

Course Expectations - Pelto Advanced Visual Communication Honors

Course Overview

Welcome to **Advanced Visual Communications**.

Successful completion of Visual Communications Honors and a strong motivation to complete computer and web based projects is a prerequisite for this course.

Using skills learned in Visual Communications, students will work intensively on photography assignments, authentic web application projects, computer animation, Adobe PhotoShop, Flash/Adobe Animator and HTML. Students will assume responsibility for independent projects to improve the West Boylston Schools web site. During the second half of the semester, students will choose a concentration in either photography or web design. The semester will be divided into three distinct modules.

Advanced Visual Communications students are expected to be able to work independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. They are expected to take responsibility for meeting assigned deadlines independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. Most importantly, students are expected to initiate ideas, create timelines for themselves and follow through on ideas for projects independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. The curriculum for Advanced Visual Communication is not as structured as Visual Communication. It is set up for students capable of Independent Study. Please be sure you are capable of working independently as described before you make a commitment to this course.

School academic objectives:

AO1 – Acquisition of Skills

AO2 – Problem Solving.

Module 1

- ⌚ You will complete photographic field assignments.
- ⌚ You will use Adobe Photoshop to create advanced photographic compositions.
- ⌚ You will use Adobe Photoshop to solve advanced design projects.
- ⌚ You will critique and revise these photographic and design assignments with feedback from your peers.
- ⌚ You will build a professional electronic portfolio of your work.
- ⌚ You will be expected to discuss, reflect upon and evaluate your work and progression of your skills.

Module 2

- ⌚ You will use your art and design skills to create original, creative and visually successful web pages.
- ⌚ You will be assigned authentic web based projects.
- ⌚ You will create web ready animations, banners and special effects using Adobe Animator/Flash.
- ⌚ You will review basic HTML to build and enhance web pages.
- ⌚ Students will assume responsibility for independent projects to improve the West Boylston Schools web site.
- ⌚ You will create a story board using Moviemaker software.
- ⌚ You will build a professional electronic portfolio of your work.
- ⌚ You will be expected to discuss, reflect upon and evaluate your work and progression of your skills.

Module 3

- ⌚ You will choose a concentration in either photography or web design.
- ⌚ Students choosing to concentrate in photography will prepare a traditional as well as digital portfolio. Each of these students will display their work in a photography show.
- ⌚ Students choosing to concentrate in web design will complete a web project to be published online.
- ⌚ Weekly journal entries and oral critiques will assess progress.

Homework

Because this is an honors level course, you will be assigned out of class field assignments in photography. You will also be assigned to photograph and document school activities and athletics for the web site.

You will be assigned Internet research.

Students will be expected to come after school to complete projects not finished during class time.

Attendance

Students are expected to arrive on time with the required materials and attitude to participate fully in class each day. Because this is a hands on learning experience, absences will significantly hurt the student's progress. It will be difficult to make up work outside of class without the proper software/equipment.

Make Up Work

Students who miss class because of an excused absence are responsible for approaching the teacher for missed work. If a work request is submitted during the absence and work is provided through the office, it is expected to be turned in on the day of return. There will be no makeup work accepted for unexcused absences.

Because of the Independent Study nature of the course, students will be expected to initiate staying after school for completing makeup work necessary to meet deadlines.

Preparation for Class

Each student is required to provide the following:

- ⌚ An email address
- ⌚ **USB Flashdrive 1GB (also known as a thumb drive)**
- ⌚ A 3 ring binder with a folder or pockets. This will be used to take notes, and to keep handouts, rubrics and evaluations organized.
- ⌚ A creative imagination.
- ⌚ A willingness to help others.
- ⌚ A positive attitude and desire to learn. .
- ⌚ A desire to excel in homework assignments and field assignments.

Student Behavior

- ⌚ Students are expected to dress according to the school dress code. Clothing must cover you appropriately whether standing or sitting. Your teacher and peers have the right not to be offended, embarrassed, distracted or uncomfortable in the classroom.
- ⌚ Students are expected to arrive to class on time, with whatever materials are necessary to participate in class. Tardiness will not be allowed to disrupt the beginning of class. If you are late, wait outside the door quietly until introductory class directions or presentations are finished. If you are late, you must have a pass from the previous teacher with your name, date, time and teacher signature.
- ⌚ Students are expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner to both classmates and faculty. Appropriate language, discussion topics and actions are expected at all times.
- ⌚ Students are expected to be quiet and refrain from making unnecessary noises or comments during lectures, demonstrations, discussions and student presentations.
- ⌚ When students are at work on projects, quiet talking is permitted. However, talking will not interfere with the artwork or concentration of others.
- ⌚ Students are expected to work to the best of their ability during the entire class period.
- ⌚ Except for emergency, students are expected to visit bathrooms before/after class.
- ⌚ The only places students are permitted to access while on the computer are their own personal files and software and sites specifically assigned by the teacher.
- ⌚ Any deliberate attempt to vandalize another student's artwork will not be tolerated.
- ⌚ Any deliberate attempt to vandalize technology/art equipment will not be tolerated.
- ⌚ Students will need to read and sign a technology use agreement provided by the school.
- ⌚ NO food or drink or gum is allowed in the art/technology room.
- ⌚ NO personal electronic devices, music players or cell phones are allowed in the art/technology room. They distract you from interacting with your peers and your teacher. Electronic devices will be confiscated after the first warning and a parent will need to pick up.
- ⌚ Plagiarism is defined as submitting work that is not your own, to include taking resources from the Internet, another student, or using photographs that other people have taken. You cannot copy and/or use anyone else's work without giving them proper credit. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Plagiarized work will get a 0 on the project and school disciplinary action.

Unacceptable behavior will result in a warning, an assignment of an after school detention and/or suspension of computer privileges. Repeated violations will result in referral for disciplinary action for after school or Saturday restitution.

Violations of the school technology policy will result in suspension of computer privileges and/or a 0 on the affected assignment(s), at the discretion of the teacher.

Grading Policy

CLASSWORK: Each project will be graded on a point basis. Projects will be worth more or less points according to length and difficulty. The student's quarter grade will be determined by total points earned divided by total possible points

HOMEWORK: Honors level students will be assigned out of class assignments in photography. They will also be assigned to photograph and document school activities and athletics for the web site. There will be specified due dates for out of class photography assignments, NO credit will be given for late work. If a student is out of class, their assignments are due upon their return to the next class.

There must be a strong commitment to completing homework, specifically photography field assignments to be successful in the Advanced Honors level course. Failure to complete homework assignments will significantly impact the student's grade.

Students are encouraged to supply their own digital camera. If a student does not have a digital camera, a school camera will be signed out to him/her.

The FINAL SEMESTER GRADE will be calculated as follows

- ⌚ 40% First quarter grade
- ⌚ 40% Second quarter grade
- ⌚ 20% Final Exam

Online Course Site

There is an online site for the Visual Communications class.

You will need your user name and password to log on, which will be created on the first day of class.

Students can log on here to access class assignments, links to web sites, discussion topics and grades.

This can be used to supplement what is done in class, for homework and for makeup work during student absences.

Signatures

I have read and agree to the Course Expectations for **Advanced Visual Communications Honors.**

I have reviewed the

Course Overview _____
Preparation for Class _____
Behavior Expectations _____
Absences and Makeup _____
Grading Policy _____
Homework _____

Advanced Visual Communications students are expected to be able to work independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. They are expected to take responsibility for meeting assigned deadlines independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. Most importantly, students are expected to initiate ideas, create timelines for themselves and follow through on ideas for projects independently with minimal supervision from the teacher. The curriculum for Advanced Visual Communication is not as structured as Visual Communication. It is set up for students capable of Independent Study. Please be certain you are capable of working independently as described before you make a commitment to this course.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____