

Course Title: Computer Fundamentals for Multimedia
Course Number: CTVA361

Semester: Fall 2009
Tuesday & Thursday 8am - 10:45am
Duration: August 24 - December 16

Instructor: Mia Bortolussi
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office hours & location: Tuesdays 10:45-11:45, MZ 162

CTVA DEPARTMENTAL STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Employ pre-production, production, and post-production techniques for all electronic and digital media formats in both the studio and the field.
- Conceptualize, produce, direct, edit, and distribute cinema projects for both entertainment and informational purposes.

361 COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Final Project

- Build a website using Dreamweaver, Photoshop, HTML/CSS
- Learn to create content for a website
- Learn basic usability principles
- Learn basic technology requirements for a website
- Learn to publish a website

Computer and internet learning objectives

- mechanics of how computers work
- basic structure of the World Wide Web
- site map purpose and creation
- storyboards for a website purpose and creation

Photoshop learning objectives

- navigate the Photoshop program
- make selections
- use Layers
- create text and shapes
- create masks
- create a path
- use channels for special effects and color correction
- retouch and color correct photos
- create mock-up of website in Photoshop to be transferred

to HTML

- export images for websites
- create a CD cover in Photoshop at print resolution
- import vector graphics from Illustrator into Photoshop
- create special effects(3d, Plastic, Metal)
- create backgrounds for websites
- crop images for a website photo gallery
- Learn Actions in Photoshop for mass art production

HTML & CSS learning objectives

- basic HTML tags & CSS
- CSS for text
- CSS for layout / DIV tags
- CSS for background graphics
- create a page using tables & CSS
- create HTML tables
- create an HTML page based on a mock-up projected on a screen

Dreamweaver learning objectives

- layout a webpage using tables and style sheets
- format text using style sheets (other than CSS)
- link pages of a website together
- create Rollovers
- create a Paypal Store
- create a Photo Gallery

GRADING:

There are 100 possible points to be earned by. Your grade for the semester will be based on the following breakdown:

3 Projects (not including final) worth 10 points each=30 points

15 class exercises worth 2 points each=30 points

Final Project=40 points

100-90%=A

89-80%=B

79-70%=C

69-60%=D

The evaluation of projects and final website are based on the following of instructions, technical execution and creative solutions.

PARTICIPATION

Each student is expected to participate in discussions by sharing their findings from exercises, following up on requests for more information, asking questions, and commenting. There is not a participation grade but for every 2 classes missed the student will be docked a half a grade. Students that are consistently late will also be marked down a half grade. If a student must miss class please contact me to let me know ahead of time so that you are not considered absent without reason. Cell phones must be turned off in class.

HOMEWORK

Homework includes but is not limited to projects and practicing techniques learned in class and completing any assigned reading. Expect to spend about 6 hours a week outside of class working on the material. As it gets closer to the end of the semester, expect to spend longer in the lab in order to finish final projects.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

A project will go down half of one point for each class it is late. No joke.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. All text should be your own. For design purposes, you can always put in dummy text such as "hjkdksyrioeshfjskh hfios" in order to test sites. We have our ways of finding out if you have plagiarized! If we find writing has been plagiarized, you will be failed.

Please review the following in the 2009/2010 Schedule of Classes and Catalog Supplement:

- Student Conduct Code
- Expulsion, Suspension and Probation of Students
- Classroom Misconduct
- Reporting Misconduct
- Student Consumer Information

In conjunction with examinations, projects and written assignments, it should be noted that severe penalties, including failure of the course and expulsion from the University, may result from any infraction of accepted academic rules of honesty. Among other things, it is understood that there shall be no sharing of information contained in any examination; there shall be no reference to any notes during any quiz or exam (unless otherwise announced). Plagiarism may

result in the same penalties.

California State University, Northridge (2007, September). Why Cite? Avoid Plagiarism. Retrieved January 10, 2008 from http://library.csun.edu/Research_Assistance/plagiarism.html

CREDITS

When you are compiling information, pictures, video, and audio links from the web, you must gain proper clearance from the rightful owners in order to use it on your site. You will be marked down for unauthorized use of materials by a half a grade for each picture, text, graph, video, audio, or any other materials from other sources.

WRITING LAB

The Learning Resource Center's Writing Center is available to all students (and it's free). The Center helps students with academic, professional and personal writing. You should make an appointment a week in advance. Call 818-677-2033 or stop by Bayramian Hall 408 (formerly Student Services Building) for more information. <http://www.csun.edu/LRC>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities must register with the Center on Disabilities and complete a services agreement each semester. Staff within the Center will verify the existence of a disability based on the documentation provided and approve accommodations. Students who are approved for test taking accommodations must provide a proctor form to their faculty member signed by a counselor in the Center on Disabilities prior to making testing arrangements. The Center on Disabilities is located in Bayramian Hall, room 110. Staff can be reached at (818) 677-2684.

COUNSELING SERVICES

CSUN offers a wide variety of personal counseling services to all students. All services are free and all information is private and confidential. If you need any type of counseling, check out their website <http://www.csun.edu/counseling/services>.

University Counseling Services is located in Bayramian Hall, room 520. Phone 818-677-2366

PLEASE NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change

SCHEDULE

8.25

Topics: Intro to Class & Syllabus, Computer Basics

Project #1: Self Portrait

Reading: Chapt. 1-3

8.27

Topics: Web basics

Class Exercise: Set up email and server space

9.1

Topics: Photoshop Interface and Tools, Resolution, Document Size, File Size, and how to Plan for your Output

Class Exercise: Cropping and resizing for web and print

Project #1 Update: Written Piece & Original Image Due

Reading: Chapt. 8-9

9.3

Topic: Scanning, Transferring, Saving, Suffixes

Class Exercises: image in/image out—capturing and out-putting images

9.8

Topics: Layer, Selections & Masks

Class Exercise: Getting just what you want

Reading: Chapt. 13-14

9.10

Topics: Image Adjustments

Class Exercise: Color Correcting and Restoration

9.15

Topics: Perspective and Effects

Class Exercise: Straightening Things Out and Adding Effects

Project #1 Due

Project #2: Business Card

Reading: Chapt. 15-16

9.17

Topics: Fonts & File Sharing

Class Exercise: Don't fear the fonts

9.22

Topics: Vectors in Photoshop

Class Exercise: Layout

Project #2 Update: Concepts and Sketches

Reading: Chapt. 17-18, 20

9.24

Topics: Basic color management, Getting Ready for Print

Class Exercise: Gettin' It Print Ready

9.29

Topics: Some Web Standards, Beginning to Understand HTML & CSS

Class Exercise: The design & the code

Project #2 Due

Project #3: CD/DVD Cover

10.1

Topics: HTML and CSS for text and layout

Class Exercise: Creating a basic page

10.6

Topics: Getting to Know Dreamweaver—Interface & Tools

Class Exercise: Setting up your local site

Project #3 Update: Concepts & Sketches

10.8

Topics: Creating and Formatting Tables & Their Cells

Class Exercise: basic tabular layouts

10.13

Topics: Navigation Design—How Will Your User Get Around Your Site

Class Exercise: site map creation, thinking of linking

Project #3 Due

Final Project: Website

10.15

Topics: The Importance of the Splash and the Home

Class Exercise: create a splash page or home page

10.20

Topics: Photoshop & DreamWeaver Get Married

Class Exercise: Using Photoshop to design for the web

10.22

Topics: Designing the Interior

Class Exercise: Web Storyboards

Final Project Update: Research Due

10.27

Topics: The Ease of Multipage Sites

Class Exercise: Style sheets, templates & library items

10.29

Topics: Multipage Sites Made Easier and Easier

Class Exercise: more about CSS

11.3

Topics: Optimizing Your Images and Tools for the Web

Class Exercise: Bridge, batches & actions

Final Project Update: Concepts & Sketches

11.5

Topics: Beginning Javascript

Class Exercise: Pop-ups that do what we want them to

Final Project Update: Live Construction Page

11.10

Topics: Web Gallery

Class Exercise: Create a web gallery

Final Project Update: Working Navigation

11.12

Topics: More on the Web Gallery

Class Exercise: Create a web gallery

11.17

Topics: Making it Move

Class Exercise: Creating simple motion graphics

11.19

Topics: Paypal Store

Class Exercise: Create a Paypal store

11.24

Topics: Going Live

Class Exercise: Uploading to remote site and testing

12.1 Lab Time

12.3 Presentations

12.8 Presentations

12.10 Unfinished Business

REQUIRED READINGS

- *Photoshop CS3 Bible* by Laurie Ulrich Fuller & Robert C. Fuller; Wiley Publishing
- Handouts

ALSO REQUIRED

- Flash drive—these should be brought to every class
- CD for burning Final Project

RECOMMENDED READINGS & RESOURCES

- *Visual Quickstart Guide: HTML, XHTML, & CSS, Sixth Edition* by Elizabeth Castro; Peachpit Press
- lynda.com—This is a great website that has tutorials on all kinds of subjects. Some tutorials are free, but most require a subscription.