**DC 476 Visual Design**
Section 801; Winter 2017

**Location:** Cinespace
**Day/Time:** Tuesday, 5:45-9:00 pm
**Instructor:** Dana Kupper
**Office:** CDM 460
**Phone:** (O) 312-362-1304  (C) 773-297-6272
**Email:** dkupper@depaul.edu
**Office hours:**  Tuesday 4:15 – 5:45 (before class) or by appointment

**Summary:** The goal of this course is to enable students to identify, define, interpret and explain what narrative visuals communicate. Students will apply this knowledge to create structured visuals for projects that meaningfully and purposefully engage the viewer.

**Course objectives:**
• To understand and express design concepts within 2D visual works
• To identify and understand visual components used in photography and cinema
• To create visual designs that employ visual components
• To apply visual designs to original photographic and cinematic productions

**Required/Recommended Texts, Software, Hardware:**
• Hand-outs as supplied by instructor
• Course Management System – D2L
• Required Textbook: The Visual Story: Creating the Visual Structure of Film, TV and Digital Media 2nd edition Block, Bruce Focal Press/Taylor & Francis Group, 2008
ISBN: 978-0240-807799
• Recommended Textbook: Cinematography: Theory and Practice, 2nd edition
Brown, Focal Press/Taylor & Francis Group, 2011 ISBN: 978-0240-812090
• Still and Video Camera (available for check-out from Cage; see below for policy)
• Software: Image altering (Photoshop or similar) and Video Editing
• CDM Computer Labs are available for software use outside of class
• CDM labs offer Adobe Creative Cloud on PC and Mac operating systems.
• Supplemental instruction at LYNDA.COM available at the library or by subscription. Make sure you're logged into Campus Connect before clicking on the Log into Lynda.com link on the page.

**Changes to Syllabus:** This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted in D2L and/or sent via email.

**Grading: Scale** – A: 100-93, A-: 92-90, B+: 89-87, B: 86-83, B-: 82-80, C+: 79-77, C: 76-73, C-: 72-70, D+:69-67, D: 66-60, F: 59-0

| | |
|---|---|
| Attendance/Participation | 20% |
| Assignments | 40% |
| Quizzes | 20% |
| Final Project | 20% |

All grading is final (you may resubmit ONE assignment for a new grade, IF it is turned in on the original due date). All assignments are due the date they are assigned. Late assignments will be penalized 25% per week late. If an assignment is more than two weeks late, it will not be accepted. If you anticipate you will miss class, the assignment must be submitted the day it is due, unless the absence for the class is excused (documented illness, death in the family, etc.). Final Projects will not be accepted late and you must be present for the class viewing to receive credit for them.

**Add/Drop Deadlines:**

01/08/2017    Last day to add or swap on-campus classes

01/10/2017    Last day to add CDM online classes

**Withdraw Deadlines:**

01/13/2017     Last day to select pass/fail option

01/15/2017     Last day to drop classes with no penalty (100% tuition refund if applicable and no grade on trans

01/17/2017     Last day to drop CDM online classes with no penalty

02/19/2017     Last day to withdraw from WQ classes

**Weekly Schedule (subject to change):**
Readings, exercises and projects will be assigned throughout the quarter

Class 1 Topic: Introductions, Syllabus, Visual Components, Contrast/Affinity/Space
Reading: Block – Ch. 1, 2, 3 (Read for next week)

Class 2 Topic: More Space
Reading: Block – Ch. 9

Class 3 Topic: Story and Visual Structure
Reading: Block – Ch. 4

Class 4 Topic: Line & Shape
Reading: Block – Ch. 5

Class 5 Topic: Tone
Reading: Block – Ch.6

Class 6 Topic: Color
Reading: Block – Ch. 7

Class 7 Topic: Movement
Reading: Block – Ch. 8

Class 8 Topic: Rythmn
Reading: Block – Ch. 10

Class 9 Topic: Designing the Final Project

Class 10 Topic: Final Projects – meetings, rough cuts, etc.

Class 11 FINAL PROJECTS screening

**Course Policies**: In addition to DePaul University course policies (see student handbook), the following special policies will apply to this course:

**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 http://campusconnect.depaul.edu is correct.

**Some guidelines for your emails:**
• Be clear and concise in your subject line; ex: "DC476 – question about assignment X"
• Don't reply to class-wide email unless it pertains specifically to the subject of that email
• To that end, begin a new email thread for any new question, notification, etc.
• If you don't get a response within 1 business day, please resend as there may be an email issue

**Course Lectures/Reading Assignments:** The assigned readings offer an opportunity for independent learning that supplements the lectures. Lectures will introduce material not available in the readings, and the readings will explore concepts not mentioned in class. Exams/Quizzes will cover both lecture and reading materials as specified by the instructor.

**Examinations:** Students who do not take exams during the regularly scheduled time will receive a failing grade for the exam unless they have contacted the instructor in advance to arrange for a make-up exam. Make-up exams will be administered by the College according to its make-up exam schedule.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. An absence is defined as not showing up for class, or showing up more than 15 minutes after class has started. All absences will result in a reduction of the attendance/participation grade. Three absences, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course.

**Class Participation:** Student participation will be measured in several ways. Students are encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the class topics. Questions will be posed to the class; students are encouraged to offer answers, insights and best guesses. Having your files, devices and making the most of class time add towards these points. Productive critiques of your own and everyone else's work is critical. For group projects, each individual is expected to contribute according to the needs of the group/project. Peer evaluations will afford

each group the opportunity to measure the contributions of each individual.

**Attitude:** A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include: talking to others when someone is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing/vibrating, emailing, etc. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting and other forms of technological socializing is not allowable in class. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the classroom.

**Cell Phones/On Call:** If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, leave the room in an undisruptive manner. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

**Civil Discourse:** DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be Socially Responsible Leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course.

**DePaul University Policies:**

**Online Course Evaluations:** 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 three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in CampusConnect.

**Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:** This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

**Academic Policies:** All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found under Enrollment Policies.

**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 the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@depaul.edu.

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.
Phone number: (312)362-8002
Fax: (312)362-6544
TTY: (773)325.7296