

First-Year Seminar
Creative Discovery in Digital Art Forms
Fall 2007
Burg
Syllabus

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Goals:

- To learn about creative possibilities in digital media, including digital photography, digital audio, MIDI, and multimedia programming.
- To experiment with your own creativity in digital media.
- To be introduced to the science of digital media.
- To begin to see how science and art can work hand-in-hand in the creative process.
- To consider your own creative potential, finding ways to encourage and develop it.
- To consider other artists' and writers' ideas about creativity.
- To express your thoughts about creativity through writing and discussion.

Readings will include selections from:

The Creative Process, Brewster Ghiselin, ed., University of California Press, 1985.

Creativity: Flow and Psychology of Discovery and Invention by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, Harper Perennial, 1996.

Grading:

Papers	45%
Projects	45%
Class attendance and participation	10%

Schedule of Assignments:

Digital Photography Project and Paper: Paper (on topic TBA) illustrated by digital photographs with digital compositing techniques applied. Possible topics will be discussed in class.	1 st draft of paper and photographs due September 12. Final draft of paper due September 24. Project posted at your website by September 28.
Digital Sound Project and Paper: Paper about digital audio and MIDI – what they are, what you can do in digital editing environments, or related topics – illustrated with audio examples.	1 st draft of paper and sound illustrations due October 8. Final draft of paper due October 17. Project posted at your website by October 24.
Vector Graphics and Animation Project: Vector graphics and Flash animation – e.g., a “commercial,” illustration of a story, or cartoon. Possible topics will be discussed in class.	Flash animation due November 12. Posted at your website by November 16.
Digital Media Project and Paper: A description of the work of your favorite poet, song writer, or artist, illustrated with pictures and/or sound.	1 st draft due November 21. Final draft due November 28. Posted at your website by December 3.
Final Paper: “The Creative Process,” “The ‘Art’ in Digital Art” or another topic approved by instructor.	Final draft due December 7. (If you would like feedback on a rough draft, please submit the rough draft by December 3.) Final paper posted at your website by December 14.