BASIC DESIGN II
Fall 2014

Course Information

Course Prefix and Number: ARTF 1303
Instructor: Lorena Aguirre
Meeting Times: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30 am - 2:20 pm
Room: A256 - Fox Fine Arts Building
e-mail: laguirrecoughanour@utep.edu
Office: Studio 461
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Course Prerequisite Information

The only prerequisite required for Basic Design II is Basic Design I. It is suggested that art majors take ARTF 1304, Basic Drawing II concurrently with Basic Design II.

Instructor Introduction

Lorena Aguirre received her bachelor’s in Architecture in Chihuahua, Chih. in 2005. She has worked in architecture firms and art galleries in her hometown. She graduated from UTEP in the Spring of 2012 with an MA in Studio Art, double majoring in metals and ceramics.

Description

This course is an introduction to the fundamental processes and concepts of design theory as it relates to the 3 dimensional world. Students will be engaged in hands on explorations through the use of materials such as, but not limited to: paper, foam-core board and plaster. We will explore the functions of space, volume, mass, plane, line, scale, symmetry / asymmetry, form, balance, and structure. Course will also include demonstrations, in-class work-time, and in-progress critiques. In-class work-time is structured in order to provide individualized instruction and assistance with the design/build process. This course will require significant additional work-time outside of class. Students should anticipate spending 6 hours in class per week and an additional 6-10 hours outside of class per week to satisfactorily complete this class.

Course Goals and Objectives

The main emphasis of this course is the development of critical thinking skills as they apply to visual aesthetic issues, and the exploration of self-expression and new ideas within the context of the assignments. Furthermore, this course will also target improved development in:

- Basic terminology of art and 3-dimensional design
- Creative thinking
- Good composition principals
- Vocabulary and the ability to articulate visual ideas more fully
- Good craftsmanship
- Safety practices for material manipulation
**Course Outcomes**

Students who complete the course will be able to:

- Define the various aspects of 3D design from a practical, logical, and aesthetic point of view.
- Use basic materials and techniques for creating three-dimensional art.
- Discuss issues related to art.
- Visually communicate through self-expression, creative thinking and planning.
- Safely operate a variety of equipment and tools.

**Attendance**

Attendance, punctuality, participation and appropriate class conduct are considered performance criteria for this class. Failure to perform to required standards will result in strong grade penalties and can cause failure of this course.

**Attendance Policy**

- Each student is permitted 3 absences during the semester without penalty. Students with more than 3 class absences should consider dropping this course and retaking it at a time when the student can commit the proper attention to the course.
- Each unexcused absence after 3 will result in the final course grade being lowered 1 full letter grade. Absences after the first 3 can be excused only if the first 3 absences are excused.
- Excused absences are defined as documented illness or serious illness or death in the immediate family.
- Coming to class late or leaving class early is regarded and graded as being absent. All students are required to attend class on-time and to remain in class the entire time. Entering class late and leaving early is disruptive to the learning environment.
- Working in a different studio during class time is considered an absence.
- Coming to class unprepared or attending class and not working is regarded as absent.
- Information missed during an absence is the sole responsibility of the student.

**Course Participation**

- Participation in all discussions, critiques and class days is required for this course.
- Development and execution of class projects must be done utilizing all class meetings. Projects executed solely out of class will not be accepted.
- Participation in the collaborative group environment of the studio is essential to the successful completion of this course. Be respectful to yourself, your peers and your instructor.

**Class Conduct**

- Students must act in a safe and reasonable way at all times.
- Respect to the professor and classmates is expected.
- Appropriate attire must be worn at all times in the studio.
- Any questions regarding safe and reasonable behavior and practices should be directed to the instructor and only the instructor.
- **Ask before you do!** Avoid being hurt or causing someone else injury by knowing what to do!

- **Sick Policy**- If you are not feeling well, or if you are sick, then you should not come to class under any circumstances. You should instead seek medical care, and/or recuperate at home. E-mail me or call me when you are feeling better. If you are taking medication, please read the warning signs on the label. Many medications do not allow for heavy tools or machinery to be used. If there is a special circumstance that I should be aware of, please inform me regarding the situation and necessary accommodations will be made.

- **Children**-Children are not permitted at any time to be in the studio. The studios can be a very dangerous place. This is for the safety of the students as well as the children.

- **Cell phones and laptops**- All cell phones must be on silent mode during the Entire class period. The use of cell phones is absolutely prohibited during any lecture or critique. Laptops should be put away if they are not crucial to the development of projects. Abusers of this privilege will be asked to leave the class and will be counted absent for the day.

- **Music**-Music is not allowed during any instruction, lecture or during critiques. Although ipods and similar devises will be allowed during working class hours, it is highly encouraged for students to engage with their peers and instructor. Such devises will not be allowed, under any circumstance, in the woodshop and sculpture studios.

**Late assignments, Make-up Work and Exams**

Late assignments and make-up work are only afforded in the case of excused absences by arrangement and approval of the instructor. **Critiques cannot be made-up.**

**Course Evaluation**

A student’s final grade will be based: attendance, effort, concept, craftsmanship, work and progress in class, fulfillment of assignment requirements, completion of all of the assignments, and participation/ good attitude in class critiques and discussions. Students will receive a letter grade for each assignment. All grades are of equal weight and will be averaged together for a final semester grade. Assignments must be completed by critique date. *It is expected that students will work from 6-10 hours a week outside of class on assignments.* All grades are calculated using the following scale:

- A+ 97-100
- A  93-96
- A-  90-92
- B+  87-89
- B  83-86
- B-  80-82
- C+  77-79
- C  73-76
- C-  70-72
- D+  67-69
- D  63-66
- D-  60-62
It is highly recommended that students reserve a locker to hold tools and supplies throughout the semester. Locker sign-up is in the Art Department Office (Room 350)

**Incomplete, Withdrawals, Pass/Fail**

- Incompletes or "I" grades will be considered for students completing satisfactory or better work and having serious legitimate situations beyond their control requiring additional time to complete the course requirements. All "I" grades are at the discretion of the instructor and the approval of the Department chair.
- Students hold the full responsibility for withdrawing from this course if that procedure is elected. Withdrawals must be completed on or before the final date to drop a course with a “W”. Students missing this deadline will be issued a grade for the performance in the course.
- This course is a grade-based course and is not available for audit or pass/fail options.
- This course is not available for graduate credit.

**Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty Statement**

Cheating/Plagiarism: Cheating is unethical and not acceptable. Plagiarism is using information or original wording in a paper without giving credit to the source of that information or wording: it is also not acceptable. Do not submit work under your name that you did not do yourself. You may not submit work for this class that you did for another class. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy. Refer to [http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm](http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadintg.htm) for further information.

**Disabilities Statement**

Disabilities: I will make any reasonable accommodations for students with limitations due to disabilities, including learning disabilities. Please see me personally before or after class in the first two weeks or make an appointment, to discuss any special needs you might have. If you have a documented disability and require specific accommodations, you will need to contact the Disabled Student Services Office in the East Union Bldg., Room 106 within the first two weeks of classes. The Disabled Student Services Office can also be reached in the following ways:
Web: [http://www.utep.edu/dsso](http://www.utep.edu/dsso)
Phone: (915) 747-5148 voice or TTY
Fax: (915) 747-8712
E-Mail: dss@utep.edu