

ART 1501 - Fundamentals of 2D Design

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 09, CRN 41909,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

John Guy Petruzzi

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Part-time Faculty

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

M.F.A. in Painting - School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston at Tufts University

B.F.A. in Painting - Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: Bliss Hall 4001

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3627

Course Description

1501. Fundamentals of 2D Design. The fundamental ideas and principles of 2-dimensional form. Emphasis on basic design concepts, pictorial composition, color theory, vocabulary, media and processes. Slide lectures, directed readings and studio problems. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Launching the Imagination 6th edition	Mary Stewart	9781260914078

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Tentative Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Chapter 1: Basic Elements	Elements of Art: Point, Line, Shape, Value, Color, Texture	
8/31	Chapter 3: Principles of 2D Design	Balance, proportion, movement, emphasis, economy, paint handling and color mixing	
9/7			Project 1 Critique
9/14		Harmony/variety dynamics, visual unity	
9/21		Approaches to abstraction, compositional strategy	
9/28			Project 2 Critique
10/5	Chapter 2: The Element of Color	Color theory: perception, interaction, application	
10/12		Choosing color systems, color sampling	
10/19		Midterm vocabulary review	
10/26			Project 3 Critique Midterm Quiz
11/2	Chapter 4: Space, Motion		

11/9		Digital design modeling	
11/16		Contemporary abstract artists	
11/23	Chapter 5: Problem Seeking/Solving	Project assembly, documentation	
11/30			Formal Analysis Due
12/7			Project 4 Critique (Final Critique)

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.