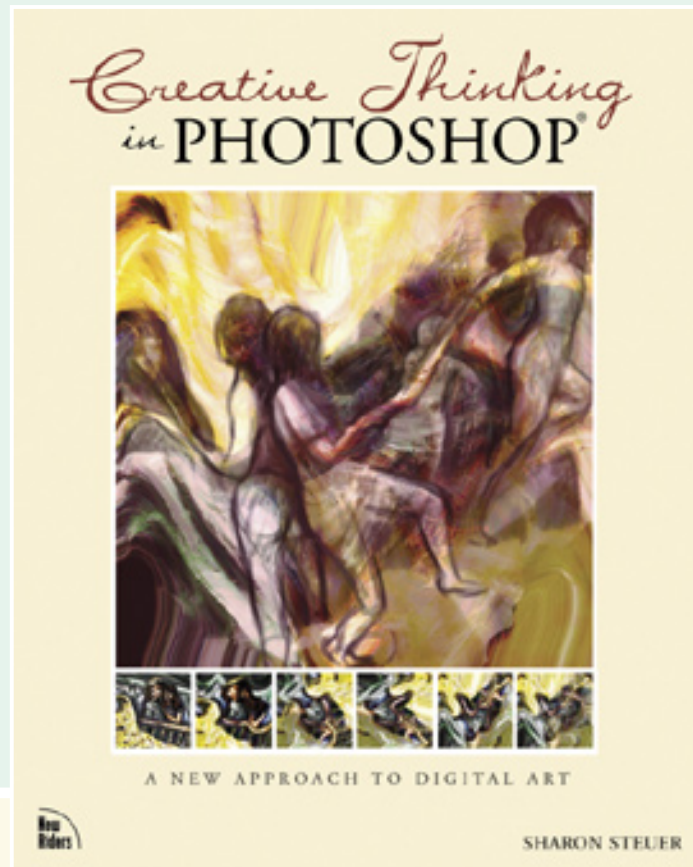


Creative Thinking in PHOTOSHOP®

Digital Imaging with Photoshop® COURSE OUTLINE

This course outline has been prepared by Laurie Grace & Karen Wheeler for use with the book
Creative Thinking in Photoshop: A New Approach to Digital Art by Sharon Steuer.



For more information on *Creative Thinking in Photoshop: A New Approach to Digital Art*,
visit: <http://www.ssteuer.com> and click "Publications" and "Educational Resources"

To order educational copies of *Creative Thinking in Photoshop: A New Approach to Digital Art*
(ISBN: 0735711224), or to obtain an evaluation copy, please contact your Prentice Hall
representative. To find your rep, visit: www.prenhall.com or call 1-800-526-0485.

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Creative Thinking *in* PHOTOSHOP®

Digital Imaging with Photoshop® Course Outline

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“Technique is merely a means, not an end in itself.”

—M.C. Escher

Digital Imaging with Photoshop®

Prerequisites

Basic computer skills.

This course is intended for beginning level students.

Course Content

Emphasis on use of Adobe Photoshop as a tool to design, organize and compose visual images and to blend images with text to create graphics for print or web. Fundamental Photoshop skills acquired and practiced in a manner that engages creativity and encourages experimentation.

The course is designed in six segments. It can be used as a 6 week component of an Intro to Computer Graphics course or can be expanded into a semester long course.

Objectives

- Develop fundamental Photoshop skills
- Gain facility with Adobe Photoshop® in developing image/ text compositions
- Create original images via digital collage & image manipulation
- Learn to enhance and modify scanned images & digital photos

Teaching Methods

Demonstrations and guided instruction in computer graphics techniques and use of equipment. Other methods may include:

- Videos
- Group critiques to analyze and evaluate completed assignments and works in progress
- Internet research

Textbook:

Creative Thinking in Photoshop: A New Approach to Digital Art by Sharon Steuer

Assignments:

A variety of exercises, studies and completed projects will be required.

- Exercises are designed to practice specific Photoshop skills
- Research/play assignments are designed to facilitate individual investigations & explorations
- Projects consist of specific problem solving activities which integrate concepts from your text with new skills

Grading and Critique:

Completed assignments will be evaluated on demonstration of concept assigned, composition, use of media, handling of techniques, and completion by due date. Quizzes and tests will cover technical information. Some assignments may require accompanying notes. Varying point values will be assigned to exercises, quizzes, tests and projects. Percentage of earned points will be calculated for final grade.

Supplies:

- One loose-leaf binder with vinyl view pages to organize all assignments, exercises and handouts
- Zip disks or CDs for backing up your files
- Presentation materials as indicated for individual projects

Suggested Course Schedule.

Expansion topics & assignments may be used to augment individual segments or to extend the course content into a semester. Assignment descriptions follow the table opposite.

Segment	Topics	Activity	Reading	Expansion Topics	Expansion Assignments
1 The Basics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Intro to Photoshop ■ Toolbox ■ Menus ■ Page/Doc Setup ■ Selection tools ■ Feathering ■ Fills ■ Copy & paste 	Assignment 1 Simple Collage Variations	Intro & Chapter 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ File Formats ■ Resolution 	Research web sources for tutorials & tips
2 Acquiring & Changing images	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Scanning ■ Layers ■ Transformations ■ Tonal & color adjustments ■ Basic retouching 	Assignment 2 Playing with Color	Chapters 2 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Levels/ Curves ■ Color management ■ Color modes ■ Digital camera demo 	New classmate clone Digital camera scavenger hunt
3 Painting, Shapes & Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Filters ■ Painting tools ■ Gradients ■ Text ■ Layer masks ■ Paths ■ Clipping Paths ■ Brush making 	Assignment 3 Radical Transformations	Chapters 4 & 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Layer Styles ■ Actions ■ Fonts ■ Vector tools 	Movie poster design
4 Image Enhancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Painting with alpha channels & layer masks ■ Advanced image adjustments 	Assignment 4 Non-Linear Creativity	Chapters 6 & 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Print vs web ■ Save for web ■ PDF ■ Text features 	Create a fantastic animal
5 Innovative Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Painting & playing with filters & lighting effects ■ Creating Patterns 	Assignment 5 Collaborating	Chapter 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Image Ready Gif animations 	Series of text/ image combinations
6 Putting it all together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review 	Final Project Installation simulation	Chapter 9 & appendix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Individual Explorations 	Animated installation

Digital Imaging with Photoshop®

Project Guidelines

Segment 1: Simple Collage Variations

Read Introduction and Chapter 1 of your book.

Finished art will be three 8"x10" 150ppi (pixel per inch) RGB files

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Create a new file in which to compose your image (8x10 at 150 ppi)
- Copy and paste various images from a folder of scanned copyright free art
- Add color and transparencies to layers to create your finished pieces
- When you achieve an interesting stage, stop and save your file with a new name
- Continue working until you have 3 versions of your collage

As you work, practice with these tools & commands:

Duplicating to copy and paste.

Move tool.

Copy Merged.

Make selections with a sharp edge and/or a feathered edge.

Try adding to a selection and subtracting or intersecting.

Vary the percentages of fills.

Fill with patterns and use transparencies

The goal is to become familiar with Photoshop and have some fun using various selections to create design, add color and form.

All finished work throughout the semester is to be printed as well as handed in digitally. Save all handed in work as a Photoshop format with layers.

Segment 1 Expansion Assignment:

Research Internet for Photoshop tips & tutorials. Try out a technique tutorial as written and then make your own variation.

Segment 2 Assignment: Playing with Color

Read Chapters 2 & 3.

Finished art will be 18x10 300 ppi RGB file

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Start with an original black and white drawing or photograph
- Scan your image so that the file size is 8 x10 at 300 ppi, adjusting scanner settings as necessary to scale a smaller or larger original
- Work with your image by adding and adjusting color
- Experiment with combining layers and layer masks

The goal is to change the mood of the work with the use of color.

Experiment with layers, opacities, and blending modes.

Save files as RGB and CMYK, Duotones and Monotones.

Segment 2 Expansion Assignments:

1. **New Classmate Clone.** Take digital photos of all class members. Each student will use selection, adjustment, and retouching tools to combine their own facial features with those of a fellow student to create a new “virtual classmate.”
2. **Digital Camera Scavenger Hunt.** Students are divided into small groups and given the task of taking digital photos within particular categories (i.e., textures, plants, clouds, faces, buildings, etc.). Then each group uses Photoshop’s File Browser to sort and organize each category of images to be saved and used as a classroom resource.

Segment 3 Assignment: Radical Transformations

Read Chapters 4 & 5

Finished art will be 16 to 20 different finished works combined into one final piece.
Size undetermined 150ppi RGB file

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Start with an original finished piece of art- either scanned or digital
- Distort and play by using filters, color adjustments and layers
- Save 16-20 incremental stages of your work as you progress
- Combine all finished stages into one final finished piece. Consider increasing canvas size and bringing flattened versions of each stage into a final file

The goal is to work with textures and filters and to play with colors and blend modes to vary the mood and transform the initial image to something completely different.

Segment 3 Expansion Assignment:

Design a movie poster. Remake an existing poster or create one of your own.

A variation on this is for all students use the same title but choose different genre for their designs. (I.e. Mystery, Western, Romance, Horror, Sci-Fi etc). Font, image, and design choices are made according to the particular genre each student has chosen.

Segment 4 Assignment: Radical Transformations

Read Chapters 6 & 7

Finished art will be three 8x10 300ppi RGB files

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Start with a digital self portrait of yourself
- Use a folder of original art and digital photographs collected during the semester
- Divide the art into parts to create 3 new self portraits
- Explore dividing the art into thirds and then into more pieces either symmetrical or abstract shapes
- Play with opacity and alpha channels as well as Copy Merged
- Try blending layers and making layer masks
- Continue by working with paint brushes and fills
- Place similar images on different layers and use blending modes to distort

The goal is to explore mask making by combining similar size images on different layers. Themes may include natural landscapes, animal, technical, electronic, robotic, etc.

Mask should portray an emotion or tell a story.

Be creative.

Segment 4 Expansion Assignment:

Create a Fantastic Animal. Use digital photos, stock art and scans of animal and insect images. Select features from a variety of animals or insects and combine them to make your own creature. For example, put dragonfly wings on a tiger and change the color of its stripes. Use the Liquefy tool to further distort. Make your animal convincing and put it in a believable setting.

Segment 5 Assignment: Collaborating

Read Chapter 8

Finished art will be of undetermined size.

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Start with a folder containing artwork contributed by each student
These should be pieces completed during the semester
- Select artwork from a classmate and transform it to create a new digital painting
- Design your new artwork using techniques you have learned throughout the semester
- Feel free to explore and alter in any way

The goal is for students to share each other's work to create new collaborative pieces. Finished work will be displayed to demonstrate the variety of results.

Segment 5 Expansion Assignment:

Create a series of text/ image combinations. Illustrate a poem or make an alphabet book.

Segment 6 Final Project: Art Installations

Read Chapter 9 and appendix.

Finished art will be of undetermined size.

Follow the directions here to get started.

- Begin with your own artwork and digital images of gallery, indoor or outdoor spaces
- Simulated installations will be of artwork created during the semester placed realistically into digital photographs of art spaces
- Use shadows, scale and lighting effects
- Experiment with emboss if using framed artwork
- Make it believable

The goal is to explore different settings for virtual installations.

Segment 6 Expansion Assignment:

Animated installation. Use Image Ready to make a simple gif animation of your installation combining before and after views of your site.