Art 228 Creative Problem Solving Syllabus

Professor Rebecca Moran
Office hours by appointment
Email moranre@easternct.edu

Eastern Connecticut State University Fall 2008
Shafer Hall, Wednesday 3:00 pm to 5:45 pm

Introduction

This course will guide students through creative approaches and strategies used in the professional business world and fine art practice. Students will be given a series of visual and technical problems and asked to develop effective creative strategies for solving them. A wide range of creative problem solving techniques will be explored through reading, discussion and exercises. A variety of problems will be solved, including technical and creative related to art and design.

Since we meet only once a week, plan on spending a minimum of two hours on your work outside of class for each hour spent in class (6 hours per week.) This might include researching or fulfilling assignments outside of class.

Course Objectives

Introduce students to techniques used in problem solving. Prepare for the competitive business world of design and new media. Provide strategies for professional and personal use in problem solving.

Books and Resources

Sketchbook/ Journal (required)
A Whack on the Side of the Head by Roger von Oech (optional)
The Artist Within by Betty Edwards (optional)

Evaluation

The evaluation of your work will be based on your participation and contribution through discussion and writing of the problem solving processed covered in class. As you go though various problem solving exercises think about what works for your creative process. Think carefully and create well crafted projects and assignments and hand them in on time.

Each project or assignment upon completion will be evaluated using the University grade scale of (A-F). Mid term and Final grades will be an average of the grades on all completed projects, taking into account any other factors such as absences, late work, etc. In addition, your final grade will include a final project. This project is a class presentation and written paper on topics related to your create process and the techniques learned in Creative Problem Solving.

Due Dates

All work is expected to be completed by the due dates given. Unless otherwise specified, all work is due at the beginning of the class period. If work is one class meeting late, the grade will be lowered by one letter grade, after that I will not accept late work. If there is a problem in meeting a deadline, please consult me in advance.

Attendance

A sign-in sheet will be available. It is each students responsibility to locate it and sign in. Attendance to all class meetings, is required. There will be something new taught every class. After two unexcused absences, each absence will lower your grade by one-half grade. Students are responsible to make up all missed assignments outside of class. Makeup work (from missed classes only) must be submitted by the first class after the absence or it will be considered a missed project.

Grading

Grading will be on projects, class exercises assignments, participation and a final creative problem solving class presentation including a written paper. Grades will be weighted as follows:

Projects, Assignments 30%
Sketchbook, Class exercises 30%
Class presentation and written paper 30%
Participation, Attendance 10%

Participation

Classroom interaction is vital to the learning process. Students will be expected to participate in all class activities including critiques.

Revisions to Syllabus

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to revision at the discretion of the instructor. Students will be notified of any changes that will be made. There are no incompletes issued in this class.

Students with Disabilities

f you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the Office of Access Ability Services at 465-5573. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the Office of Access Ability Services as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the Office of Access Ability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.