

Community College of Vermont

Online

ART-2020: Color Theory

Summer 2021 Semester

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Syllabus

Essential Objectives

The successful student will be able to:

1. Explore the changeable nature of color, color illusions, and color vibrations.
2. Employ and identify color theories, terminology, and vocabulary such as hue, temperature, tint, shade, and value.
3. Discuss color interaction.
4. Apply color theory in the creation of a body of color work.
5. Examine, discuss and critique artwork, including some reference to the art historical, social, and cultural context.
6. Design and complete individual projects.
7. Create a color portfolio.
8. Display finished works in a professional manner.

Methods

This Color Theory involves both studio work as well as homework assignments. Students are expected to spend three hours watching the demo, practicing the studio assignment, participating in the online forum and reading through any additional materials. Nine hours of homework each week is expected and is the minimum amount of time necessary to see development. A variety of examples and demonstrations will be offered in a video demonstration in an attempt to illustrate a range of approaches and techniques. Students will be expected to participate in critique, offering constructive feedback to their peers. A virtual field trip to a museum or gallery, live model or guest artist presentations may be scheduled.

Course Description

Students will explore color theory as related to painting, printing, design, film, and other visual media. The interactions of color and their effect on visual perception will be discussed. Using pure colors in juxtaposition, students will investigate color action and color relatedness.

1. Students will read through the course materials on their own. Color Theory concepts will be supplemented with a video lecture and demonstration, including studio practice which is expected to be completed before the final project is attempted. Studio practice is counted towards your sketchbook assignment requirement each week.
2. Each week builds upon the last. Students will be expected to demonstrate growth in concepts covered in the previous weeks while approaching new concepts in their artwork with an open mind and curiosity.
3. **Assignments are expected to be completed by the due date. *AFTER TWO WEEKS, late assignments will not be accepted for credit.*** Each assignment is graded by a rubric.

What Students Can Expect From the Instructor

1. I will provide a warm, safe online environment where everyone can have fun and learn together.
2. I highly value instructor-student communication! ***My preferred method of communication is email.*** I check my CCV email daily. If you have a non-emergency question, please use email. I will respond to you within 24 hours. However, text messages and/or phone calls are encouraged if you need to communicate with me sooner. If you have a question that does not require an immediate response, you can send a text message (please identify yourself in the first line: “Hi professor, this is Susannah from your Color Theory class.”). I will respond to you as soon as I see the message and have an opportunity to respond. If it is an “emergency,” or something that you believe requires my immediate attention, call me. If I am away from the phone, please leave a voice mail and I will return your call as quickly as possible. While my phone is always nearby, but I do not consider it to be an appendage, so please plan accordingly.
 - **Email: smc05271@ccv.vsc.edu**
 - **Cell Phone: (802) 591-1894**
4. I will make continuous evaluations as I watch you progress in this class. One of the objectives is for you to improve over the course of the semester. ***Please note: Showing up to class and doing all of the assignments, without progress, does not constitute a passing grade.***
5. I will be paying close attention to your attitude on a weekly basis and provide you with verbal and written feedback frequently. All assignments must be completed to the best of your ability. To achieve an A in this class it requires a level of commitment to the art and science of Color Theory.
6. I will do my utmost best to respond to and grade assignments with feedback within a week of their due dates. If something gets in my way, I will let the class know that there will be a delay and when students can expect their grades/feedback.
7. I will treat all students with collegial respect! I believe that students have as much to

contribute to the learning process as I do, and I look forward to our exchanges as colleagues.

Instructor Expectations for a Successful Online Course

1. This course is not self-paced and is not the “softer, easier way!” There are weekly deadlines for discussion forum participation, assignments, and examinations that must be met to ensure maximum credit towards a student’s final grade.
2. Discussion forums open on Sunday and close on Saturday of each week. They are a critical part of the course (and your grade), so please stay current and up to date. A best practice would be for students to create and share their original posts by Tuesday of each week. It is expected that all students respond to all of their student colleagues at one point or another during the scheduled discussion forum.
3. Have contingency plans for computer problems as well as late arrival of art supplies. Some suggestions include taking an inventory of art supplies you already have. Reaching out to family or friends who may have extra supplies you can borrow. It is even suggested that students seek out friends, family, and even coworkers who have Internet services in the event of a computer crash in order to stay current with weekly responsibilities.
4. Online learning happens in real-time. The online student must function regardless of life’s challenges (births, deaths, travel, family emergencies, work issues, military deployment, etc.). Success is contingent upon the student’s ability to master course content while simultaneously mastering all of life’s challenges. If work is not submitted on time, the instructor will assume that an unforeseen event has occurred and that the student will be back on track as soon as possible, thus eliminating the need for apology or excuse. Communication is vitally important! A student should always contact the instructor to let them know what’s going on in their life if the student needs to be away from the course for any reason. It is possible that suitable arrangements could be made so the student can continue in the course.
5. Students should allot at least five to ten hours per week to be successful in this course. That time includes reading and reviewing the course materials, lecture and demonstration, participating in the discussion forums, and completing assignments and examinations. If a student believes they are spending an inordinate amount of time on this course, the instructor needs to know so that the student and instructor can troubleshoot.
6. Ask questions! Open the questions up to everyone, as someone else in the class will probably have the same question. Students may answer each other’s questions, as they learn best when trying to explain something to someone else. If the class cannot answer the question, then the instructor will jump in and provide assistance.
7. Practice good “netiquette” and treat classmates with respect. Discussion forums are a place where students are expected to be venerable, ask for feedback on unfinished work

and give peer feedback in order to grow as an artist.

8. Students should plan to be online at least three times per week. Some students may find they benefit from being online more often. It is important that students log in so that they can read course announcements, read the postings of other students, and check for email messages from the instructor. Do not allow yourself to get behind. Dates for the start and end of each week are clearly posted. Students would be wise to plan their schedules for this course around these dates.
9. “Attendance:” In order to be considered “present” for class each week, each student must post in the discussion forum, provide feedback to at least two of your classmates and acknowledge the feedback you have been given by your peers in a final response. Student attendance is reported to CCV and often checked by academic advisors as a way of monitoring a student’s progress throughout the semester.
10. Each response and assignment is a record of your thinking, decision-making and time spent. Your portfolio should be a record of your progress over time. Portfolios will include all of your homework assignments. A one-page description (artist statement) of yourself and your journey as an artist should be included.

Grading System

- 30% Participation in classroom critiques and studio (online discussions).
- 30% Weekly development of portfolio (typically a minimum of 9 hours of homework) completed on time with evidence of effort
- 20% Midterm
- 20% Final Project, Artist Statement & online Portfolio of Work

A: Superior to excellent work. Student has completed all assignments in a thoughtful, creative and dedicated manor. Outstanding amount of skill and care put into work. Student has created an extensive body of work. Strong voice during discussions. Creative and sensitive feedback during critique. Overall effort and attitude is superb.

B: Good to excellent work. All assignments have been completed and show a significant amount of effort and care. Student grasps most of the concepts introduced in class and has applied them to his/her work in a thoughtful manor. Student is a willing and active participant in class discussions and critiques.

C: Partial to good work. Student does not exhibit the amount of care required for this medium. Student grasps some ideas but does not put forth full effort in practicing them.

D: Marginally meet the expectations of the assignment. Minimal comprehension of concepts. Critical thinking and attention to detail are poor. Student has difficulty in articulating his or her learning.

F: Did not meet the expectations of this class. Incomplete assignments. Irregular attendance. Little or no growth. Lack of participation in discussions and critiques. Effort is minimal.

Attendance may have been unacceptable. Students are strongly urged to discuss this grade with their instructor and advisor.

Attendance and Participation Policy

Class attendance, participation and preparedness are essential to be successful in this course. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated. Students can make up excused absences by doing extra homework. Students cannot pass the class if they miss 3 classes. Students are expected to bring all materials necessary to each class.

- Class attendance counts as 30% of your final grade. A record of your logins is documented each week in Canvas.
- Class starts promptly Sunday morning at 10am. All assignments for the corresponding week will be posted and available for review at that time. Each class runs through until the following Saturday and ends at 11:45PM.
- All absences must be excused **prior to the start of the week**. Please email me at smc05271@ccv.vsc.edu. If it is an emergency call or text my phone 802-591-1894. Leave your name, what class you are enrolled in, what the reason for your absence is, and any supports you will need.
- No more than two absences are allowed per semester. More than two absences will result in the lowering of your final grade.
- We only have 12 classes together this semester (summer courses are shorter) therefore, we will pack more into a shorter amount of time. Each class covers a significant amount of learning scaffolded intentionally to strengthen your skills for each additional course. Four absences, or 26% of missed class time, will result in immediate failure of this course. Please reach out often and early when you are having difficulty with anything in this class. I am here to support your success.
- Cell phones, media devices, and your sound on Zoom should be shut off during class when attending synchronous meetings (not required). In the event of a personal emergency please alert me prior to the start of class and you may keep your phone on vibrate. Everyone has the right to a respectful, distraction free learning environment.

Section 504 & Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, a post-secondary student with a disability who is in need of academic accommodations or auxiliary aids is required to notify the College of the nature of the disability and to provide appropriate documentation which supports the request for reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids.

Please note: In order to receive accommodations for disabilities in this course, students must make an appointment to see the Americans with Disabilities Coordinator from their home academic center and bring documentation with them.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

CCV has a commitment to honesty and excellence in academic work and expects the same from all students. Academic dishonesty, or cheating, can occur whenever you present as your own work something that you did not do. You can also be guilty of cheating if you help someone else cheat. Being unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty (such as knowing what plagiarism is) does not absolve a student of the responsibility to be honest in his/her academic work. Academic dishonesty is taken very seriously and may lead to dismissal from the College.

Color Theory Supplies and Schedule

This syllabus is subject to change based on the pace and needs of the students

What is Color? *"The agreed-upon technical definition of color," says Fairchild, "is that it's a visual perception."*

Does Color Exist? *"It's quite possible the world is colorless, and our perceptions of hues are nothing more than illusions. If you close your eyes does the world retain its color, or is it only in the eye of the beholder?"*

Supply List

Supplies do not have to be exact the same brand as what is listed (when listed), but you will need something similar to the colors, compression and thickness. After looking around your space you might be surprised how many items you already have access to. If anyone is experiencing financial hardship, please reach out to your academic advisor or let me know and I'm sure we can figure out how to support you.

Please adhere to the COVID-19 recommendations in your area and check them often to see if you can shop in person or if you will need to shop online. Order early because some items are on backorder and will take longer to arrive due to the pandemic. Other popular locations and online stores:

- <https://www.jerrysartarama.com/>
- [Michaels](#)
- Target
- Hobby Lobby
- Walmart
- [Amazon](#)
- Kmart
- Joann Fabric
- Local art stores based on your location
- Artist friends who are willing to part with extra supplies (please follow COVID-19 recommendations for sharing supplies).

Items Needed For Class

Paint: Any of the following paints will work, but I will be using acrylic. Don't purchase anything new if you already have these items at home.

- Acrylic – Blick Acrylic
- Gouache
- Watercolor
- Tempera

Colors (minimum):

- Black
- White - Titanium
- **R** – Cadmium Red medium
- **Y** – Cadmium Yellow Deep or Hansa Yellow Deep
- **B** – Ultramarine Blue

Paper:

- Colored paper – Color Aid brand is preferred.
- Cardboard, canvas, illustration boards, surfaces to paint on (several)
- Black paper (just a few sheets. May come with colored paper)
- Construction paper
- Junk mail: Look at the post office in their recycling
- Magazines
- Grid paper
- Swatch samples from a paint store. They are free. Get as many as you can.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C - Phthalo Blue • M - Quinacridone Red or Viridian • Y - Lemon Yellow or Cadmium Yellow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corrugated cardboard • Colored Transparent Sheets
Other Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruler • Pencil • Eraser • Markers or colored pencils • Sponges • Colored inks (optional) • Pastels (optional) • Elmer's Glue • Wood (optional for mixed media pieces) 	Items you don't need, but if you have them, that's great! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prism • Colored Light Bulbs • Colored Transparent Sheets

Week	Topics	Weekly Assignment Due Dates
1: 5/25-6/5	The Nature of Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Physics • Additive and Subtractive Color Systems • Complementary Colors • Local and Relative Color 	6/5/21: Discussion Forum 1 – Student Introductions 6/5/21: Syllabus Scavenger Hunt 6/5/21: Discussion Forum 2 6/6/21: Assignment “Color Studies”
2: 6/6-6/12	Exploring The Color Circle and Color Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Circles • Hues • Color Proportions 	6/12/21: Discussion Forum 3 6/13/21: Assignment “Color Interactions”
3: 6/13-6/19	Attributes of Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hue • Value • Saturation 	6/19/21: Discussion Forum 4 6/20/21: Assignment “Color Identity”
4: 6/20-6/26	Color Interaction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relativity • Optical Mixtures • Transparency 	6/26/21: Discussion Forum 5 6/27/21: Assignment “Transparency Studies”
5: 6/27-7/3	The Materials of Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Color Materials • Process Materials 	7/3/21: Discussion Forum 6 7/4/21: Assignment “Color Testing”

6: 7/4-7/10	Digital Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Digital Software • Vector & Bitmap • Digital Tools • Color Management 	7/10/21: Discussion Forum 7 7/11/21: Assignment “Digital Color”
7: 7/11-7/17	The Elements and Principles of Design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abstraction • Design Elements • Order and Chaos • Design Principles 	7/17/21: Discussion Forum 8 7/18/21: Elements and Principles Midterm
8: 7/18-7/24	Color Schemes and Harmony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple • Contrasting • Balanced • Keyed • Discord 	7/24/21: Discussion Forum 9 7/25/21: Assignment “Color Harmony Study”
9: 7/25-7/31	Designing with Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depicting Form • Depicting Light • Depicting Space • Rhythm and Movement 	7/31/21: Discussion Forum 10 8/1/21: Assignment “Designing with Color”
10: 8/1-8/7	Expressive Color <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color Psychology • Symbolism • Environmental Color • Thematic Color 	8/7/21: Discussion Forum 11 8/8/21: Assignment “Symbolism”
11: 8/8-8/14	Final Project	8/14/21: Discussion Forum 12 8/17/21: Assignment “Final”