GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

ART 119 – COLOR THEORY

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

ART 119 Color Theory 3 2 hours lecture: 32- 36 hours

4 hours lab: 64-72 hours

64-72 outside-of-class hours

160-180 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None.

3. Catalog Description

A star of visual expression, color is both physical and psychological. This course will explore the principles, theories, and applications of additive and subtractive color in two dimensions. Topics will include major historical and contemporary color systems, production of projects in applied color, and the elements of design as they apply to the optical perception of color.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

a. Create logical and expressive designs by applying the principles and elements of two-dimensional design with color theory.

b. Analyze color use of various epochs, cultures and personal styles.

c. Create artwork utilizing various art media and techniques.

d. Apply the principles of perceptually and theoretically based color theory to projects.

e. Make individual aesthetic decisions and judgments related to their own artwork.

f. Safely handle and employ studio materials and equipment.

g. Create a portfolio of work that demonstrates a working knowledge of:

1) Color systems, color organization, and color interaction,

2) Principles of color perception - light**,** vision, and the brain,

3) Value, hue, intensity (chroma), and color temperature,

4) Additive and subtractive color (light and paint),

5) Relationships between color and composition,

6) Color usage in contemporary art and design.

5. Instructional Facilities

Studio space with appropriate tables and easels, wall space, adequate lighting, sinks with traps, storage, audiovisual equipment, whiteboard and adequate ventilation.

6. Special Materials Required of Student

Appropriate art media and equipment as selected by instructor.

ART 119 – COLOR THEORY page 2

7. Course Content

a. Application of the art elements and principles of design in color theory.

b. Exploration of the physical properties of color theory: hue, value, and saturation.

c. Technical skills such as mixing color, creating a palette and color application techniques.

d. Evaluation and application of basic principles of color theory applied observationally and theoretically.

e. Incorporation of expressive form and color theory in complex, logical and expressive compositions.

f. Various appropriate art media, vocabulary, and color use in technology.

g. Cultural influences on color usage and symbolism.

1. Studio, equipment, and material use safety and handling procedures.
2. Critical evaluation and critique of class projects.

8. Method of Instruction

a. Lecture

b. Group discussion and activities

c. Individualized instruction

d. Demonstration of painting techniques

e. Field trips as appropriate

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

a. Group and individual critiques of artwork in oral and written formats looking at form and technique.

b. Written assignments, which may include a report on a museum visit or a response to an article or other assigned readings.

c. Quizzes and exams on color theory vocabulary as well as a written final.

d. Portfolio of completed artwork including value scales, color wheel, color charts, complimentary scales, simultaneous contrast, monochromatic scales, color scheme studies, and color interaction designs.

10. Outside Class Assignments

a. Gallery and museum visits: Hyde Art Gallery, San Diego Museum of Art, Timken Museum of Art

b. Written gallery report(s): *Critical Exhibition Review* - write a critical review of a color or design exhibition, including a description, interpretation and evaluation of the work(s) in the exhibition.

c. Research on chosen themes or concepts.

d. Work on projects that include value scales and color charts, color wheel, simultaneous contrast.

e. Work in sketchbook on color scheme composition ideas

f. Collect reference and art materials

g. Reading assignments from texts chapters and written responses

11. Texts

a. Required Text(s):

(1) Albers, Josef. *Interaction of Color*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2013.

(2) Bleicher, Steven. *Contemporary Color: Theory and Use.* Clifton Park, NY: Delmar, Cengage Learning. 2012.

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

Selected technical materials and specifications provided by the instructor.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

1. Create designs that employ specific color theory components.
2. Critique art verbally and in writing.
3. Apply safe handling techniques to art tools and materials.

Date approved by the Governing Board: May 21, 2019