

Fall 2011

# GRA2905: Ind. Study, Graphic Design

1 Hour Per Week • TBA • August 23 – December 6

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Welcome to Independent Study/Graphic Design! The Northwest Florida State College Catalog describes this course as follows: *The student will initiate independent computer related work, utilizing various software and hardware. The course may be taken four times for credit.*

Independent Study was created to help students fill a full time schedule, and to pursue extra work in the Graphic Design studio that will help in their course of study, and their portfolios.

During the semester the student is to schedule a one hour per week time period where he or she is present in the Graphic Design studio to work on a special project. Attendance is mandatory, and will be recorded as it is in every other course in the department.

The project that you will be working on will be of your own design, developed in consultation with a faculty member. It can be any type of project that utilizes skills that you have already learned in coursework, or one that builds on those skills. Ideally it should be something that will help build your portfolio, and not simply repeat a creative challenge from the past without some new motive for discovery.

## Attendance Issues:

Attendance in this course is extremely important as it is a hands on learning experience, not a lecture based course. You will be allowed two absences. After that, any additional absence will result in an immediate excessive absence report, which may result in your withdrawal from the course, or an automatic one letter grade drop in your final grade per absence. An excused absence may be given upon consultation with me but only in case of illness or emergency. **YOU WILL NOT PASS THIS COURSE** if your attendance becomes a problem. If you have more than four absences of any kind by November 1 (the last day for a W grade or to change to audit), you should withdraw from the course. If we get to the end of the semester and you have an excessive number of absences, you will receive an "F"

Note that showing up late for the class, leaving early, or only staying for ten minutes does not constitute attendance. Attendance will be taken at random times during the class period, and it is your responsibility to ensure that you were recorded as present if there is any question in your mind.

In unusual situations like acute illness, death in the family etc., you may receive an "Incomplete" as your grade. Incomplete grades are made up outside of normal class attendance in open lab settings during the semester following receipt of the "I" grade. You must inform me of your situation and discuss your options. Incomplete grades are not automatic. See the NWF State College catalog for detailed descriptions of the college policies related to grading, attendance, etc.

You are expected to attend all class meetings. "I don't have anything to do" does not equal an excused absence. It is evidence that you are not participating in the course in a manner appropriate for an art student. Each and every class session is designed for you to have the freedom to explore the creative process with the tools at hand. Even if you have the software at home, you are still required to come to class. This is a basic college policy.

## Course Requirements:

This is an art class. Your grades are based on your instructor's professional judgment of the success or failure of your concepts, aesthetics, and effort in completing assignments. In this class you will be graded at one interval. There will be one creative challenge that will become your entire grade for the semester. Many times a student falls between grades. Rounding up or down will be determined by class participation. Class participation includes participation in discussions and interaction with instructor.

Your graded work will be placed in the designated area of the studio. If you are uncomfortable with



this, I can hold it in the office until you choose to pick it up. Graded work will be retained for approximately 4-6 weeks into the following semester. If it is not picked up in this time period, it may be recycled.

In case of a campus emergency (power outages, hurricanes, war, famine, bee swarms, faculty illness) on a due date, the due date will be pushed back to the next available class session. If the College is closed for an extended period of a week or more, an adjustment of the course schedule will occur and you will be made aware of it the first day back. Late work will receive a 1 grade penalty—note the final project is due the last day of class, and therefore, cannot be turned in late.

Students are responsible for adherence to all College policies and procedures, including those related to academic freedom, cheating, classroom conduct, and other items included in the NWF State College Catalog and Student Handbook. Students should be familiar with the rights and responsibilities detailed in the 2011-12 NWF State College Catalog and Student Handbook. Plagiarism, cheating or any other form of academic dishonesty is a serious breach of student responsibilities and may trigger consequences which range from a failing grade to formal disciplinary action. Use of another person's imagery or designs constitutes plagiarism in this course. Only use your own photographs or other imagery!

As a courtesy to other students and the learning process, students may not bring children with them to class sessions. Health and safety concerns prohibit children from accompanying adult students in any lab, shop, office or classroom or other college facility where potential hazards exist. If a child-related emergency means you must miss class, let me know when you return.

If you have special needs for which accommodations may be appropriate to assist you in this class, please contact the Office of Services for Students with Special Needs in Building C-1 on the Niceville Campus, or call 729-5372 (TDD 1-800-955-8771 or Voice 1-800-955-8770).

**Due to the nature of our facility and the sensitivities of our students, please refrain from wearing colognes or perfumes to class.**

### What do your grades mean?

**A=** Work turned in on time. Work that clearly exceeds the basic expectations of the assignment. Work of unusual quality or quantity and seriousness of effort.

**B=** Work turned in on time. Work that exhibits a clear

attempt at exceeding the basic expectations of the assignment. Work exhibiting better than average quality or quantity and seriousness of effort.

**C=** Work of average quality and quantity. Work that satisfies essential basic requirements. Work that would benefit from further effort from student and more student interaction with instructor.

**D=** Work that is clearly not exhibiting the basic requirements of the assignment in either quality or quantity. An increase in effort is clearly needed and closer interaction with instructor is strongly suggested.

**F=** Work that fails to meet the lowest expectations for the assignment. This may be due to a simple lack of effort or may suggest that the student pursue other career goals.

### The Project:

