
Ventana Press, 1990 (ISBN# 0-940087-50-2)

#### The Macintosh Bible, 4th edition

by Goldstein & Blair (Arthur Naiman, et al.)

PeachPit Press, 1993 (ISBN# 1-56609-009-1)

#### Danny Goodman's Macintosh Handbook

by Danny Goodman  
Bantam Books, 1992 (ISBN# 0-553-35485-X)

#### 47 Printing Headaches And How To Avoid Them

by Linda Sanders  
Running Press, 1991 (ISBN# 0-89471-226-8)

#### The Graphic Designer's Handbook

by Alastair Campbell  
North Light Books, 1991 (ISBN# 1-56830-021-2)

#### QuarkXpress® Design Techniques for Macintosh®

by Michael J. Nolan & Scott Cook  
Hayden Books, 1993 (ISBN# 0-89134-366-0)

#### Designing Creative Resumes

by Gregg Berryman  
Crisp Publications, 1990 (ISBN# 1-56052-053-1)

#### Creating Killer Web Sites

by David Siegel  
Hayden Books, 1996 (ISBN# 1-56052-053-1)

#### How To Use HTML 3

by Scott Arpajian  
Ziff-Davis Press, 1996 (ISBN# 1-56276-390-3)

#### HTML for Fun and Profit

by Mary E. S. Morris  
SunSoft Press, 1995 (ISBN# 0-13-359290-1)

#### The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path To Higher Creativity

by Julia Cameron  
G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1992 (ISBN# 0-87477-694-5)

#### Computer Artist

by Pennwell Publishing Company  
Subscription Service: P.O. 3188, Tulsa, OK 74101.

## **Macintosh Commands Found In Most Applications**

**FILE**  
**EDIT**  
**NEW**  
**UNDO**  
**OPEN**

**CUT**  
**CLOSE**  
**COPY**  
**SAVE**  
**PASTE**

**SAVE AS**  
**CLEAR**  
**PRINT**  
**SELECT ALL**

### **File Menu**

New- Use this to create a new document . Can also create a new folder when in the finder.

Open- This will load an existing document or launch an application in the finder.

Close- Closes the document currently open or closes a window in the finder.

Save- Saves the current document or updates it if it was already saved.

Save As- Use to save a copy of the current document under a different name.

Print- Prints the document (can be used in the finder if document is selected).

### **Edit Menu**

Undo- If available, this will undo the last action taken. Usually only the last action will be undone, so if you use this command twice, it redoes what was undone leaving you back to where you were before the undo command was selected.

Cut- Copies whatever is selected to the clipboard memory and then deletes it.

Copy- Copies what is selected (does not delete it).

Paste- Pastes whatever was last copied or cut (in word processing, this command pastes the contents of the clipboard starting at the blinking insertion point).

Clear- Deletes what is selected without copying it into clipboard memory.

Select All- Quickly selects everything in the active window (the active window is the window which was clicked in last).

### **If You Are Stuck**

First, press on the application switching icon to see which program you are in. System 7's application switching icon is located in the top right corner of the screen. Remember, in System 7 it is possible to have several applications opened at the same time. Second, try saying to yourself what you want to do using words found in the file or edit menus.

#### **Other Terms**

CPU- Central Processing Unit (can be used to describe the computer without the monitor or keyboard).

RAM- Random Access Memory. This is CPU processing memory. Files (applications and documents) get loaded into RAM memory when they are opened.

Storage memory- this is most often floppy disks or hard disks. When a document is saved it is stored on a floppy disk or a hard disk drive.

Monitor or Display- This is the screen you see information on.

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE ART DEPARTMENT

# ARTFORUM

WRITE IN INK ONLY.

Name Mary Perlick

Semester Spring 06 Year 2006

1. This card will be stamped for scheduled Art Forum Events only.
2. This card WILL NOT be stamped for viewing art exhibits at the Firehouse Art Gallery
3. No matter how many art classes you are enrolled in, you are required to attend only **ONE** Art Forum for the semester.
4. Present this stamped card to your instructor(s) to fulfill the Art Forum requirement.
5. Club trips may be substituted for a scheduled Art Forum.

For Art Forum Info, call the  
Art Department Office at 516.572.7162

OFFICIAL STAMP APPEARS BELOW WHEN REQUIREMENT IS FULFILLED

FIREHOUSE

APR -- 2006

GALLERY