

Week 1

Digital Art

Goals:

- Keep an online journal of your progress and process during the class
- Showcase your work to others
- Share process and progress with instructor
- Become familiar with online tools and forums for PR and publishing
- Intro to web graphics and tools

You will be graded on:

- Did you post the required things in a timely manner?
- Did you include informative commentary that will aid viewers in understand your design process and ideas?
- Did you use correct spelling and grammar?
- Are you able to use the online tools correctly to post text, images and links as well as organize your blog so posts are categorized and easily located?

The Blog

All students are required to keep a blog for the class. This will serve as an online journal or sketchbook for your ideas and progress on your projects, a record of the work you do in class, a portfolio to show potential employers and schools you might transfer to, as well as something to share with other students, friends, and family. You should strive to write your entries professionally with correct grammar and spelling. You will be showing the blog to the instructor periodically throughout the semester to assess your progress. It will be graded.

Generic Sample Blog: <http://art141dallal.wordpress.com/>

Some Student blogs:

<http://collincooper.wordpress.com/>
<http://haleysimps.wordpress.com/>
<http://mikestimac.wordpress.com/>
<http://emmett24.wordpress.com/>

For a primer on blogs, visit: Blogs in Plain English:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NN2I1pWXjXI>

Setting up your Wordpress Blog

1. Go to <http://wordpress.com/> and create a new blog.
2. Choose a theme with a customizable header such as 2010, 2011, Coraline, Pilcro, or Mystique. You will find some on this page: <http://theme.wordpress.com/themes/features/custom-header/> You will be creating your own unique header that you will upload after you create the blog.
3. For help in setting your blog up, go to: <http://en.support.wordpress.com/get-started/>
4. **Your blog should have at least 3 pages:**
 - Home:** this is your ongoing log of posts
 - About:** a static page with information about you and what the purpose of your blog is.
 - Portfolio:** This is where you will display your finished projects from the class

Your blog should have these categories:

Vector Exercise

Raster Exercise

Cheat Sheet

Interesting Art & Design

Process posts should be categorized by Assignment name (for example, categorize all things to do with your Movie poster as "movie poster")

Each time you write a post, categorize it under the appropriate category name. This will help to organize your posts and help me find them.

Once your blog is set up, post a link to it in the discussion section of JoyceDallalTeaching.com

Optional Posts:

You may post about any art/design related topic that relates to the class such as: links to artists, designers, other blogs, tutorials, animations etc.

Grading the blog:

You will share your blog with the instructor periodically to show your preliminary ideas and research for projects, and to monitor your progress on the classwork. It is worth 10% of your grade.

Required Posts

1. First posts:

1. On your "About" page, write about you: include some background and your goals for the class, your educational goal, and career goal. If you have any artwork you'd like to showcase, include an image or a link.
2. On the main page: Your first post will be on an artist you like from the "artist-a-day" website. Browse through the archives to find an artist you like. Write a paragraph about why you like their work and copy one of the images to include in your post. Create a link to their artist-a-day page. This should be categorized under "art and design"

2. Process Posts *required for each major assignment:*

1. **Research and ideas:**
For each assignment, your first post will be to write about your ideas and show some research in the form of images. You must credit anything you copy from another website by including the link or name of the artist, or linking to the original page.
2. **Thumbnail sketches:**
Before starting on your computer drawing, you must sketch out some ideas for your work by hand. You will need to post 3-5 sketches on your blog for each assignment. You may scan your drawings, or photograph them, or draw them with a computer tablet.
3. **Work in progress (roughs):**
Once you have your drawing started on the computer, post an image of it on the web. You can write about the technical aspects of working on it—what tools you used, difficulties encountered, how you solved technical issues, what decisions you made, and how it changed as you worked on it. You should post several versions as it develops. This is where you will be commenting on each other's work in order to help each other improve.
4. **Final version**
This is what you will print and mat and present to the class for critique. You can discuss any issues that came up during the print process.
5. **Critique and updated version**
This is where you will put a synopsis of your critique along with your own analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the final work. If you want, you can post an updated version that resolves issues that were raised in the crit.

3. Exercises and Cheat Sheets:

Post all the exercises and cheat sheets for the class on the blog with some explanation about them. This will be a record of your progress in the class.