

Alexa Wheeler, Instructor
Serigraphy

Course Objectives and Goals:

This class has been designed to cover basic principles and techniques that apply to serigraphy as a medium of self-expression. Serigraphy (or Silkscreen) is one of the most recent and exciting developments in the printmaking media and is a popular alternative to other more involved methods of creating graphic art. This class is set in a community printshop, giving artists the opportunity to inspire and critique each other in a unique situation unlike the solitary walls of a private studio. Detailed lectures will provide information on specific processes, materials, and variations on techniques. Although this course is heavily based in discovering and familiarizing oneself with the traditional techniques of silkscreen, such as drawing fluid, block-out, crayon-lift, emulsion: stenciling and photo, multiple screen registration, and using transparency, experimentation is welcome. Some main goals are to:

1. Enjoy Printmaking.
2. Use silkscreen techniques to broaden image development.
3. Exercise each technique enough to feel comfortable using it as your own tool.
4. Be familiar with historical background of the serigraphy medium and work done in this medium by contemporary artists.
5. Express your personal experiences in your art making.
6. Feel comfortable to talk about your techniques, processes, stories & experiences in your images.

Requirements:

Attendance:

Strictly required. Absence is not looked upon favorably. Three unexcused absences will result in a drop from the class. Most classes will include demonstrations that are informative and time consuming, and difficult to repeat, so, it's best to be there on time. Consecutively coming late or leaving early will result in a lowering of your grade. Absence from shop clean up will also result in a lowered grade.

Class Participation and Involvement in your Work:

Be ready for each project spiritually and physically. Be interested and involved in your own project as well as your classmates'. Be aware of your surroundings, experiences and image making processes. Keep thinking about your work and

the connections between what you make and the connection between yourself, your life, society, the nation, the world, etc....

Completion of Each Project:

Make each project meaningful to yourself. You are expected to spend extra time in the studio during open studio hours. The time you spend on your work, mentally and physically, will be apparent. Spend time developing your own interests and incorporate them into your artistic expression. Keep all the prints you make during the semester including proofs. Two portfolio reviews are required in the semester as well as periodic critiques where projects are expected to be in their finished state. You will be creating your own Final Project using the techniques learned throughout the semester. Any projects above and beyond those assigned will be taken into consideration when grading.

Classroom Etiquette, Studio Clean-Up, Lab Safety:

You are expected to work amiably with other printmakers in a physically tight workshop situation. This means all students are to be respectful of the shop, each other and each other's artwork and materials. Clean up of the studio and proper use of the equipment is expected. Not cleaning up after yourself could result in a potentially hazardous working environment, as almost all materials are toxic to some degree, and will result in a lowering of your grade. Proper cleaning techniques will be demonstrated. There will be a major shop clean up at the end of semester and attendance is required!

Grade Policy

Attendance, Class participation, Involvement, Development	30%
Completion & Quality of each project	30%
Achievement of class goals	20%
Participation in critiques	10%
Classroom etiquette & Cleaning up	10%

Tentative Schedule

Week 1	Introduction Drawing Fluid Application
Week 2	Coating over Drawing Fluid Mixing Ink , Paper Prep Screen Prep, Stretching new Screen Printing One Color
Week 3	Studio Time Critique
Week 4	Litho Crayon Lift , Texture , Rubbings Registration – Two Color Printing

Week 5	Using Digital Output as Positives: Basic Photoshop Studio Time
Week 6	Photo Emulsion: coating, exposure, wash, reclaiming, storing Rubylith Film, Amberlith Pencils
Week 7	Studio Time
Week 8	<u>Mid-term Portfolio Due</u> Critique
	BREAK
Week 9	Studio Time Five-Color Printing
Week 10	Studio Time
Week 11	Studio Time Ten Color Printing
Week 12	<u>Final Proposals Due</u>
Week 13	Critique Studio time
Week 14	Curating Prints / Portfolio Prep Studio time
Week 15	<u>Final Portfolio Due</u> Final Critique & Studio clean up

Material List – Safety and General

- Printing Paper
- Paper Towels
- Apron
- Nitrile Gloves
- Q-tips
- Brushes – large variety
- X-acto Knife / Blades
- Lead Pencils
- Litho Crayons
- Registration Pins

Supply Sources:

Daniel Smith

Tel: 800-426-6740 Fax: 800-238-4065
4150 First Ave. South P.O.Box 84268 Seattle,
WA 98124-5568

Graphic Chemical & Ink Co.

Tel: 800-465-7382 Fax: (630) 832-6064
728 North Yale Ave. Villa Park, IL 60181

Renaissance Graphic Arts

Tel: 888-833-3398 Fax: (215)357-5258
69 Steamwhistle Drive Ivyland, PA 18974