

## **ART5930C- Color Theory (Virtual)**

**Class numbers: 16158, 16436**

**Summer B 2024**

Instructor: Rachel White MFA

Contact: Email: [rachelwhite@ufl.edu](mailto:rachelwhite@ufl.edu)

### **Office hours**

Office hours are held virtually and available by appointment. To schedule a meeting, please use the link on the "Start Here" page in the Canvas course site. All correspondence with the instructor should be conducted through the Inbox tool in Canvas. Please only send messages to my e-mail address if Canvas is down. I am logged into Canvas 10:00-16:00 Eastern time during the week. Replies may take longer on weekends and holidays.

### **Course description**

As a central component in our perceptions and expression, the variables of color both challenge and serve the visual artist. Moreover, in studio practice specific to color, the artist must also learn to identify and resist habitual perceptual assumptions about color, light and form.

In this course students will expand their knowledge of color through hands-on paint mixing, execution of tests designed by Josef Albers and Johannes Itten and in-studio assignments intended to explore cases and develop our awareness of light variability and its affects on objects.

Students will be able to articulate and discuss higher level ideas inspired by light and color, beyond foundation of hue, value and intensity in order to attempt complex depths and harmonies.

No prior or concurrent course is required for enrollment to this course. There is one required textbook: Interaction of Color, by Josef Albers which can be found on Amazon. **The most important work to be done is in your studio.** In execution of the projects, discussion board reviews of artworks as well as your weekly efforts to "SEE" color (to be documented in your color journals), you will build the color understanding necessary to use it in a strategic way. The success of this class depends on your participation on all levels. All course activity is intended to build your color proficiency to bolster to your readiness as an artist and instructor.

### **Students will learn**

- Terminology surrounding color in an art context
- Etymology, history, toxicity, and mixing qualities of each core pigment
- Paint mixing techniques according to hue, value, saturation and create harmonic color combinations
- The color contrasts of Johannes Itten
- The color tests of Josef Albers
- How to discern the affects of variable light on an object
- To resist pre-conceived notions of color, light on objects
- Become familiar with the variables affecting our perception, therefore strengthening resistance to color confusion
- To articulate these phenomena in a classroom context

### **Materials:**

- Color wheel
- Acrylic paint set (preferred brands: Golden, as listed in Blink link, or Liquitex Professional Mixing set)
- Matte medium 8 oz
- Multimedia pad 9x12 inch / 22.9 cm

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- digital camera (smart phone)
- Paint brush set, various sizes
- Minimum of 3 canvases (or equivalent: painting panels etc.)
- Spiral bound 5x7 inch / 12.7x17.75 cm (appx) notebook (with heavier paper)
- Color-aid Paper Packet - Pkg of 314, 3" x 4 1/2", Assorted
- Artist tape (or masking tape)

I've compiled a list of course materials for your course at <https://www.dickblick.com> to make it easier for you to prepare for the semester. It will be available to you throughout the course. To visit this list, [link to Black materials for purchase https://www.dickblick.com/lists/blicku/017A0BL3C31T0](https://www.dickblick.com/lists/blicku/017A0BL3C31T0)

**[Please be certain to order materials as soon as possible to avoid "out of stock" issues!](#)**

### **Pre-work**

Here are some questions you need to answer before we start, please have your answers to ready the first week:

- Are there any colors you particularly like or dislike? Explain why?
- Do you believe colors have inherent effect or meaning? Good, bad?
- Do all humans have the same ability to see color?
- How do we see color?
- Read Interaction of Color: 50th Anniversary Edition Paperback – Illustrated, June 28, 2013 by Josef Albers

[Link to Amazon for purchase: https://a.co/d/6CxQqAB](https://a.co/d/6CxQqAB)

### **Course Schedule**

Week 1 - Introduction: What is color? What are the building blocks to our color understanding? Who are Josef Albers and Johannes Itten? Definitions, starting your color journal, value, black and white

Week 2 - Color systems, color mixing terms, red and green, Albers color tests

Week 3 - Blue and orange complements 2, Albers color tests

Week 4 - Yellow and purple complements 3, Albers color tests

Week 5 - Terminology review, Itten's 7 contrasts part 1

Week 6 - Itten's 7 contrasts part 2, final project overview

Week 7 - Final project execution

Week 8 - Review of final project

### **Evaluation**

The grades for this course will be based on a 364-point system, broken down as following percentages:

50% - Studio assignments weeks 1-6

20% - Final project

20% - Weekly discussion board participation

10% - Color journal

Final grades will be calculated according to the point system below and are not negotiable. If you "need an A," plan to log in regularly, execute your studio assignments, study your readings with curiosity, bring your best artistic self, meet deadlines, be honest. You are responsible for keeping track of your progress throughout the semester. The Gradebook in Canvas will always

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show your current grade. If you are doing poorly, especially near the withdrawal deadline, please feel free to discuss your progress with me. Please remember that the numeric grade is not up for interpretation. The instructor reserves the right to give (or not give) extra credit beyond that already built into the course – please do not ask for special/individual extra credit opportunities (especially if you have not been on top of all required assignments). Once you have read this syllabus to completion, please email me (via Canvas) any questions, comments or especially what you look forward to in the course. All grades will be determined based on the following scale (corresponding grade points are listed in parentheses, consistent with the university grading regulations outlined at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academicregulations/grades-grading-policies/>):

342-364 points = A (4.00)

328-341 points = A- (3.67)

317-327 points = B+ (3.33)

306-316 points = B (3.00)

292-305 points = B- (2.67)

281-291 points = C+ (2.33)

270-280 points = C (2.00)

255-269 points = C- (1.67)

244-254 points = D+ (1.33)

233-243 points = D (1.00)

219-232 points = D- (0.67)

000-218 points = E (0)

PLEASE NOTE: If you perceive a grading error, you must address the issue within 72 hours of the grade posting, otherwise the grade is final and will not be discussed further. Specific grade questions and concerns will only be discussed with the student. Due to the 1974 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, I cannot and will not discuss your progress or grades with your parents. For more information on FERPA, please visit <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html>. Any correspondence received from anyone other than you will be responded to with a link to the FERPA information site and nothing more.

Finally, due to the nature of the color tests in this course it is very important that your assignments are executed properly. If I review a turned in assignment and detect an incomplete understanding of the concept I will make comments and request a revision. You will have 2 days to complete any revision. After which your assignment will be considered late and your grade will be reduced. You will be given a total of 2 attempts on all color exercises.

**Attendance and Conduct**

While the presentation of this course in an online format gives you, great freedom in deciding when to engage the course, it is expected that you will log on to the course website regularly and check all assignments. This is not a “self-paced” course – all required assignments for the course will be due according to the dates listed in each assignment. The nature of the course format is such that it will not be possible to submit assignments or take quizzes after the closing deadline. In the event that late assignments are accepted/

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permitted, there will be a grade penalty assessed (specific grade penalties vary and are listed on the assignment page in Canvas as well as on the Due Dates PDF). Please note that technical difficulties do arise, and will generally not be considered an excuse to miss a deadline without documentation from the UF Computing Helpdesk – it is in your best interest to complete your assignments early so that you have time to work through any unforeseeable problems. You are advised to read through the technical information posted on the e-Learning website (<http://elearning.ufl.edu>) to minimize any potential technical issues.

For conflicts that may arise due to University-sponsored events or religious holidays, you are advised to plan your work in advance. The instructor recognizes and will comply with the University's attendance policy (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>); however, since no assignment requires that you log on the day of the deadline, you are responsible for planning ahead and taking care of work before a trip or holiday (including university holidays such as Homecoming). If a conflict seems unavoidable, you must contact the instructor at least one week prior to the date in question.

**Academic Honesty**

All violations of academic honesty will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action, without exception or warning. PLAGIARISM OR CHEATING WILL RESULT IN A FAILING GRADE FOR THE PLAGIARIZED ASSIGNMENT, AND POSSIBLY THE COURSE. If you are uncertain about these guidelines, please contact me. Ignorance to the law is no excuse.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code." On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor in this class.

The instructor reserves the right to amend any portion of the course structure, including items listed on the Due Dates. Any such changes will be posted in the Announcements page within the course site.

**Accommodations**

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center (0001 Reid Hall; 352.392.8565; <http://disability.ufl.edu/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter

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that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Accommodations are not provided retroactively.

**Online Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <http://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <http://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/public-results/>. Evaluations are collected anonymously (unless a student provides identifying information in the open comments), and are not available to the instructor until after final grades are submitted and posted. Your feedback is valuable in making improvements to the course.

**Campus Wellness Resources**

Your physical and mental well-being is vital , and important to me, and while I may not be professionally equipped to help you with such matters, there are experts in the following offices who can help you:

- U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit <http://umatter.ufl.edu/> to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit <http://counseling.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit <http://shcc.ufl.edu/>.
- University Police Department: Visit <http://police.ufl.edu/> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, <http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>.

**Academic Resources**

- E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).
- Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services <http://career.ufl.edu/>.

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- Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>—various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. <http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.  
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On Campus: <http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>
- Online Students Complaints: <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>