



West Los Angeles College
Los Angeles Institute of Architecture and Design

Course Syllabus – FALL 2015

WLAC COURSE: Arch 160 – Computers for Designers (3) (CSU)

LAIAD Course: ARCH 121 – Digital Graphic applications

PRE-REQUISITE / CO-REQUISITE

none

SCHEDULE / LOCATION

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm M, Th at LAIAD, 3807 Wilshire Bl. Suite 330

FACULTY

Alan Guillen alan.guillen.arch@gmail.com, aguillen@LAIAD.com

OFFICE HOURS

By Appointment. The instructor is available during business hours for consultation outside of class. Students are encouraged to seek help and bring concerns to the instructor during this time. Please don't hesitate to ask for help or assistance if you need it, or to discuss any concerns you have regarding the class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to Photoshop, InDesign and Illustrator geared toward architects, and interior designers. Emphasis on how designers can optimize and understand the role of digital medium in today's design industry.

RECOMMENDED READING

-Design Basics Index: *A graphic designer's guide to designing effective compositions, selecting dynamic components & developing creative concepts.*

Adobe Creative Cloud Design Tools All-in-One For Dummies – Jennifer Smith

Architectural and Program Diagrams: *(Construction and Design Manual) 1 and 2*

Data Flow 1 and 2: *Visualizing Information in Graphic Design*

Other Recommended Resources

Self Paced Tutorials

Downloadable / Viewable at:

<http://www.lynda.com/>

Youtube.com

GOOGLE It

Try Amazon.com or other online book sellers for the best prices on these titles.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME (SLO)

At end of the course, the successful student will be able to use various computer software applications (separately and in combination) to design and create graphic layouts, presentation panels, and a multi-page portfolio.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Learning and understanding of the basic design software interfaces / tools.
2. Understanding the difference between vector and raster graphics
3. The integration of multi software applications into a single work flow.
4. Using digital software as a communication and design tool.
5. Ability to communicate design, space, and conceptual relationships through a 2D presentational graphic.
6. Writing Presentation skills.

7. Diagramming of projects, translation of a complex idea into a clear language.
8. Project presentation fundamentals, layout composition, hierarchy and design.
9. Determining the appropriate presentation size, graphics, fonts, etc.
10. Design an organizational system for the presentation content.
11. Emphasis on developing diagrams to clearly illustrate design intent and thinking.

COURSE CONTENT

A series of in class lectures that introduce the student to the software tools used in creating content for architectural presentations and documentation. The course will consist of continuing in class discussions with the students on their individual design work, developing strategies on how to represent and convey ideas that are manifested into graphics and layouts, while producing additional content to reinforce those ideas where applicable.

Course content includes:

1. Brief computer hardware and operating system overview.

Photoshop

File Formats
 Selection methods
 Image size and canvas size
 Layers
 Brushes and painting tools
 Editing tools, including scale, rotate, distort, etc.
 Filters
 Adjustment layers
 Color correction
 Retouching
 Clipping Mask
 Compositing of images
 File management and linking

Illustrator

File Formats
 Selection methods
 Editing tools, including scale, rotate, distort, etc.
 Pathfinder and clipping mask
 Layers
 Vectorizing scanned image
 File management and linking
 Text control using kerning, leading, and type on path

File formats for design based software, including pro's and con's of raster and vector files.

Transferring digital data from one software to another.
 Including pdfs, Autocad, and rhino files

Indesign

Importing and linking files
 Content layout
 Editing tools
 Content effects
 Organization
 Physical output (deliverables)

JOURNALS

Each student is required to bring to all classes a hard-bound journal (sketchbook). These journals will form a record of your thoughts and ideas. Faculty may also make sketches and notes in your journal relative to your projects. These journals will be reviewed at the end of the Semester.

EVALUATION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES:

1. Students are evaluated for individual progress using the following criteria:
 - A. Development of skills and abilities listed under learning objectives.
 - B. Attendance and contribution to studio, lectures, and field trips.
 - B. Evidence of motivation / perseverance.
 - D. Willingness to explore alternatives and take risks.
 - E. Willingness to accept criticism.
2. In terms of the criteria listed above the design studio activities are weighted approximately as follows:

Studio projects	75% (number of projects may vary)
Attendance and Participation	15%
Instructor Discretion	10%
TOTAL	100%
3. Grades given on LAIAD transcripts will be traditional A,B,C,F grading. No grades of D will be given.
4. Equal Grades will be given on West Los Angeles College Transcripts if student is enrolled at WLAC for credit.
5. Attendance is mandatory. Students missing 25% of classes will be subject to dismissal.
6. **No studio project assignments will be accepted for full credit if late or unfinished.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: FALL 2015

See individual design assignments for particular schedule. Homework will be assigned on a daily basis. Attendance is mandatory to all class meetings.

Week	Day	Date	Subject
0	Thur	Sep 03	Introduction to class, syllabus. Assign content / Assign Project 01.
1	Mon	Sep 07	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY
	Thur	Sep 10	Assignment 01 due, class pin up.
2	Mon	Sep 04	In class lecture – presentation basics and examples.
	Thur	Sep 17	In class lecture – presentation basics and examples.
3	Mon	Sep 21	In class lecture – inDesign software / layouts and placement. Assign Project 1.5
	Thur	Sep 24	In class lecture – inDesign software / layouts and placement.
4	Mon	Sep 28	Assignment 1.5 due, class pin up.
	Thur	Oct 01	In class lecture – Illustrator. Assign project 2: Transformative language
5	Mon	Oct 05	In class lecture - Illustrator
	Thur	Oct 08	NO CLASS - LECTURE
6	Mon	Oct 12	In class lecture – Photoshop- Assignment 2 due
	Thur	Oct 15	In class lecture – Photoshop - Assign Project 3
7	Mon	Oct 19	In class lecture - LAB
	Thur	Oct 22	In class lecture - LAB
	Mon	Oct 26	In class discussion - Assignment 3 Due
	Thur	Oct 29	Diagrams and presentation – work in class
8	Mon	Nov 02	Diagrams and presentation – work in class
	Thur	Nov 05	Diagrams and presentation - work in class
9	Mon	Nov 09	Diagrams and presentation – work in class – spread prints due
	Thur	Nov 12	Diagrams and presentation – work in class
10	Mon	Nov 16	First draft printed COLOR portfolios due
	Thur	Nov 19	Diagrams and presentation – work in class
11	Mon	Nov 23	Diagrams and presentation – work in class
	Thur	Nov 26	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING
12	Mon	Nov 30	Second draft printed COLOR portfolios due
	Thur	Dec 03	LAB
13	Mon	Dec 01	LAB
	Thur	Dec 03	LAB
14	Mon	Dec 07	LAB
	Thur	Dec 10	FINAL PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL DELIVERABLES DUE
15	SAT	Dec 12	ALL SCHOOL FINAL