COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:  Casey McGarr, Assistant Professor Visual Communication
Office Location:  415
Office Hours:  By appointment only: phone or email
Office Phone:  214.752.9009
Email:  casey.mcgarr@tamuc.edu

CLASS INFORMATION
Credit hours: 4.0
Meeting times: Meets 7/13/2015 through 8/13/2015
Meeting location: Pacific Place 4th floor, unless other location specified

SUGGESTED TEXTBOOKS AND RESOURCES
•  Book: Teaching Graphic Design by Steven Heller (Course offerings and class projects)
•  Communication Arts magazine
•  Print Magazine
•  AIGA Design Educator's forum

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Pedagogy in-classroom undergraduate training experience. This course focuses on in-classroom observation and experience through the shadowing of a faculty member, and the creation and application of classroom assignments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1.  Observation of real-time interaction with and undergraduate class
2.  An opportunity to learn and pick-up teaching methods from outside sources
3.  First hand experience with introducing and facilitating a class assignment
4.  Observe and react to class dynamics through team critique methods
5.  Gain an understanding of an entire semester of course work
6.  Monitor student progress within an class environment
7.  Gain confidence in critique, assignment facilitation, class dynamics, assessment and different teaching styles/methods

COURSE STRUCTURE / EXPECTATIONS
The course structure will be a mix of individual meetings with your professor and class meetings TBD.

Words to-the-wise
Show up, be committed in your work, and immerse yourself in the process. It’s your show.
DO NOT FALL BEHIND

GRADING:
Your final grade will be based on your week-by-week progress, attendance and commitment to your research and success of your final thesis exhibition and paper. In addition, it is your responsibility to meet with your other committee members throughout the semester and bring their comments to your weekly meetings for discussion.

ABSENCE POLICY
•  You may be absent from class twice.
•  On your first absence you will receive an e-mail warning from your instructor and it will be copied to Lee Whitmarsh and filed.
•  On your second absence you will receive an e-mail from your instructor and a phone call or email from Lee Whitmarsh, both filed.
•  On your third absence you will receive an F in the class. If you wish to drop the class you will receive a drop/fail.
•  Two tardies of 20 minutes or more equals an absence.
•  A tardy of 60 minutes equals one absence.
•  IF A STUDENT IS OVER 10 MINUTES LATE FOR THE FINAL, A FULL GRADE WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM HIS OR HER FINAL GRADE. IF A STUDENT DOES NOT SHOW UP FOR THE FINAL THEY AUTOMATICALLY FAIL THE CLASS.
STATEMENT ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenet of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

All students must show respect toward the instructor and the instructor’s syllabus, presentations, assignments, and point of view. Students should respect each other’s differences. If the instructor determines that a student is not being respectful towards other students or the instructor, it is the instructor’s prerogative to ask the student to leave, to refer the student to the department head, and to consider referring the student to the Dean of Students who may consider requiring the student to drop the course. Please refer to pages 42 – 46 of the Texas A&M University-commerce Student guidebook’s Codes of Conduct for details.

CLASS POLICY
Cell-phones, e-mailing, texting, headphones, or unauthorized computer use in class with result in a one-point deduction from the current assignment.

SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY
• Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any class-related activity.
• Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the submission of someone else’s materials as one’s own work.
• Scholastic dishonesty may involve one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, or collusion.

PLAGIARISM
Is the use of an author’s words or ideas as if they were one’s own without giving credit to the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation. Cite your references.

CHEATING
Is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination, illicitly obtaining examination questions in advance, copying computer or Internet files, using someone else’s work for assignments as if it were one’s own, or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

COLLUSION
Is intentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, providing a paper or project to another student, providing an inappropriate level of assistance, communicating answers to a classmate during an examination, removing tests or answer sheets from a test site, and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY COULD RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM THE UNIVERSITY

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu