

# GD 105 - Intro to Visual Design

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**Instructor** WINNY (YINGQIAN) LUCAS  
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**Course Description** This course introduces the basic concepts of design for 2D images and time-based digital media: Students are introduced to some concepts of visual perception and composition and how these are affected by various factors, such as size, color, orientation, location, contrast, balance, movement, among others.

*The Syllabus and schedule are subject to change through out the quarter.*

It is the student's responsibility to read the syllabus and understand all of the class policies. If the student has any questions about the syllabus or the class, they are welcome to contact the instructor.

Course Homepage:

<http://winzystudio.com/105>

Course Management System: D2L

All assignments will be posted and graded on D2L

<https://d2l.depaul.edu/>

**Course Objectives** This course is designed specifically for the needs of Graphic Designers, Game Development, Digital Cinema, Animation and Interactive Media students but all majors are welcome! Everyone will receive an introduction to Adobe software: Illustrator and Flash.

Some practical issues introduced include composition, balance, visual planning, introduction to typography, color palettes, frame rate, among others. Theoretical issues include composition, emphasis, rhythm, contrast, unity, balance, scale, hierarchies of information, movement, color, and spatial illusion.

We will be looking at different kinds of examples through out the quarter: Still images of designs, paintings, illustrations, photographs, animation, games, figures from the required text and video clips.

Students will be applying certain concepts and aspects of visual design through quizzes and projects.

**Bibliography** REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS: Lower level at Barnes and Noble: 1 E. Jackson. Please provide the name, and class ID /section number of the class so the person assisting you can find the book.

## Art and Visual Perception

by Rudolph Arnheim. University of California Press, 2004.

## Design Basic Index

by Jim Krause

ADDITIONAL EXCERPTS: if other sources of reading are used, they will be posted on COL > Documents.

### RECOMMENDED:

Interaction of Color by Josef Albers. Yale University Press, 2006

Illustrator CC Visual QuickStart Guide

Flash CC Visual QuickStart Guide

These recommended books are not in full stock at the bookstore. You can try Barnes and Noble, but you might have to order them online.

**Your Email:** Email is the primary means of communication between faculty and students enrolled in this course outside of class time. Students should be sure their email listed under “demographic information” at <https://campusconnect.depaul.edu> is correct.

**Attendance** Attendance is required.  
2 absences = dropping one grade  
3 absences = fail the class

If a student is absent, they are responsible for doing the best they can to catch up. If a student has any questions or concerns, they may email the instructor or arrange to meet in person. However, lectures will not be repeated.

**Academic Integrity** Work done for this course must adhere to the DePaul University Academic Integrity Policy, which you can review in the Student Handbook or by visiting the following link:  
<http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>

It is the student’s responsibility to adhere to these policies.

**Online Instructor Evaluation** Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students.

They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student’s identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over two weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation.

Toward the end of the quarter, students may be asked to fill out the course evaluation in class. If this occurs, the instructor will step out of the room for 20 min. to ensure no conflict of

interest or unfair influence.

**Incomplete**

An incomplete grade is given only for an exceptional reason such as a death in the family, a serious illness, etc. Any such reason must be documented. Any incomplete request must be made at least two weeks before the final, and approved by the Dean of the College of Computing and Digital Media. Any consequences resulting from a poor grade for the course will not be considered as valid reasons for such a request.

**Resources for  
Students with  
Disabilities**

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted either the PLS Program (for LD, AD/HD) or The Office for Students with Disabilities (for all other disabilities) at:

Student Center, LPC, Suite #370  
Phone number: (773)325.1677  
Fax: (773)325.3720,  
TTY: (773)325.7296