Napa Valley College

ARTS 105 Color Theory

Fall 2014 Syllabus
Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 AM–12:20 PM
Fain Hancock
fhancock@napavalley.edu

COURSE INFORMATION
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course focuses on the principles, theories, and applications of additive and subtractive color in two dimensions. Topics will include major historical and contemporary color systems, production of projects in applied color, and the elements of design as they apply to color.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. Produce a portfolio of finished Color projects that demonstrates competency in basic color theory and design application.
2. Critique artwork and receive criticism from others.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester it is expected the student will be able to:
1. Create aesthetically complete designs and images that demonstrate a working knowledge of:
   • Color systems and color organization
   • Principles of color perception - light, vision, and how the brain processes color
   • Value, hue, intensity (chroma), and color temperature
   • Additive and subtractive color (light and paint)
   • Relationships between color and composition
   • Color usage in contemporary art and design;
2. Make individual aesthetic decisions and judgments related to their own artwork;
3. Skillfully use a variety of artistic materials, techniques and tools;
4. Independently produce finished color assignments that demonstrate an understanding of color theory and principles in the history of art;
5. Comprehend and describe how color is perceived biologically, psychologically, culturally, symbolically and intuitively.

COURSE CONTENT
1. History of color and the development of the color palette.
2. Color systems and color organization.
3. The perception of color - light, vision, and how the brain.
4. Value, hue, intensity (chroma), and color temperature.
5. Colors, palettes and materials.
6. Additive and subtractive color (light and paint).
7. Color and composition.
8. Identifying and understanding color mixtures.
9. Cultural influences on color usage.
10. Color usage in contemporary art and design.
11. Color and Technology
12. Critical evaluation and critique of class projects.

COURSE STRUCTURE: This is a studio class. Most of our time is used for studio production and practice. You are expected to come prepared with the necessary supplies for serious, sustained work. You are expected to complete work begun in class outside of class. The art studios are available for students to use when there are no classes scheduled.

READING: Color a Workshop Approach by David Hornung; Laurence King Publishing; 2 edition (September 5, 2012)second edition
Used copies are available online at amazon.com and half.com. At Chegg you can rent this text.

ATTENDANCE AND CONDUCT: Students who miss more than two class periods without documentation excusing their absences or who fail to arrange their absences in advance could be dropped from the course.

Art making requires consistent, focused engagement. Be fully present and ready to work hard. Your success in this class is dependent on your sustained, sincere efforts. Cell phones, iPods and other electronic devices are not allowed during class time unless being used for research.
**GRADING**
Grading will be on based finished projects, written assignments and participation in critiques. You will be graded for effort, technical and conceptual growth and completeness. The final grade will be based on the following percentages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CLASS PROJECTS</strong></td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>collage color wheel</td>
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<td>Mixing your primary and secondary colors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creating a 12 color wheel</td>
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<td>gray scale</td>
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<td>tints, shades, tones</td>
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<td>saturation continuum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies, page 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 2a and 2b Muted Color Studies, page 52</td>
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<td>Assignment 3 Prismatic Studies, page 54</td>
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<td>Assignment 4 Combined Saturation Studies, page 55.</td>
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<td>Assignment 5a and 5b Interaction Studies, page 67-68</td>
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<td>Assignment 5d, page 69 Interaction Composition, page 71</td>
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<tr>
<td>Painting your skin tones</td>
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<td>Assignment 7a and 7b: Color Progression studies, page 80</td>
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<td>Water glass studies, page 89</td>
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<td>Illusions of Transparency and Space, page 84</td>
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<td>Assignment 7a and 7b: Color Progression studies, page 80</td>
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<td>Assignment 10a and 10 Two Color Complementary Palette, pages 101-102</td>
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<td>Assignment 11a,11b and 11c Intermix Dot Inventories</td>
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<td>Assignment 12a, 12b and 12c Compositions with Color Admixtures, page 105</td>
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<td>Assignment 13 Proportional Color Inventory, page 113</td>
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<td>Assignment 14 Nonproportional Color Inventory, page 117</td>
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<td><strong>FINAL PROJECT</strong></td>
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<td>applied vocabulary</td>
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<td><strong>VOCABULARY, WRITING, RESEARCH, QUIZZES</strong></td>
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<td>Gallery Report: Descriptive Essay of a work of art viewed during the di Rosa field trip</td>
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<td>applied vocabulary quizzes</td>
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<td>Other written assignments</td>
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<td>Preparation, class participation, studio/facility maintenance</td>
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<td>See attached rubric for explanation</td>
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Projects and writing assignments will be accepted up to one week late. However, you cannot receive full credit for a late project. Late projects will be lowered at least one or more letter grade. Please talk to me if you are having problems completing the work.
CONTACT INFORMATION:
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707 256 7534 office
707 738 6708 text

Students in need of accommodations in the college learning environment:

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a learning disability should contact Learning Services in the Library and Learning Resource Center (LLRC), room 1766, phone (707) 256-7442. A Learning Disability Specialist will review your needs and determine appropriate accommodations.

If you need accommodations for physical or other types of disabilities, schedule an appointment with DSPS Counselor, Sheryl Fernandez, in the Counseling Department located in the 1300 building, phone (707) 256-7220 for appointment. All information and documentation is confidential.

Please feel encouraged to make an appointment with me privately to discuss your specific learning needs in my class.

Some NVC students, staff, and faculty are seriously impaired by environmental illness or Immune Dysfunction Syndrome. They can experience breathing problems, headaches, sudden fatigue, mood swings, or memory lapses when exposed to perfumes, soaps, scented sprays or lotions, chemicals, tobacco smoke, or dust. Your sensitivity to the problem is extremely important. By minimizing the use of strongly scented soaps, perfumes, and other products, we can help those affected.
ARTS-105 Color Theory

Fall 2014 Weekly Schedule
Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 AM-12:20 PM
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PART ONE: SEEING COLOR
Week 1: Introduction, Science of Color
Monday, August 18
Introduction to ARTS 105, where to purchase supplies, textbook, course expectations
Science of color, additive and subtractive color, pigment color mixing of co-primary colors
Wednesday, August 20: Project: Collage color wheel. Bring glue and scissors.
By Monday, August 25:
Purchase textbook, supplies.
Read, study and review Color Workshop

PART THREE: MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES
Week 2: Mixing Warm and Cool Primary and Secondary Colors
Monday, August 25
Becoming familiar with gouache
Project: Mixing your primary and secondary colors
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, August 27: Collage color wheel due

PART TWO: FIRST PRINCIPLES
Week 3: Color Wheel, Gray Scale
Monday, September 1: School Holiday, no class
Wednesday, September 3
Project: Creating a 12 color wheel with gouache and a gray scale, page 24.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, September 3: Mixing your primary and secondary colors due
By Monday, September 8: Read, study and review PART TWO: FIRST STUDIES: SATURATION pages 26-27.
By Wednesday, September 10: Complete color wheel.

Friday, September 5: last day to drop without a W

PART TWO: FIRST PRINCIPLES
Week 4: Value, Saturation
Monday, September 8
Project: Value and saturation Studies, pages 26-27.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, September 10: 12 color wheel with gouache and a gray scale, page 24 due
By Monday, September 8: Read, study and review PART FOUR: BEGINNING
COLOR STUDIES: pages 46-51.

**By Wednesday, September 10:** Complete grayscale, tints, shades, tones and saturation continuum.

**PART FOUR: BEGINNING COLOR STUDIES**

**Week 5: Chromatic Gray Studies**
**Monday, September 15**
Project: Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies, page 50.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, September 17: grayscale, tints, shades, tones and saturation continuum due

**By Monday, September 22:** Read, study and review PART THREE: BEGINNING COLOR STUDIES: Muted Color Studies, page 52.

**By Wednesday, September 24:** Complete Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies, page 50.

**Week 6: Muted Color Studies**
**Monday, September 22**
Project: Assignment 2a and 2b Muted Color Studies, page 52.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, September 24: Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies, page 50 due

**By Monday, September 30:** Read, study and review PART THREE: BEGINNING COLOR STUDIES: Prismatic Color Studies, page 54.

**By Wednesday, October 1:** Complete Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies.

**Week 7: Prismatic Color Studies**
**Monday, September 30**
Project: Assignment 3 Prismatic Studies, page 54.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, October 1: Assignment 1a and 1b Chromatic Gray Studies due

**By Monday, September 29:** Read, study and review PART THREE: BEGINNING COLOR STUDIES: Combined Saturation Studies.

**By Wednesday, October 2:** Complete Assignment 3a and 3b Prismatic Color Studies.

**Week 8: Combined Saturation Studies**
**Monday, October 6**
Project: Assignment 4 Combined Saturation Studies, page 55.
Supplies: All painting supplies

**By Monday, October 13:** Read, study and review PART 5: COLOR INTERACTION.
Complete Assignment 4a and 4b Combined Saturation Studies.
extra credit: Color Keys, page 53

By Wednesday, October 15 Assignments 1-4 due. Each must be in a plastic sheet, labeled and include a black and white photocopy to show value. Include a printed example of each assignment of artwork you like.
Begin to collect paint swatch samples from hardware stores for the next project.

**PART FIVE: COLOR INTERACTION**

**Week 9: Interaction Studies, Simultaneous Contrast**

**Monday, October 13**

Vocabulary Quiz on the terms used thus far in class. The quiz will be applied vocabulary, meaning you’ll look at an image and describe the colors used: muted, prismatic, chromatic, etc.

Project: Assignment 5a and 5b Interaction Studies, page 67-68.

Supplies: paint swatch samples from hardware stores

**By Monday, October 20:** Read, study and review **PART 6 APPLYING COLOR PRINCIPLES.** Complete Assignment 5a and 5b Interaction Studies, page 67-68.

**Wednesday, October 15:** Assignments 1-4 due. Each must be in a plastic sheet, labeled and include a black and white photocopy to show value. Include a printed example of each assignment of artwork you like.

**PART FIVE: COLOR INTERACTION**

**Week 10: Color Interaction, continued**

**Monday, October 20**


Supplies: paint swatch samples from hardware stores

**By Monday, October 27:** Read, study and review **PART 6 APPLYING COLOR PRINCIPLES, RETINAL PAINTING, page 86.**

**Wednesday, October 29:** Assignment 5d, page 69 Interaction Composition, page 71.

**PART SIX: APPLYING COLOR PRINCIPLES**

**Week 11: Retinal Studies**

**Monday, October 27**

Project: Painting your skin tones. We will make a class collage using the completed skin tones.

Supplies: All painting supplies

**By Monday, November 4:** Read, study and review **PART 6 APPLYING COLOR PRINCIPLES.** Complete skin tones paintings.

**Week 12: Transparency**

**Monday, November 4**

Project: Water glass studies, page 89

Project: Illusions of Transparency and Space, page 84

Supplies: All painting supplies, clear drinking glass

**By Wednesday, November 13:** Read, study and review **PART 6 APPLYING COLOR PRINCIPLES, Tonal Progression, pages 77-80.** Complete Water glass studies, page 89 and Illusions of Transparency and Space, page 84.

**Week 13: Tonal Progression**

**Monday, November 11** School Holiday no class
**Wednesday, November 13**
Project: Assignment 7a and 7b: Color Progression studies, page 80.
Supplies: All painting supplies
Wednesday, November 13: Water glass studies, page 89 and Illusions of Transparency and Space, page 84 due
**By Monday November 17:** Read, study and review PART 7 COLOR HARMONY. Complete Assignment 7a and 7b: Color Progression studies, page 80.

**PART SEVEN: COLOR HARMONY**
**Week 14: Two Color Complementary Palette**
**Monday November 17**
Project: Assignment 10a and 10 Two Color Complementary Palette, pages 101-102.
Supplies: All painting supplies
**Monday November 17: applied vocabulary quiz**
Wednesday, November 19: Assignment 7a and 7b: Color Progression studies, page 80 due
**By Monday, November 24:** Read, study and review PART 7 COLOR HARMONY. Complete Assignment 10a and 10 Two Color Complementary Palette, pages 101-102.

**Week 15: Unifying Strategies for Color Mixing**
**Monday, November 24**
**Two Color Palette**
Project: Assignment 11a, 11b and 11c Intermix Dot Inventories.
Supplies: All painting supplies
**Monday, November 24: Assignment 10a and 10 Two Color Complementary Palette, pages 101-102 due**
**Wednesday, November 26: Field Trip to di Rosa Preserve**
Be prepared to take notes in order to write your descriptive essay on a work of art in the collection
**By Monday, December 1:** Read, study and review PART 7 COLOR HARMONY. By Wednesday, December 3: Complete Assignment 11a, 11b and 11c Intermix Dot Inventories. Write descriptive essay about one work of art viewed at the di Rosa Preserve.

**Week 16: Compositions with Color Admixtures**
**Monday, December 1**
Project: Assignment 12a, 12b and 12c Compositions with Color Admixtures, page 105.
Supplies: All painting supplies
**Wednesday, December 3: Assignment 11a, 11b and 11c Intermix Dot Inventories due.**
**Descriptive essay about one work of art viewed at the di Rosa Preserve due.**
**By Monday, December 8:** Read, study and review PART 8 COLOR RESEARCH. By Wednesday, December 10: Complete Assignment 12a, 12b and 12c Compositions with Color Admixtures, page 105.

**Friday, November 15:** Last day to drop with a W
PART EIGHT: COLOR RESEARCH

Week 17: Color Inventories: Proportional and Non-Proportional, Monday, December 8
Project: Assignment 13 Proportional Color Inventory, page 113.
Supplies: All painting supplies

Wednesday, December 10
Assignment 14 Nonproportional Color Inventory, page 117.
Wednesday, December 10: Assignment 12a, 12b and 12c Compositions with Color Admixtures, page 105 due

Complete Assignment 13 Proportional Color Inventory, page 113 and Assignment 14 Nonproportional Color Inventory, page 117.

Wednesday, December 11: Turn in portfolios.

Week 18: Final
No class Monday, December 15. Refer to the attached final examination schedule for the schedule for week 18.
The final will be an applied vocabulary slide show and one essay question you will receive before the final.

Wednesday, 12/17 8-10AM
Portfolios returned
Supplies

Artists Gouache
Holbein Artists’ Gouache is the best. Windsor Newton Designers’ Gouache is good as well. Avoid student grade colors. Look for artist grade gouache. Don’t buy acrylic gouache. A cheap set of gouache might look like a good deal, but don’t buy it. Less expensive paint has less pigment and will not give you the color results you need for completing the projects. Refer to page 41 of the textbook for more information.

15ml tubes
co-primaries:
one cool yellow:
lemon yellow or cadmium yellow lemon or cadmium yellow
one warm yellow:
permanent yellow or cadmium yellow light or primary yellow
one cool blue:
cerulean blue or manganese blue
one warm blue:
ultramarine blue or cobalt blue
one cool red:
alizarin crimson or primary magenta
one warm red:
cadmium red deep or pure red or flame red
40 ml tube
permanent white
roll of artist tape
watercolor Brush 1/2” flat aquarelle with a beveled clear handle
watercolor Brush round size 4, 5 or 6
watercolor Brush round size 2
good pair of scissors
3 ring binder, plastic protector sheets

Supply Sources:
Napa Valley Art Supplies 3250 California Blvd Napa, CA 707 224-2775
Dick Blick 811 University Ave Berkeley 510-486-2600 www.dickblick.com
At dickblick.com you can access a Blick U Course Supply List for this class.