**Introduction to Digital Art**

*Location and Time*

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Course Description

Digital art has become popular with the advancement of technology and the need to transmit information to an increasingly globalized audience. The advantages of creating art digitally are innumerable; indeed, making digital arts requires minimal material investment (only a computer and perhaps a tablet), is completely mobile, and offer unprecedented flexibility for expression and mass production. These qualities make graphic design skills extremely valuable, not only for purely artistic purposes, but for business and even education as well.

This class introduces students to the use of digital media in art creation. Students will learn how to use popular design programs such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign. Through making independent art projects, students will be exposed to various digital design techniques, including digital painting/airbrushing, vector, and photomanipulation.

Prerequisites

None.

Course Objective

This course aims to expose students to many types of digital techniques in a very short amount of time. As a result, the students are not expected to walk away as an accomplished digital artist. However, this class should serve as a starting point and provides widely applicable knowledge for students to expand their skills suitable to their interests in the future.

Requirements

Week 1-5:   
Each class consists of a thirty to forty-five-minute demonstration followed by individual work time. Students are expected to work solely on their assigned projects during that time, and are welcome to consult the instructor or other students for advices. In the end of each class, the instructor will check the progress of each student.

Week 6-7

Students will complete a final project of their own choosing that incorporates one or more concepts learned through the course.

Evaluation

The students will be evaluated purely on effort.

Schedule

10/2: Introduction

* Lecture: logistics, Adobe Photoshop: simple drawing, filters, coloring, layers
* Student project: “Name”
* For next class: Bring one or several of your favorite digital photos

10/9: Photomanipulation

* Lecture: stock photography, Adobe Photoshop: image adjustment techniques
* Student project: “Manipulate this”
* For next class: TBD

10/16: Business design

* Lecture: Adobe InDesign: making of professional brochure
* Student project: TBD
* For next class: TBD

10/23: Vector

* Lecture: Adobe illustrator: shape creation, opacity masks
* Student project: TBD
* For next class: TBD

10/30: Digital painting/airbrushing

* Lecture: Adobe Photoshop: basic painting techniques
* Student project: TBD
* For next class: idea for independent project

11/6: Independent Project

11/13: Independent Project and Student Presentations