Course: Graphic Design 2A - College Now

Teacher: Mr. Eagen
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Course Content: This trimester elective course will emphasize graphic design principles, techniques and software. Successful completion of Graphic Design I and consent of the instructor are prerequisites for the course. While learning and using Illustrator CS5 will be the focus, students will also use InDesign and Photoshop CS5 as necessary. Students will use Macintosh computers as well as flatbed scanners and color printers. Regular attendance, good behavior, the ability to concentrate, turning in assignments on time, and a sincere effort to understand will result in successful learning. Grades follow. Any student can earn an "A" grade in this class regardless of natural artistic talent if he/she will apply him/herself and take responsibility.

College Now: This course articulates with LCC's course called ART225 - Digital Illustration (3 units). As part of the articulation agreement, Churchill students who expect to earn college credit will be held to the similar attendance and academic standards that LCC students are held to. In order to earn college, you must:
• be earning at least a “B” grade at the mid-term (coincides with LCC registration)
• have earned at least a “B” grade as a final grade
• complete all assignments in a timely manner - no more than 3 late assignments
• maintain superior attendance
  - you get one unexcused absence and 3 tardies...that's it folks!
  - you are expected to use open lab time to catch up from excused absences

Attendance: Class will start on time and students are expected to be ready to learn when the bell rings. Personal responsibility includes punctuality. Due to the nature and pace of the course it will be very difficult to pass the course with poor attendance.

Behavior: Good behavior, to me, means treating other people with respect, giving yourself and others the chance to learn, and giving me the chance to teach. Behavior which is disruptive or endangers students and/or equipment will not be tolerated.

Supplies:
Materials fee - required: Within the first 2 weeks of class, furnish $15.00, cash or check. Checks are to be given to the school finance office and should be made payable to Churchill High School. If you are on the free & reduced lunch program and the materials fee truly presents a financial burden then please speak with the instructor privately to discus payment options.

USB flash memory drive - required: Students are required to bring a flash drive every class period and back up their files daily. An inexpensive flash drive will work perfectly for our purposes.

Headphones - optional: Your headphones are far superior to the ones in the lab.

Office Hours: You are encouraged to use open lab time if you need extra time or help. The classroom is not open on a “drop in” basis during class time. Check the web site or classroom door for specific times when the lab is open outside of class time.
Food/Drink: No food is to be brought into the classroom...period. Water bottles must have a cap and can’t go near a computer.

Cell Phone: Look up, notice beauty, get your hands dirty. Life as we know it won’t end if you don’t text for 70 minutes. Let’s not play the game. Is this clear? Sometimes there is a very legitimate use for the phone as a tool. When this is the case, I expect you to communicate with me prior to using your phone. Otherwise, I’ll assume that you’re choosing to ignore the wonderful class activities. Churchill’s cell phone policy will be followed.

Grading Policy & Philosophy: I don’t give grades...you earn them. If all assignments are completed and follow the criteria, you will earn credit and pass the course. Grades are a result of class work, homework, projects, and tests & quizzes. There are no daily participation points because I’ve found that students who attend and participate do well—those who don’t, don’t. The final trimester grade is cumulative throughout the term. If you are interested in a “Pass/No Pass” option, then see the instructor within the first 2 weeks of the trimester. Pass = 65%.

Course grades are based on the following grading scale:

- **A** (100% - 90%) “You applied it”
- **B** (89% - 80%) “You learned it”
- **C** (79% - 70%) “You did it”
- **NP** (69% - 0%) There is no **D** option for a college class

Due Dates: The term is broken into 3 week segments, each containing its own assignments and clear “last chance” date. It will made clear through several avenues (including the class web site) when assignments are due. Assignments need to be turned in within their corresponding unit time frame. It is essential that assignments are completed during class time. There may be a few specific homework assignments which are due on a specific date regardless of the unit due date.

Late Work: Let’s do a reality check folks - late work is not a good experience for anyone. Assignments turned in after their corresponding “last chance” date will be worth a maximum grade of 50%. This is college folks. Three-week segments of time is reasonable. If you find yourself struggling with due dates or dealing with extenuating circumstances, then it is your responsibility to communicate with me in a timely manner so that we can work something out. Communication is a life skill...communication makes for happy students, parents, and big bad art teachers.

What It Boils Down To: This college level elective class is fun and creative but that does not mean that it’s an “easy A” or a “kickback” class. I am here to help you learn and make it interesting but it is up to YOU to take responsibility for your experience in this class. If you’re ready to learn then I’m ready to teach. If you put in an honest effort and your hands are moving (on task) during class time then you will do fine in this class. You and I will get along just fine and you’ll find that you actually enjoy the class.

Units of Study:

- Logo Design - Illustrator - simplicity, message, design process, industry standards, PMS colors, spot colors, vector clip art manipulation, target marketing, font families & tone
- Poster Design - Illustrator & Photoshop - hierarchy, crop & bleed, contrast, copy writing, stock photography, copyright concerns, file formatting
- Public Awareness Campaign - research, theme, message & desired action/response, design consistency, deliverables, printing specs, file formatting
Parents/Guardians: I'm a parent of teenagers myself. I get it; feel your pain. Please help me make this an enjoyable experience for your child by checking in with him/her regularly. I'm not going to overwhelm them with assignments and homework, but they are expected to actively participate and put in an honest effort. Please help me reinforce the importance of personal responsibility and wise time management. Let's address issues sooner rather than later. The best way to initially contact me is via email. I'm a crazy morning person so feel free to call me between 6:15 and 8:15am if you'd like. Heck, come on down to room C9 and I'll even have a cup of mediocre coffee with you!

Online Syllabus: In an effort to help reduce printing costs I’m trying something new this year. I’m sending the class syllabus home via email as well as storing it on our class web site (http://staff.4j.lane.edu/~eagen/). Please review the syllabus online and have your child return just this signed page to me in class. Please let me know if you require a physical print out of the syllabus.

This is a college class within the context of a high school. Students will be expected to work at a college level. College credit is not awarded unless it is earned. It is not a guarantee. This is a new mindset for some students. Please help me reinforce the importance of personal responsibility and wise time management. This is a life skill.

Texting: Please, for all things that are good and true in this world, I’m begging you to refrain from texting your child when you know that they are in class. Teen DNA is genetically programmed to reach for the phone no matter the circumstance. Text messaging has become a massive brain-sucking monster. It disrupts their studies and instantly switches your child’s focus away from creating art to who knows what. If you truly have an emergency, then get in touch with our wonderful office staff who will be happy to help you reach your child.

Thank you,
Lance Eagen
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We have had a discussion about personal responsibility, the syllabus, college expectations, and responsible use of a cell phone:

________________________________________________________________________
students sign & date here
date here

________________________________________________________________________
parent/guardian sign & date here