Three Dimensional Design

Principles of Form and Design
Wucius Wong (pp. 237-352)

The Design of Everyday Things
Donald Norman

Purpose
To understand the fundamentals of three-dimensional concepts, form and structure, including materials, methods and production techniques.

Objectives
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:
1. Understand properties of weight and weightlessness, scale and the body, form and function.
2. Understand the materiality of form and principles of physicality.
3. Understand craft and construction techniques.
4. Utilize drawing methods for representing space in three dimensions.
5. Critically analyze forms in three dimensions.
6. Write a concept statement.
7. Make a formal presentation of your work.

Materials List
You can pick up each of the following items at:

Thomson's Art Supply
184 Mamaroneck Avenue White Plains 10601
tel. 914.949.4885 or 800.287.4885
fax. 914.949.4978

1. Art Bin
2. Portfolio Carrier
3. Eraser (white plastic)
4. Pencils, HB, B, 4B
5. Pencil sharpener (enclosed, w/lid)
6. Rubber Cement, 8oz.
7. Mat cutting knife (retractable X-acto knife)
8. X-acto knife (#1) replacement blades
9. 18” x 24” pad of Drawing Paper, #116 Artist’s vellum
10. Masking tape
11. Hot glue gun w/ glue sticks
12. “Pick up” rubber cement remover
13. 11” x 17” cutting mat.
14. Metal ruler

During the course of the semester, additional material may be added to this list.
Course Requirements & Grading

Class will begin promptly at 1:30 pm.
You’ll need to be here and be ready to work at that time. This includes having your materials gathered or your work set up for critique.

Work sessions
Whenever possible, you will be given time during class to work on your assignments. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have the necessary materials to take advantage of this time. If you come to class unprepared, you will have to borrow or buy the supplies you’ll need to work in class.

Critiques
For each assignment you complete, we will take some class time to discuss what you made and give you a chance to see what your fellow classmates did. This is also an opportunity to expand your design vocabulary and learn how to talk constructively about visual dynamics and what makes a design successful.

Class participation
In addition to participating in critiques and taking advantage of work sessions, you will be expected to actively engage with the class and the assignments. Just showing up to class is not enough to earn an A.

Attendance
One absence is allowed. It is your responsibility to contact me before a planned absence to get any material and find out about assignments you might miss. In case of illness, you must contact me as soon as possible to get missed material/assignments.
  • After two unexcused absences your grade for the course will go down by one letter grade.

Weekly Assignments
Each week an assignment will be given, due the following week. You will be given at least two weeks to complete midterm and final projects. Weekly assignments turned in late will be penalized.

Midterm Project
Final Project
These projects will incorporate elements from the weekly assignments as well as present more advanced challenges. For both the midterm and the final, we will spend a fair amount of time in a class critique, talking about your work and how successfully you solved the problems presented in the assignment. No late projects will be accepted.

Grading
Attendance, getting to class on time, being ready to work and participating in crits and discussions are all very important to your grade. Weekly assignments will be given a rating from 1 to 10. After you turn in your Midterm project you will receive a mid-term grade along with suggestions for improving or maintaining that grade.
Your final grade should not be a surprise to you if you pay attention to the evaluations you receive throughout the session. If at any point you have questions about how you are doing in the class, please see me.
Class Schedule
Sept. 13- Introduction
Sept. 20- Serial Planes
Sept 27- Off site project
Oct. 4- Wall Structures
Oct. 11- Prisms and Cylinders
Oct. 18- Repetition
Oct. 25- Work session- MIDTERM
Nov. 1- MIDTERM Critique
Nov. 8- Polyhedral Structures
Nov 15- Triangular Planes
Nov 22- Linear Framework
Nov. 29- Linear Planes
Dec 6- Interlinking lines
Dec. 13- Work Session FINAL
Dec 20- FINAL Critique
Last chance to turn in late Weekly Assignments.