

Nashville State Community College
English, Humanities, and Creative Technologies
(Visual Communications, Graphic Design concentration)

Master Course Syllabus

COM 2210 Electronic Illustration I

Course Information:

Course Title: Electronic Illustration I

3 Credits

3 Class Hours per week

Course Description

An introduction to executing vector-based illustrations using Adobe Illustrator. Topics include navigation of the interface, the tools, drawing and manipulating basic objects, creating and manipulating type, drawing with the pen tool, applying color, using layers, and transformation and pathfinder techniques.

Prerequisite(s): Basic computer skills (see special requirements in program description).

Instructor Information:

Name: David Weilmuenster

Email: David.Weilmuenster@NSCC.edu

Office Phone: 615-353-3415

Office Location: C-107 D

Office Hours: vary by semester. Posted in Course Content and on office door.

Textbook & Other Materials:

Textbook:

Adobe Illustrator CC Classroom in a Book (2019 release) by Brian Wood, Adobe Press, Book + Web Edition, ISBN 13: 978-0-13-526216-0

Reference Materials:

videos made for the textbook, and LinkedIn Training subscription provided by NSCC.

Supplies:

- USB Flash Drive or portable Hard Drive
- Binder for handouts
- Pens and pencils for sketching
- X-acto knife
- 12-inch cork-backed ruler
- Cutting Mat

Some projects may require additional supplies beyond the basic supplies listed above. Once enrolled, all students should verify that they have the correct textbook and materials information by consulting the D2L/NS Online shell for the course. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center at 615-353-3721, 615-353-3741, or accesscenter@nsc.edu.

Course Objectives:

Students will complete projects or quizzes which:

- Utilize basic computer skills and the tool palette to generate simple illustration shapes
- Manipulate type to create decorative and alternative text forms
- Utilize layers to create more complex drawings
- Utilize Pathfinder and Transformative techniques on type forms and shapes/objects
- Create spot and process colors by utilizing the Color Palette

Course Competencies:

The course is also designed to teach students the following competencies intended to support the course objectives:

- Create a new document with set dimensions and specifications
- Navigate and manipulate the tool palette
- Utilize basic keyboard shortcuts
- Demonstrate proficiency with the pen tool
- Demonstrate an understanding of basic terminology used in Illustrator, and explain the steps required to apply specific techniques used in Illustrator
- Employ research and sketches/thumbnails to scan templates for digital illustrations
- Meet established deadlines

The following are general education competencies intended to support the course outcomes:

- Locate, evaluate, and use multiple sources of information when completing class assignments that require research
- Apply mathematical concepts to measure and create a new document, establish type size, and create, proportion, and position document elements
- Apply critical thinking skills to ascertain the optimal execution of a class assignment that requires multiple steps
- Use and adapt current technologies by mastering Adobe Illustrator software

Topics to Be Covered:

Topics include vector images versus raster images, navigating the application interface and tools, drawing and manipulating objects, creating and manipulating type, drawing with the Pen tool, applying color, using layers, transforming images from raster to vector, and using Pathfinder filters.

Course Assessments:

The following performance assessments will be used to demonstrate students' understanding, knowledge, and skills:

There are approximately 4 to 5 graded projects that students will create using Adobe Illustrator as the primary software to build their documents. These are preceded by in-class exercises which are designed to teach tools, techniques and navigation of the software. The projects are graded individually using a point system within a rubric specific to each project. Weekly quizzes will measure understanding of textbook principles, and tool name and keyboard shortcut knowledge.

Grading Policy:

Semester Grades are determined by calculating weighted averages for projects, quiz scores, tests, and participation. Zero scores for missing projects or tests will drastically affect your semester average. A grade of C or above must be earned in all COM and PHO courses to meet prerequisite and graduation requirements. Relative weights are indicated in the chart below.

Semester Grade Breakdown:

10%	Participation/Attendance
60%	Projects
20%	Quizzes
10%	Midterm/Final Exam

There will be a quiz for each module in this course. You can take these on a computer and they will be graded instantly. You must take the quizzes/exams during the scheduled week or receive a zero. *Practice quizzes (if provided) do not affect your semester grade. They are provided to help you prepare for the graded quizzes/exams.*

Grading Scale:

A = 100-93
B = 92-85
C = 84-77
D = 76-70
F = below 70

FA: According to NSCC policy, an FA is awarded to students who do not officially withdraw from a course and do not attend after the cut-off date provided in the academic calendar. Please refer to the current academic calendar on the Nashville State web site, looking for the date that

indicates it is the “Last Day to Earn F for Attendance (FA).” Student who stop attending on or before this date receive an FA; students who stop attending after this date receive an F.
FN: An FN is awarded to students who never attended class.

Late Work Policy & Make-up Procedures for Missed Assignments and Work:

Lab and Project Grades are determined by completion and quality of lab work and projects. You are expected to deliver assignments at the scheduled time. The grade for any missing assignment will be recorded as a zero.

If you miss a test due to absence, you may be allowed to take it the following class period (see attendance policy). The grade for any missing test will be recorded as a zero.

Attendance Policy

Students are responsible for all material covered and assigned regardless of absences. It is the student's responsibility to explain any non-participation to the instructor. A doctor's excuse should be provided when appropriate.

Students are expected to attend all classes, to be on time, and to stay until class is dismissed. Absences or tardiness for any reason will affect your participation grade. Any student arriving late or leaving early will be considered tardy: two such occurrences will count as one absence. Students missing more than one-third of any class will be counted absent—even if they attend the remainder of that class session.

If you have been absent, you must check with the instructor for permission to make up any missed tests or homework. If permission is denied, a zero will be recorded.

If you stop attending class for any reason you should officially withdraw from the course by notifying the Records Office before the deadline for withdrawals. Failure to attend class can result in a final course grade of FA or FN.

Notice of right to retain student work:

The Visual Communications program reserves the right to retain copies of student work for teaching purposes, promotional purposes, and as part of its permanent collection.

Field Trips and Guest Speakers

A brief report will be required of each student describing what was learned from each trip or speaker. Although field trip attendance is not mandatory, a comparable research report will be assigned to students who are unable to attend. These reports will be due at the beginning of the next class period.

If possible, speakers or trips will be scheduled during regular class time. Students are responsible for their own transportation and safety. All students attending a field trip will sign a form releasing the school from liability.

Technology Statement

Nashville State's classes are considered to be web-enhanced. Faculty have an expectation that students will use a computer and the Internet to complete assignments, engage in online discussions, and access various course materials through Desire2Learn (D2L) learning management system course shells. Computers are available for student use at each campus during campus open hours.

D2L/NS Online and MyNSCC (communications policy)

It is the students' responsibility to check D2L/NS Online course shells for all enrolled courses and myNSCC, including student email, on a regular basis. These are the official communication channels between the college and students, who are responsible for the information communicated through those channels. D2L/NS Online contains specific course information and myNSCC contains information important for other purposes.

ADA Compliance Statement

Nashville State complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you require accommodations for any courses in which you are enrolled, contact the Access Center at (615) 353-3741 or (615) 353-3721, or e-mail accesscenter@nsc.edu. If you are registered with the Access Center and require an alternate format for the textbook and other course materials, please contact the Access Center.

Classroom Misconduct

Nashville State Community College has a zero-tolerance policy for disruptive conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the classroom will be subject to disciplinary measures. Please review the [Nashville State Student Code of Conduct policy](#). Please be aware that children are not allowed in class or to be left unattended on campus.

These rules apply in all classrooms throughout the Visual Communications department.

- Strict safety precautions will be taken when near chemicals, tools, or equipment
- Absolutely no food, drink, or smoking in the classroom.
- Smoking is prohibited everywhere on campus
- Cell phones or pages must not interrupt class; no texting in class
- Computers are for classwork only; do not bring your freelance projects to class
- Copying or Piracy of software is illegal, subject to fines, and is grounds for dismissal
- Do not bring any software to class to use on the school computers
- When class is over you must log-out from your computer

Academic Misconduct

Plagiarism is a violation of the NSCC Student Code of Conduct. You are expected to submit only work that you do yourself. Do not collaborate on work with other students unless you are assigned a group project.

Any form of academic dishonesty, cheating, plagiarizing, or other academic misconduct is prohibited. Students are responsible for understanding and abiding by the [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) in the Nashville State Student Code of Conduct. **In addition to other possible disciplinary measures that may be applied through regular college procedures as a result of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or a “zero” for the exercise, paper, or examination, or to assign an “F” for the course.** Students may appeal through the appropriate college grade appeal procedures.

Academic Early Warning System

Nashville State Community College uses an Early Alert System to let students know of a faculty member’s concern in one or more of these academic areas: lack of attendance, lack of classroom participation, late or missing assignments, and/or poor performance on assignments/tests. *Please note that Early Alerts do not affect a student’s academic standing. If you receive an Early Alert email, please see your instructor and your academic advisor as soon as possible.

RAVE Emergency Alert System

Emergency events can happen at any time, and Nashville State Community College wants to notify students if and when they occur. For this reason, all students have been enrolled in the free RAVE alert system. If you have not already done so, please log in at <https://www.getrave.com/login/nscc> to confirm and update your contact information and notification preferences. It is critical that your information be correct so that you will receive any emergency notifications. Your RAVE Username is your NSCC email address. If you've never received an email from RAVE with your password, or if you need to reset your password, select “Forgot your password?” and a new password will be emailed to you. Should the RAVE system indicate “user not found”, select Register and create your own RAVE account.

Inclement Weather & Campus Closings

Nashville State will use the RAVE alert system to send a text message to students, staff, and faculty about adjusted hours of operation and/or closings at individual campuses. All students should check the Nashville State web site home page at www.nsc.edu for announcements on campus closures, which may vary from campus to campus. Campus closures will also be announced on local television stations. Students should use their own best judgment in determining whether to report to campus during inclement weather when classes are not cancelled.

Even when campuses are closed, students are still responsible for completing all assigned work. When classes are cancelled, faculty will post online assignments and any additional instructions in the D2L/NS Online course shell. Check D2L/NS Online for a message from your instructor regarding your online assignment requirements. Faculty have discretion over adjusting deadlines or due dates for

assignments, but students are responsible for completing all assigned work by the due date established by the instructor.

[Class Cancellation Policy](#)

If the class is cancelled, the instructor will notify all students by posting in the D2L/NS Online course, e-mailing through D2L/NS Online, and/or by posting a sign on the classroom door. In the event of class cancellation, students must access D2L/NS Online to complete classwork and the assignment that will be posted in the course D2L site.