

Melissa Chandon / UC Davis / Design Program

*mchandon@ucdavis.edu*

**DES 15 > FORM AND COLOR > SUMMER SESSION 2009 >  
SYLLABUS**

**TB 109 / MON / WED / FRI / 1:10 - 5:15**



**DESCRIPTION**

This class focuses on understanding color, form and composition as ways of communicating design concepts and content. Topics include color theory, color mixing and interaction of color. Students will create explorations with a variety of materials, media and presentation techniques.

This studio class is structured around a seemingly endless series of projects (one per week) aimed at visual problem solving. Also, there will be smaller in-class exercises aimed at developing technique. These exercises will eventually be placed in a hand-made book on color theory + composition. The projects you develop in this class will serve as a basis for your future design portfolio.

This is a hands-on studio class. This means much of your class time will be sent working on various projects. You **must** work in class. An important aspect of the studio environment and experience is that of working in a collaborative, communicative environment. Exchanging ideas is a dynamic component to the creative design process and promotes the development of critical thinking skills. Your ability to work in the studio and communicate with others plays a significant part in your work for this class, and, ultimately, your success as a designer.

Always bring all materials and tools to each class for studio work. Always be prepared to present and discuss your work as well as give feedback to others.

#### REQUIRED TEXTS

*Design Basics*, by David Lauer and Stephen Pentak (8<sup>th</sup> edition)

*Understanding Color*, by Joseph Albers

#### CELL PHONES

Please turn off your cell phone in class

#### MEETINGS – FIELD TRIPS – GUESTS

8/5

1:10 pm - Demonstration: with Adrienne Van Veen on matt cutting.

**(We will meet her in the work room which is across from the tool room.)**

Others to be announced in class.

#### CONTACT / OFFICE HOURS

[mchandon@ucdavis.edu](mailto:mchandon@ucdavis.edu)

I am available by appointment on Mondays, Wednesdays and Friday. Please email me or speak to me during class. Office: TB 104, Room 105 (by appointment)

Please note that it may not always be possible to answer any emails sent on the weekends.

#### GRADING POLICIES

##### **Participation** 10%

On-time arrival to class and your active participation are required for each session.

Tardiness reduces your participation points for that day by 50%. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have been marked present if you arrive after I have taken attendance. Email me *before* class to announce an absence. Provide documentation for an excusable absence (medical emergency or university-related commitment).

##### **Exercises** 50%

These skills-building exercises will be worked on during studio. They are considered complete when they have been presented to the class. No late work accepted on exercises.

##### **Projects** 40%

Assignments are due at the beginning of class unless otherwise noted. Due to the pace of this class, late work will not be accepted. You may receive partial credit for incomplete work (at the discretion of the instructor).

*In addition to hands-on projects, students may be organized into small groups for presentations on color and form as applied with current design trends.*

#### GRADING CRITERIA

You will be evaluated based on the following:

**Concept (30%)**

Creativity/originality, composition, color theory application

**Process (30%)**

Research, attitude, quality of exploration

**Visual presentation (30%)**

Craft, attention to detail, professionalism

**Participation (10%)**

Feedback to others, quality of communication

#### GRADING SCALE

The Design Program has adopted a new grading scale:

100-93 = A (excellent comprehension/superior execution)

92-83 = B (good comprehension/good execution)

82-73 = C (adequate comprehension/adequate execution)

72-60 = D (poor comprehension/poor execution)

59 and below = F (inadequate comprehension/inadequate execution)

#### CRITIQUES

Even if you are not finished with your work, you are *required* to attend critiques, celebrate the work of the other students and contribute critical feedback.

#### SCHEDULE

The following schedule will be modified as necessary, based on the needs of the class. Check the website for the most updated version and for links to helpful tools and sites.

HOLIDAY September 7th

PLEASE BRING A SKETCH BOOK TO EVERY CLASS.

I think it is important to keep digital records of all of your work. We'll discuss this in class.

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	DUE
1	8/3	Introductions/overview/ Assign Design teams / Fill out student survey  Topic: Color wheel + terminology	Student survey  <i>Color exercise one</i>

		<p><i>Color exercise one: (color wheel)</i></p> <p><b>PROJECT ONE: black and white gouache</b></p> <p><i>Illustration</i></p> <p>Library research , work in class</p>	
	8/5	<p>Demonstration: with Adrienne Van Veen on matt cutting. <i>We will meet her in the Design Dept work room which is across from the tool room.</i></p> <p>Topic: Color perception</p> <p><i>Color exercise two</i></p> <p>PROJECT ONE: work in class</p>	<p>Lauer, Chapter 13: Color</p> <p>Albers, I-VII</p> <p><i>Color exercise two</i></p>
	8/7	PROJECT ONE: work in class	
2	8/10	<p>PROJECT TWO: <i>Color Gouache Interior /</i> assign work in class</p> <p>Topic: Color mixing</p> <p><i>Exercise three &amp; four (color interaction)</i></p> <p>PROJECT TWO: work on in class</p>	<p>Albers, IX-XV</p> <p>Albers, XVI-XXVI</p> <p>PROJECT ONE</p> <p><i>Color Exercise 3 &amp; 4 / due at the end of class</i></p>
	8/12	<p>Work group critique / Color exercise 1 - 4</p> <p>Topic: Color mixing</p> <p><i>Color Exercise 5 &amp; 6</i></p> <p>PROJECT TWO: work on in class</p>	<p><i>Color Exercise 5&amp; 6 / due at the end of class</i></p>
	8/14	PROJECT TWO: work on in class	
3	8/17	<p>Topic: Unity</p> <p><i>Color Exercise 7</i></p> <p>PROJECT THREE: Metamorphsis</p> <p>Assign in class / work in class</p>	<p>Lauer, Chapter 2: Unity</p> <p><i>Color Exercise 5&amp; 6 / due at the end of class</i></p> <p><i>PROJECT TWO</i></p>
	8/19	<p>Topic: Emphasis and Focal Point</p> <p>PROJECT THREE: Metamorphsis</p>	<p>Lauer, Chapter 3:</p> <p>Emphasis and Focal Point</p>
	8/21	PROJECT THREE: Metamorphsis	

4	8/24	PROJECT FOUR: Fabric Rendition Assign in class / work in class  Topic: Scale and Proportion  <i>Color exercise seven</i>	Lauer, Chapter 4: Scale and Proportion  PROJECT THREE
	8/26	Work group critique and discussion of all PROJECTS  Topic: Balance  PROJECT FOUR: Fabric Rendition / work in class	Lauer, Chapter 5: Balance
	8/28	PROJECT FOUR: Fabric Rendition  work in class	
5	8/31	Topic: Rhythm  PROJECT FIVE: Word Play assign and work in class	Lauer, Chapter 6: Rhythm  PROJECT FOUR
	9/2	PROJECT FIVE: Word Play	
	9/4	PROJECT FIVE: Word Play  PROJECT SIX: Book  Book binding workshop	Bring in all of your projects for the construction of our final PROJECT  PROJECT FIVE: Word Play
6	9/7	HOLIDAY	
	9/9	Final PROJECT SIX: Book	
	9/11	Critique final projects	PROJECT SIX: Book