Adobe Photoshop: Digital Imaging

Course Description:
This course covers the use of digital graphic techniques to create and manipulate photographic and other raster graphic images. Students will explore digital imaging techniques through the use of the photo manipulation software Adobe Photoshop. Students will learn to use photo editing and color correction tools, activate selection tools and extraction functions, utilize quick masks and alpha channels, manipulate work paths, incorporate adjustment layers and layer masks. They will also apply filters and blending modes to create special effects, incorporate clipping groups, understand the differences and similarities of CMYK and RGB, and work with a variety of file formats. This course involves considerable hands-on instruction and multiple projects using Adobe Photoshop.

Required Software:
Adobe Photoshop CS3

Required Textbook:
There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, all lectures and lessons will be provided via online QuickTime movies through Lynda.com's Discounted Student Enrollment Program (registration information is provided in BlackBoard).

Required Online Instructional Software:
The Lynda.com Online Training Library is a required component of this online course. The cost of a student subscription to the Lynda.com Online Training Library is a reduced pro-rated fee of $10 per month (roughly 33 cents per day), which is approximately $40 for the semester.

Participation and Assessment:
Please note that this is not a "self-paced" class. It is an online version of a regular, on-ground class with specific assignment deadlines and project due dates. Course assessment will be based on (1) weekly completion of all the assigned Lynda.com tutorials and their corresponding quizzes; (2) quality of submitted work for each of the required Adobe Photoshop projects for this course, (3) professional participation in web board discussions — There are two types of web board discussions: Project Critiques (mandatory) and Student Assistance with Photoshop (extra credit).

Weekly Lessons via Lynda.com:
This course includes a series of online lectures via QuickTime movies through www.lynda.com. Each weekend a new assignment will be posted within the Weekly Lessons folder on BlackBoard. The weekly assignment instructions will include a link to the Lynda.com website and the QuickTime movie for that week's assigned set of tutorials. Each assigned set of Lynda.com lessons need to be completed by Friday midnight of the week in which they are assigned.

Quizzes:
Quizzes will be posted Thursday and Friday within the week that a Lynda.com lesson is due and are based on the materials presented in the Lynda.com's QuickTime tutorials. Quizzes are timed, and are not repeatable. Please note there are no make-up quizzes.

Projects:
In addition to the Lynda.com tutorial assignments mentioned above, every student must complete three required application projects. These projects include original graphic work for a photo montage, CD cover, and a design for an event poster.

Enrollment/Withdrawal:
Students are expected to handle all enrollments and withdrawals through the Admissions & Records Office. The instructor is not responsible for dropping students, nor can the instructor enroll students in the course. Students who discontinue the course must officially withdraw by submitting a drop card to the Admissions & Records Office.

Important Dates:
Start Date: February 4, 2008
End Date: May 23, 2008
Last day to withdraw from class without a "W" placed on permanent record: February 15, 2008
Deadline to petition for a grade of Credit/No Credit: February 22, 2008
Last date to drop class with option of "W" grade: April 26, 2008

Prerequisites:
None, but it is highly recommended that students have considerable computer and desktop experience.
Discussion Board:
The Discussion Board is a message center where students can leave and answer questions about Adobe Photoshop concepts. It is also a required forum by which critiques for each project are held. Within 48 hours of each project's due date, all student work will be posted to a web page that is accessible to the entire Photoshop class. Students will be assigned a project to critique, and each student will have until midnight Sunday to critique their assigned piece.

Evaluation:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Projects (3)</td>
<td>approximately 50% of final grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critiques (3)</td>
<td>approximately 5% of final grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lynda.com Tutorials (11 weekly sets of lessons)</td>
<td>approximately 20% of final grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (11)</td>
<td>approximately 25% of final grade</td>
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Final Grade Calculation:
Final grades will be based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>at least 90% of total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>at least 80% of total points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>at least 70% of total points</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>at least 60% of total points</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 60% of total points</td>
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