

AT 7 - Visual Arts Computing

Autumn Term 2007

MTWRF 9:00am-12:00pm, SE-102, SHC-103

Instructor: Dr. Kelly Debure
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This course will explore the technology which has enabled the computer to become a prevalent tool in the visual arts. We will discuss how it has affected both the creation and delivery process, and some of the unique challenges and limitations it places on creative activity. We will develop skill in the use of various computer programs and study some of the underlying concepts and theory of the graphics software we use. We will also explore artistic expression in more traditional media to compare the relationships and differences between the two experiences.

Required Texts and Materials:

1. Anne Morgan Spalter, *The Computer in the Visual Arts*, Addison Wesley, 1999.
2. Carey Bunks, *Grokking the GIMP*, New Riders Publishing, 2000.
Available online at: <http://gimp-savvy.com/BOOK/index.html>
3. 256MB (minimum) thumb drive, any brand.
4. A variety of art supplies including: 9x12 sketch book, 2B, 4B Graphite pencils, kneaded eraser, pink pearl eraser, watercolor paints, watercolor brushes, 12x16 watercolor paper, india ink, pens, one sheet of matte board. A materials fee of \$20 will be added to your account to cover the costs of these supplies.

Grade Distribution:

Projects and assignments - 50%

Traditional artwork projects and exercises, computer based artwork, computer based assignments, in-class quizzes, and written assignments will account for this portion of your grade.

Preparation, participation & attendance - 10%

Readings will be assigned for each class. Your preparation of readings and assignments will serve as the basis for lectures, group discussions and in-class activities. Your assignments, participation, and attendance for in-class activities and discussions will count toward your grade. There are no excused absences.

Completion of required portfolio events - 5%

Each student is expected to complete an Autumn Term Portfolio and your attendance at the five required events will fulfill this requirement.

Library/research assignment - 5%

Each student will receive an assignment during the library orientation. Successful completion of the assignment is expected.

Research Paper - 20%

A research paper, minimum five pages in length will be due Tuesday, August 29. Details of the assignment will follow.

Final Exam - 10%

You will have an in-class exam on Wednesday, August 30 which will cover reading assignments and material presented during the class meetings.

Grades for this course are assessed as follows:

92-100	A	72-77:	C
90-91:	A-	70-72:	C-
88-89:	B+	68-69:	D+
82-87:	B	62-67:	D
80-81:	B-	60-62:	D-
78-79:	C+	Below 60:	F

Class Policies: Graded assignments will be due at the beginning of class. Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 10% per day. A hardcopy should be submitted for each assignment unless otherwise specified. Emailed assignments will not be accepted. Faulty printers or network problems should be anticipated and will not be accommodated.

You are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for all materials covered in class and assigned readings. The specifics of the course syllabus are subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.

Accommodation of Disability: Students with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact me and/or call the Eckerd Counseling Center (x8248) immediately if you need to discuss academic accommodations.

Academic Integrity: This course will be conducted in accordance with basic standards of academic honesty. All students must submit their own original work and must document where they have used secondary materials. Any cases of plagiarism or cheating will be taken seriously and will result in failure of the course (at least). When you enroll in any course at Eckerd College, you pledge to live by the Eckerd Honor Code: "On my honor, as an Eckerd College student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to tolerate these behaviors in others." As a symbol of your acceptance of this code and a reminder of your promise of academic honesty and integrity, please write the word "Pledged" at the bottom of the last page of any written work submitted for evaluation and sign your name.