

Fine Arts Department

## COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2025

**AR 1101 (A2): 2D Fundamentals- 5 (2.5-0-2.5) 75 Hours for 15 Weeks**

**Tuesday and Thursday from 14:30 to 16:50**

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are situated on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land, and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

**INSTRUCTOR:**

J.Garbe

**OFFICE:** C414

**PHONE:** N/A

**E-MAIL:**

JGarbe@nwpolytech.ca

**OFFICE HOURS:**

T R 13:20 to 14:20

or by

appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** A studio and lecture-based course with emphasis on the foundational principles and elements of 2D composition and design, including an introduction to colour theory. Students will be guided through the exploration of a variety

of 2D mediums, materials, and processes, including safe handling protocols.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE(S):** None

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:** A detailed material list will be provided and discussed in class.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** On-Campus: Lecture and Studio

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to identify and apply the basic elements of 2D design, which include formal properties such as line, shape, value, texture, colour, and composition.
- Identify and apply the principles of design, which include emphasis, repetition, Movement, contrast, rhythm, pattern, variety, unity, proportion, and balance.
- Apply basic colour theory to their work.
- Demonstrate basic skills in using a variety of 2D art materials and mediums.
- Demonstrate the concentration and fortitude required to make art professionally,  
through the careful and timely completion of assigned projects.
- Think creatively and apply problem-solving skills using the elements and principles of design.
- Maintain health and safety protocols while handling 2D materials.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of community in the field of visual arts by contributing constructively to group critiques and discussions.

## **TRANSFERABILITY:**

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

\*\* For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

## **EVALUATIONS:**

### **GRADING CRITERIA: Will be based on:**

1. The level of creativity and craftsmanship demonstrated in all assignments, including sketches and research.
2. The degree of knowledge and understanding of the elements and principles.
3. Your level of enthusiasm, commitment, involvement and flexibility in both studio work and individual/collective critiques establishes participation grade. Detailed guidelines, with mark breakdowns and evaluation criteria, will be reviewed during each project introduction.

### **Attendance and Participation: 15%**



Participation will be based on some or all of the following: arriving on time, listening to lectures and instruction, being prepared, taking notes, working during class time, sharing ideas and concepts, creative exploration, and conceptual development with other students, cooperating in group projects, analyzing, and offering opinions about work in progress, as well as listening to and being an active participant in critiques and discussions.

-Attendance at the Visitor in the Arts speaker series is mandatory and contributes to your grade.

### **Sketchbooks/Research: 15% of each assignment.**

- Sketchbooks/Research work will be marked for consistency and quality, sketches and texts in a variety of sources and potentials, experimentation with materials when required, resolution and in relationship to our class discussion on sketches, etc.

- There is evidence of visual and textual research in the form of thumbnail sketches, preparatory drawings, material studies, writings, readings, notes, etc.

- There is evidence that the final work was derived from the ideas developed in your sketchbook.

-You are taking class notes.

- That the most appropriate or best idea was chosen to move forward with.

- Thought/ experimentation was given to the materials, contexts and ideas being used and the different meanings that a variety of these could bring to the project.

-That the proposed and completed projects identify, articulate and broaden your knowledge of a particular interest or subject.

-That you have incorporated and included research as a tool to situate your project, especially as it relates to a larger historical and contemporary context within art.

-That you have used research to explore and advance your knowledge and practice.

*Note: (Research and sketching will be discussed further in the class introduction presentation and lecture)*

**Assignments: 85 %**

There will be 6 assignments, some of which are broken down into sections. Each assignment will require students to complete sketches and conduct research (unless otherwise specified in the project outline). On the due date of each major project, students will set up and present their artwork (along with their sketches) for in-class critique. *The setup is expected to be done before the start of class.* Grades will be posted on MyClass after every critique.

- After each deadline, unsubmitted assignments will lose 5% per day to a maximum of 15%.

-There are no mid-term or final exams in this class.

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

### Grading Chart for courses with Alpha Grading:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100	C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94	C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84	C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79	D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76	D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72	F	0.0	00-49

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:** A detailed Course Schedule and Assignment timeline will be given during class.

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students are expected to set up work before class starts, so that lectures and demonstrations can proceed uninterrupted. These will not be repeated. Students who are late will be expected to catch up by connecting with classmates. If you are away, please email the instructor for instructions within 24 to 48 hours.

- It is important to maintain care in setting up and cleaning the space you use, and to exhibit consideration towards the workspace, your materials, and other students.
- If there is any doubt as to the safety of the work being undertaken while the instructor is absent, the students will consult with the technician before continuing the work.
- Students are expected to invest a **minimum** of 3 hours of work per week outside of  
of class.
- While personal headphones are permitted during work periods, please ensure that you can always hear the instructor. Watching videos during class time will not be permitted.
- Students are expected to check their email and MyClass regularly. These are the primary forms of communication between the instructor and students outside of class.

#### **Online Communication & Professionalism:**

- Students are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism across all course-related communications. Please conduct your communications as you would any other professional experience. Treat your colleagues with respect.

#### **STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:**

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

\*\*Note: All Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.