

## syllabus

### summary of links

shared doc: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TZCYl4rK4o6QOaz2\\_BrJfJvaANSpn61oqRZtHOWAc/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TZCYl4rK4o6QOaz2_BrJfJvaANSpn61oqRZtHOWAc/edit)

- includes lecture outlines, slides, and FAQ

exercise submissions: <https://forms.gle/Mqyzot7crKNopBZz5> or [A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu](mailto:A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu)

word/name/phrase suggestions: <https://forms.gle/aWMeVJUUs6fVvSCq5>

questions, comments, feedback: <https://forms.gle/fEtnkAAzJqJ3QUxAA> or [A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu](mailto:A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu)

discord server: <https://discord.gg/ambigram-aficionados-931299799142137927>

other websites: [ambigr.am](http://ambigr.am)

### course description (you already know this)

an ambigram is a visual design with a word or phrase written in such a way that you can read it from multiple perspectives. scroll through <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambigram> for concrete examples—they're really cool!

this class will progressively introduce techniques for making ambigrams and guide you through making your own! we will mostly focus on rotational ambigrams, but we will also discuss and try other types of ambigrams. your ideas for words/phrases (e.g. your names!) that we should make ambigrams of are welcome! come dive into an art form that is a wonderful mix of lettering and puzzle-solving!

brush pens and chisel-tip markers will be provided, and calligraphy/typography basics will be covered (so no experience needed!). a tablet or phone that has a drawing app with a symmetry feature is nice to have, but optional.

### for you to do

each class will have exercises (in the form of a list of words to ambigram) accompanying it, to help you practice and reinforce concepts. **each week, we'll go through last week's exercises** (e.g. thought process, (potentially) feedback, etc.), so it's valuable to have tried them in your own time (hopefully, if you're here, you're excited enough about ambigrams to do so Anyway)!

- you can submit your work **anonymously** to this form: <https://forms.gle/Mqyzot7crKNopBZz5>.
- if you want more personalized feedback, you can submit your work **nonymously** by emailing [A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu](mailto:A16426-teachers@esp.mit.edu).

in either case, **i may show your work to the class** (without showing your name) if i encounter particularly instructive examples to give feedback to. **if you don't want me to do this, just say so in the form/in your email.**

to make the class hopefully a little more exciting, **you can submit words/names/phrases that you want us to try ambigramming** to this form: <https://forms.gle/aWMeVJUUs6fVvSCq5>. i'll try to select as many instructive examples as i can, but no guarantees lol (especially because some letter combinations are particularly difficult, or less instructive). **feel free to also use this form to express interest in other (non-rotational) ambigram types**; if a certain ambigram type seems to be popular, we might make more of an effort to discuss it!

if you have a tablet (a phone might also work??), feel free to **download a drawing app that has a symmetry feature** (especially 180° rotational/radial symmetry)! i don't personally use one, so i don't really know what apps are out there, but Autodesk Sketchbook and ibis Paint X seem popular.

if you have any **questions, comments, or feedback** about any of the class sessions, you can submit them to this form: <https://forms.gle/fEtnkAAzJqJ3QUxAA>. we will respond to common questions/comments in class, and to other questions/comments in this shared doc (student names will not be included, of course): [https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TZCYyl4rK4o6OOaz2\\_BrJfJvaANSpn61oqRZtHOWAc/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/17TZCYyl4rK4o6OOaz2_BrJfJvaANSpn61oqRZtHOWAc/edit).

finally, there is a **Discord server full of ambigram enthusiasts and artists** with whom you can discuss ambigrams and develop your skills!: <https://discord.gg/ambigram-aficionados-931299799142137927>. i'm not allowed to go out of my way to interact with you (and i'm not really active there anymore anyway), but it's a great community :) (of course, you're only allowed to have a Discord account if you're at least 13 years old.) [ambigr.am](https://ambigr.am) is also a great community and resource where you can share your work and learn.