

Glossary of Terms for Digital Art-*Ms. Millis*

A

abstract-a type of image which has been simplified but retains a visual to something recognizable.

abstraction-simplification of a recognizable image to its essential characteristics.

acetate- transparent or semi-transparent plastic sheet used to protect scanner glass, artwork, or as an art surface. Lucite and Plexiglas are brand names of rigid plastic used in art.

actual texture-surface quality of an object, may be smooth, rough, soft, sticky, etc., can be felt

additive color-colors achieved by using primary colors of light-RGB (red, green, blue), used in video displays. (i.e.: blue + green = cyan; red + blue = magenta; green + red = yellow; blue + green + red = white)

Adobe CS-brand name for Creative Suite software package from Adobe.

aesthetic/esthetic-refers to intrinsic features of art worthy of attention, seen in the study of "beauty"

alchemy-an early practice concerned with turning base metals, especially lead, into gold.

algorithm-mathematical rule that governs computer processes

allegory-a story told using symbolic words or visual symbols to convey an abstract idea.

ambiguous-something that has multiple or confused meaning, intentional or unintentional

analog-representation of measurable numerical data-standard audio & videotape-old technology

analogous colors- colors directly next to one another on the color wheel (i.e. red, re-orange, orange)

anamorphic-distorted or stretched image, constructed on an elongated grid, fr. Greek word for transformation-*anamorphosis*.

angular-a line or shape made up of lines or edges diverging from a common point, no curves.

animation-giving movement to something-animated cartoons, cel, clay, and computer animation

anime-refers to Japanese animation on television

app/apps-a specialized program downloaded onto a mobile device. Short for application.

arbitrary color-color that does not relate to the seen object or nature. Used to express mood.

architecture-large scale art format that encloses or defines three-dimensional space.

artist biography-a third person written account of an artist's life.

artist statement-the creator's brief personal comment about his or her work. Addresses what is made, how it is made, why it is made, and the artist's understanding about its meaning. In first person.

assemblage-a sculptural composition made of found objects, wood, paper, and textiles.

asymmetrical-describes a composition that could be off-center or unbalanced. Also informal.

ATC-artist trading cards. Fashioned after baseball cards. Unique, serial, or editions of 2.5" x 3.5"

attribution-giving credit to an artist based on stylistic characteristics in a composition.

auto-function-automatic function or pre-set.

autobiography- a first person written account of one's life.

B

B/W-abbreviation for black and white (B/W photo). Seen in Mode and Image Menus.

back story- story that leads up to the main story or plot. The story behind an image, perhaps. First appears around 1984

back-up-a copy of a program kept separately from the original for digital support.

background-in an image, area that appears furthest away from the viewer. Everything else is on top.

balance-the way the elements are arranged in a work of art to create stability. Evenly weighted. Formal, informal symmetrical, asymmetrical, radial are terms that describe types of balance.

bibliography-a selective listing of texts used as resources or references cited in a paper.

biomorphic-describes a shape that is more organic than geometric, more curvy than linear.

bit-a digit in the binary number system having a value of 0 or 1. There are other definitions of this term.

blending-the merging of colors applied to a surface with brush or other tools. Also called feathering.

BMP-bitmap file. An uncompressed file. Native to Windows and produced by its Paint software.

bond paper-durable paper for printing, typing, writing, photocopying.

border-the edge or frame of a work. Achieved by using a crop tool in digital art.

boundary-the edge or farthest limit of an area. A border.

brush/pencil tool-found in the palette in Photoshop; in a drop-down Edit menu in Microsoft.

byte-8 adjacent bits of computer information or data-storage capacity.

C

calendar-in Digital Art, the class by class listing of semester assignments, projects, and due dates

calligraphy-the art of beautiful writing, decorative script. (Greek-kallos-beauty; grafos-writing)

categorize-to organize words, ideas, or objects by shared characteristics.

charcoal-compressed, burned wood used for drawing; digital pencil option

checklist-an aid or listing of tasks to keep track of what needs to be done, is done, or to be included.

chiaroscuro- from light to dark; value gradation for 3D effect (Italian-chiaro-light; oscuro-dark)

citation-quotation from or reference to a book, paper, or author in a paper or report. Can be a visual reference to an artist's work.

cite-quote of another with attribution or credit, set apart with quotation marks in writing. Noted in text. Referenced in Works Cited or footnotes.

cliché-an overused expression, either verbal or visible. (ex. "bless her heart"/ a happy face to dot "i")

clip art-illustrations, figures, or designs that can be obtained free of copyright, printed or digital.

closed composition-image does not extend past edges. Figures, lines, or objects point inward.

cloud computing- a general term for anything that involves delivering hosted services over the Internet. Broadly divided into 3 categories: Infrastructure-as-a-Service ([IaaS](#)), Platform-as-a-Service ([PaaS](#)) and Software-as-a-Service ([SaaS](#)). Inspired by cloud symbol used to represent Internet in [flowcharts](#) & diagrams. 3 characteristics differentiate it from traditional hosting: sold on demand, by the minute or hour; is elastic -- user has as much or little of a service wanted at any given time; and is fully managed by the provider (user needs only personal computer and Internet access).

Cmd/Ctrl-Command key or Control key functions form short-cuts other keys. Cmd in MAC/Ctrl in PC. There are many other ways to complete actions instead of short-cuts.

Cmd/Ctrl A-short-cut for Select All. Moving dashes/"ants" surround highlighted area. Word, PPT, PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl C- short-cut for Copy. “Ants” surround the selected area to copy in Word, PPT, or PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl D- short-cut for De-select. “Ants” around selected area stop moving in Word, PPT, or PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl S- short-cut for Save changes to document in Word, PPT, or PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl V- short-cut for Insert copied selection into another location in Word, PPT, or PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl X- short-cut for Delete selected area in Word, PPT, or PSD.

Cmd/Ctrl Z- short-cut for Delete Previous Action Only in PSD. Short-cut to Delete Previous Actions in Word or PPT by repeatedly using Cmd/Ctrl Z.

CMYK-cyan, magenta, yellow, black. Subtractive color mode. Refers to process color or printing color.

cohesion-fitting together harmoniously using the principles of design.

collage-composition created by adhering or gluing flat elements (paper, printed text, cloth, photos, string) to a flat surface. It creates a relief surface. From French *coller*-to paste)

color-produced by light waves striking an object and reflecting back to the eyes. 2 qualities include hue, intensity (purity and strength of the color), and value (darkness of color).

color wheel-radial diagram where primary, secondary, and tertiary colors are displayed.

composition-arrangement of the elements of art, manipulated using the principles of design.

compression-encoding of digital data to take up less storage space. To use less bandwidth to transmit data.

contact sheet-originally a way to view photographic frames from negative print film for reference of images prior to enlarging. Digitally, a print of multiple digital images seen on a single sheet of paper or in a single digital file. Useful for documentation.

content-the meaning in a work of art beyond its subject matter (Ms. Millis' preferred definition). 3 levels of complexity: literal iconography; genres; and the effect on the subject of form and context.

context-the circumstances in which a work of art is produced and interpreted. 3 areas are addressed: the artist; the setting in which it was produced; the interpretive mode of the audience.

contour lines-lines that surround and define the edges of a subject, giving volume and shape, separate from the objects outline. The inside lines.

contrast-the difference between two things: light/dark, inside/outside, colors, warm/cool, curvilinear/angular, differing subject matter.

cool color-greens, blues, and violets, associated with water, sky, spring, foliage. Calming. Receding.

copy/paste-digitally, to select, to copy, & to insert the replica into the same or another document.

copyright-part of art law. The legal right granted to creator, publisher, or distributor to exclusively publish, produce, sell, or distribute an artistic, literary, theatrical, or musical work. Fair Use and Public Domain are issues that are important in the copyright discussion. © This symbol along with the year declared, and the name of the owner (artist) signify Copyright.

craft art-small scale, functional, portable works of art, made with a high degree of technical skill and manual dexterity, and esthetic quality.

craftsmanship-the quality of what a person does as he or she creates with technical skill, manual dexterity, by hand, with or without tools.

critique-a review or discussion dealing with works of art, with groups, individually, between student and mentor for the purpose of analysis and assessment, and ultimately improvement of the work.

cross-hatching-creating a shaded effect using closely space parallel lines cross-crossing one another.

curator-person in charge of art collections, care, research, exhibition, and writing about the art. exhibits are set up by this person.

curriculum vita- brief listing/written description of education/work/exhibition experience for résumé

curves-along with Levels, one of the most often used & most basic Image Adjustments in Photoshop

curvilinear-characterized by bent or curving lines. Common in Gothic and Art Nouveau ornament.

cyanotype-direct photo process resulting in monochrome blue images. Made by chemically treating paper with light sensitive emulsion, using "negatives" from digital images that are printed on clear acetate, laid over treated paper, exposed to bright sunlight, & developed like a photo in water. Can be coffee toned to alter paper color or tea toned to turn the "blue" into "sepia" toned pictures. Sun Prints and Nature Print are commercially available products to produce the same effects.

D

.doc-Microsoft Word file extension. An older format.

.docx-format based on XML, part of the Office Open XML standard that became official in late 2006. "open" format that can be opened in non-Microsoft applications. Can be saved in non-Microsoft applications without having to make legal negotiations with Microsoft.

deadline-the time or date by which something must be completed-due dates for art projects. Failure to meet deadlines with result in a lower grade. In business world, can result in damaged reputation, loss of income or career. Serious business.

decompression-encoding of compressed data or image information to restore original file size data.

demo-short for demonstration. Presentation by instructor on how to do a task or project.

depth-the third dimension from front to back in art work. Sometimes thickness.

design-a plan or to plan. Organization or skilled arrangement of the elements of art into a unified composition or work of art. Also a field of study for production of well crafted functional objects.

desktop-primary user interface of computer, displayed at start-up. Icons or small pictures on the screen identify software applications, organizational folders, or individual files to open.

destination document-in digital art, this is the document where the artist places digital selections to manipulate with software to create a completed work of art. It is like the painter's canvas or the drawer's paper. The expression is used by this instructor in her digital art class.

diagram-sketch, drawing, outline, or plan to explain how something works.

diameter-the length of a line through the center of a circle or sphere ending at the edge. A radius is half the length of the diameter, a ray from the center to the edge.

digiquilt-digital quilt-digital designs based on traditional quilt making.

digital art- electronically processed images composed of bits and bytes of computer memory, created on a computer using software. Digital sources come from scans, photos, downloads, or drawing tablets. With software, images are manipulated and then printed on inkjet or laser printers, plotters or displayed & projected electronically.

digital artist-an artist who creates work using the computer or other digital devices.

digital engraving-a process of using a laser tool that "prints" or engraves a digital image onto wood, metal, glass, plastic or other materials. It is an output method.

digital print-the hard-copy result of transferring a document from a computer to a printing surface that accepts graphic output. Referred to in this class as digital inkjet print. Digital laser print.

dimensions-a measure of 2D or 3D space. 2D dimensions are expressed as H x W (height by width). 3D is expressed by H x W x D (height by width by depth)

diptych-a two panel work of art, often hinged together or displayed side-by-side.

document-a printed paper report, letter. In digital art, the digital file whether a written file or image file. As a verb, to document means to provide written or printed proof of the work for purposes of record keeping. Considered by many to be one of the artist's roles through history.

documentation-process of keeping records or keeping track of actions taken in making a work of art. dominance-in a composition, the element or principle of art that is emphasized, has the most visual weight, or which holds the place of greatest focus.

download- importing/copying a file from another source, internet, or a USB . Opposite of upload.

dpi-dots per inch-measure of resolution of printers or scanners. Number of dots that fit a linear inch, not per square inch. Computer monitor resolution is either 72 or 96 pixels per inch. Dpi is old term.

<http://www.andrewdaceyphotography.com/articles/dpi/>. This site explains.

draft-the early drawings or sketches of a design. Sometimes called a rough draft. An unfinished work. To draft is the act of making that initial design.

drawing-depiction of imagery achieved by means of lines. The basis of all pictorial representation. Where most artists begin. Tools: pencil, charcoal, ink, conté, crayon, stylus, mouse on computers.

drawing tablet-a digital input device that, with the computer, replaces or functions as a mouse. Originally, a stack or book of blank paper used by an artist to record their marks.

drop-down/pull-down-on computer, a menu or list of functions appearing when the title is selected.

due date-the date the project is due. Also known as the deadline.

E

economy of means-roughly, artistically getting the greatest effect with the fewest resources, fewest actions, simplest method. Communicated the most with the fewest words.

edit-usually refers to publication, preparing material by correcting, condensing, or modifying. An artist edits his or her work to end up with a finished result.

edit tools-on the computer, a drop-down menu that allows one to Un-do, Re-do, Repeat, Cut, Copy, Paste, Clear, Select, Fill, Stroke, Puppet Warp, Transform, and many more. Most software has common Edit Tools.

edition-set of identical prints, sometimes numbered and signed or under supervision of artist. Digitally, an artist can produce a set of related images as an edition.

elements of art-for this class, the elements of art are line, color, shape/volume, light value, and texture. They are the building blocks of composition. The Principles manipulate the Elements into a composition or work of art. Other courses may have more elements. We have these five.

emphasis-the important or dominant feature in a work of art. Also known as focal point.

entry fee-the amount of money charged to enter a juried art exhibition. That fee is used to pay for the awards to artists and probably to pay the juror.

ephemera-printed materials intended to be of fleeting interest. Tickets, postcards, labels, scrapbooks, maps, junk mail can be considered ephemera. The Greek "ephemerous" meant "lasting a day."

ephemeral art-format of art that takes place in real time.

erase tool-found in the second box of toolbox icons in Photoshop. 2 functions: Eraser, Background Eraser, and Magic Eraser. Enhanced with options in the Toolbar above the screen.

esthetic- refers to intrinsic features of art worthy of attention, seen in the study of "beauty". Aesthetic.

expressive line-quality of line that appears to relate to emotions. Curvilinear, angular, thinness or thickness, lightness or darkness, direction, formality, implied lines are related to emotions.

exquisite corpse-a surrealist technique, a collaboration by several artists to create an image, often in the form of a game, often resulting in bizarre compositions.

F

Fair Use-fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include -

1. the purpose & character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
2. the nature of the copyrighted work;
3. the amount & substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole;
4. the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors. From the Fair Use Provision of the Copyright Act.

figurative-describe an image that depicts a human, animal, or thing.

figure/ground relationship-in 2D works of art, the visual unity of foreground and background. The location of the figure may alter what is seen in the distance. Optical illusions appear when an artist manipulates the figure/ground relationship. See works of M. C. Escher. <http://www.mcescher.com>.

file-on the computer, a text or image document is considered a file.

fill function-In the Edit drop-down menu in Photoshop, one can find the Fill function which will allow the artist to change colors, put new colors in selected areas. There are numerous ways to fill selections in Photoshop.

filters-porous material or device which prevents some things from passing through & allows other things to pass through. Photographers use filters on their lenses & on the enlarger when developing photos in the darkroom. Digitally, filters are shortcuts to alter the look of an image. Nearly all filter functions are achieved using other Photoshop tools. Filters are not used in ARTS 2348/2349.

flatten-Photoshop images are built in layers. When a work of digital art is completed, the artist saves the document & flattens layers together. When the document is reopened, it cannot revert to layers.

foam core/foam board-lightweight stiff backing board made of polystyrene laminated with paper on both sides. Various thicknesses. Can be used for mounting art or 3D constructions.

focal point-portion of a composition which draws the viewer's attention. It may be in the center. Structural lines of the drawing may direct the eye to that point, even if off center. Emphasis.

folder-on the computer, a collection of files of similar subject matter. Useful in organizing one's IRL (Image Resource Library).

font-in typography, a complete set of characters and spacing of one size of type. Times New Roman, Helvetica/Arial, Comic Sans MS, Century Gothic are common styles of fonts.

foreshortening-a way of depicting an object to create illusion of depth. That which is closer is larger—but exaggerated.

form-structure of something. Art elements are part of form & formal structure, also refers to 3D shapes.

formal/formal balance-relating to outward form or structure of a work; do not confuse with "ceremonial" or "stately," since formal elements can be quite informal in character.

format- 1. The color scheme, shape, and size of an image. This instructor defines format as the shape of the work of art: sculpture, painting, architecture, craft art, graphic art, ephemeral. 2. Digitally, refers the software program used to create the file, whether text or graphic. 3. To format means to set up the dimensions and resolution of your work on the computer.

formatting-in computing, to arrange the size and resolution of the document and to prepare the storage medium at receive the data.

freehand-drawn by hand without the use of mechanical devices like straight edges, compass, protractor, computer equipment, etc. Also without tracing. Opposite of mechanical drawing.

freestanding-refers to sculpture that is surrounded by space. Meant to be viewed from all sides. Opposite of relief sculpture.

G

.gif-Graphics Interchange Format. file format for storing graphical images up to 256 colors. Lossless.

gallery-room, building, or digital site where artworks are exhibited and often sold.

geometric-any shape or volume having more mathematic than organic design. Typically made of straight lines from geometry: circle, oval, triangle, rectangle, square, quadrilateral, polygon, sphere, cone, cylinder, tetrahedron, pyramid, cube, and other polyhedrons.

giclée print-French for "sprayed ink" printing process, now produced on IRIS ink-jet printer. A continuous tone process called an iris print. High quality, permanent image with deep saturated color. Should be printed on fabric or archival paper with water soluble ink finished with a transparent coating for permanence.

Golden Mean or Golden Section-ratio obtained by dividing a line so the short part : long part :: long part : whole. Produces eurhythmia found in nature and in a variety of works of art and design. The dimensions of the Golden Mean have been determined to be aesthetically appealing.

grammar check-on a computer, a program that attempts to identify grammar errors and offer suggestions for corrections.

graphic art-a format in visual art that is linear in character (drawing, engraving, lithography, silk screen, photography and even digital design). Arts of reproduction.

graphic design-art for commercial purposes like logos, letterheads, packaging, ads, posters, books, signs, web pages, and other publications. Arts for printing and online reproduction.

graphic novel-a novel or story in comic-strip format.

graphite-soft black mineral substance or carbon in powder, stick, and other forms. Used in lead pencils, lubricants, paints, and coatings. Also refers to works of art made with graphite-drawings.

gray scale-a range of neutral values or shades of gray in an image.

grid-a framework or pattern of criss-crossed horizontal and vertical parallel lines forming a lattice. Graph paper is a grid. Grids are used to organize space.

group-in Word, the way layers are flattened is by highlighting and grouping.

H

hands-on-direct manual manipulation of art materials, sometimes with knives, scissors, rulers, to create an artwork.

hard-copy-a printed version on paper of data held in a computer. A print of a digital image.

harmony-a principle of design uniting compatible components. A way of combining elements of art to emphasize similarities & blend the parts into a whole through repetition & simplicity.

hatching-creating value gradation by use of closely spaced parallel lines, closer for darker, wider spacing for lighter.

height-the first dimension measuring from the lowest point to the level of the highest point of a shape. Can be expressed metrically, in inches, or digitally by pixels.

horizontal-straight and flat across, parallel to the horizon. Its opposite is vertical. All other directions are diagonal.

how-to-an informal, sometimes short, description of explaining the making of something or doing a specific task. Usually step-by-step instructions. YouTube is a source for How-tos in digital technique.

hue-the name of a color.

hybrid-an art form combining handmade art with digital components. Could be in form of collage, montage, or adaptations of mixed media with digital output.

I

iconography-the signs and symbols in a work of art. literally picture (icon) writing (grafos). Sometimes refers to iconology, the study of iconography.

illustration-a design or picture in a book, magazine, or other print or electronic medium that explains text or shows what happens in a story.

Image tools-in Photoshop, a drop down menu of tools to manipulate the digital image which includes color Modes, Adjustments, Sizing, and other options.

imaginary landscape-a type of landscape composition that depicts a place that exists only in the artist's mind. Can be made from other landscape sources, or from non-landscape sources in ones IRL.

implied line-a line that is suggested or inferred rather than directly drawn. Arrows, dotted lines, are examples of implied lines

implied shape-a compositional device where figures or objects are arranged in invisible shapes-triangle, pyramid, s-curve, c-curve.

informal/informal balance-relating to outward form or structure of a work; often asymmetrically balanced, disorganized, using expressive line, without a strong sense of order.

ink wash-thin, translucent layer of pigment, usually watercolor or India ink.

inkjet print-digital image printed on paper by an inkjet printer.

installation-art that has been specifically arranged by an artist in a place like a gallery.

integration-how an artistic composition is organized and interwoven to make a harmonious whole.

intensity-brightness or dullness of a hue or color.

interface-a point where two systems meet and interact

interweave- how an artist manipulates the elements and principles into a harmonious composition where layers and lines seem to interlace or intertwine.

in-the-round-freestanding sculpture that can be seen from all sides.

inverse-in selection menu, converting or deselecting a selected area to select the unselected area.

invert-under Image Adjustments, changing an image to its color complement. Positive to negative. In some programs, flipping an image upside down/rotating it 180 degrees.

IRL-Image Resource Library-a collection of original sources-photos, scans, drawings-that are created by the artist and used to make works of digital art.

J

.jpg/.jpeg-Joint Photographics Experts Group. Graphic file format for compressing digital images.

K

K or KB-1000 bytes are a kilobyte. A measure of computer memory or storage.

knife-cutting tool with sharply pointed blade & a handle. X-acto, craft knife, razor blade. Used with straight edge.

L

l-hooks-metal nails that are bent at a right angle to mount lightweight artwork on a gallery wall.

landscape-a portrait or picture of a view of scenery in nature. Seascape or city-scenes are types.

laser print-digital reproduction made on a laser printer.

lasso tool-one of the Toolbox Selection options in Photoshop. Lasso, Polygonal Lasso, Magnetic Lasso.

layers-digital work areas that are stacked on one another. They can be individually manipulated through raster or vector functions in Photoshop. One can hide or move layers to allow other layers to be revealed. In collage, layers are tangible and can be manipulated by cutting, tearing, sewing, or gluing onto heavy paper or board.

layout-the arrangements of elements of art using the principles of design. Organizing or setting out images and/or text on a page. It is a plan.

Learning Web-an HCCS Website where the instructor's Biography and CV, Course Syllabi, Project Sheets and Links are located. It is not a secure site. Accessed through the HCC or HCCSW Websites.

light value-an element of art dealing with the lightness or darkness of an image area.

line credit-acknowledgement or statement of artist name, title of artwork, date of creation, what the work is made of, its size, and its current location. This is used whenever a work is published.

line character/line quality-refers to expressive character of a line.

linear perspective- system where an artist creates an illusion of 3D space on a flat surface. Uses vanishing point(s), orthogonals, & horizon line. Inventors- Brunelleschi & Alberti in 14th century Florence.

local color-the true or natural color of an object or subject in a work of art seen in daylight.

log-book or document where a systematic list of activities or events is recorded. Documentation.

logo-symbol or design created by graphic designer to create brand identity. Logogram/logotype.

lossless compression-process to reduce storage space for image files without losing pixel information. When de-compressed, a lossless file will revert to its original size and quality. .tiff, psd are lossless.

lossy compression-a process of reducing the size of image files. If de-compressed, information will be lost, though it may not initially be readable to the naked eye. .jpg is a lossy format.

M

M or MB-loosely, one million bytes or megabyte. A measure of Computer memory.

MAC-MacIntosh-a computer platform produced by Apple Computer Corporation.

magic wand-Photoshop Toolbox function allowing artists to select defined adjacent areas related by color for copying, pasting, deleting, or manipulating within a digital composition..

manga-Japanese comics on paper, seen in small books and run in certain magazines, graphic novels

manipulation-using hands-on or computer skills, changing or altering shapes, color, and other elements to make new imagery. Add things or take away selections. Move things around.

margin-a border or edge of an area. Could be paper, wood, digital document. Wide or narrow.

marquee-Photoshop Toolbox function that allows artist to define and select a rectangular, elliptical, or circular area to be copied, inserted, moved, or deleted within a digital work area.

matte-decorative border around a work of art or photo when it is under glass and framed. Also refers to a non-reflective, non-glossy surface texture. Also, the process of creating the cardboard frame. Matboard.

meaning-the significance of something or the content of a work of art. Determined by artist & viewer.

mechanical-refers to a draftsman's drawing using a compass, ruler, and T-square. Process using tools.

medium-material, sometimes technique, used to make a work of art. Each format of art uses different media. What something is made of.

menu-list of functions under a button (Edit, File, Image, Layer, etc.) in a computer program

metaphor-when a work or thing is used to indicate something else. A comparison with original function or meaning. Symbolism. A basic trope.

modeling-either a sculpture technique of manipulating a soft material like clay, or value gradation (shading) to make an object look 3D on a flat surface, especially the human figure.

monochromatic-use of a single hue or color with all its tints or shades in a composition.

montage-composition made by overlapping, interweaving, or juxtaposing different pictures or designs. Refers to the process of making it. Refers to rapid sequences of image frames in film. No glue. Montages are easily manipulated in digital art.

morph-short for metamorphosis. Seemingly magical transformation of appearance in nature, art, and animation. The process of filling the in-between (tweening) steps in animated actions is morphing.

motif-a repetitions figure or design in decorative pattern, used a central focus or thematic variations in a work of art.

mounting-attaching artwork to a support (paper, canvas, wood) or to position for display.

mouse-hand operated electronic device to control a cursor on a computer screen.

move tool-in Photoshop, a Toolbox choice of crossed arrows that, when active, allows a digital artist to move images around the computer screen with the mouse

movement-principle of design where implied lines or shape, or repetitious elements cause the eye to move around the surface of the work creating visual movement. In kinetic art, the object actually moved though wind action, manual or motor action.

N

natural-refers to the objectively seen world. Sometimes interchangeable with realism. An accurate or idealized depiction.

nature-the material, primitive world of land, sea, and animals. Can include subjects in still-life.

negative space-in 2D or 3D work of art, a void or empty space.

neutral-color not associated with a hue on the color wheel, includes browns, blacks, grays, & whites.

newsprint-low-cost, high acid paper on which newspapers are printed. For temporary use.

non-copyright-imagery used without permission of artist. Clip art is non-copyrighted material.

non-figurative-art work that does not represent the human or animal figure. May be non-objective.

non-objective-art work with no recognizable subject: non-figurative, non-representational.

non-representational-art work with no recognizable subject: non-objective, non-figurative.

O

observation-in art, the study and analysis of works of art for subject, style, content, and media.

one point perspective-point-of-view in a work of art where all lines move from the foreground to a single vanishing point on the horizon line in what appears to be the distance in the picture plane.

open composition-image where the lines or shapes appear to go off the edges of the picture plane.

opening-an occasion, reception, or event that marks the first hours of an art exhibition in a gallery.

opposition-principle of art that deals with contrast of elements or visual conflict in a composition

optical illusion-an image that fools the eye or causes visual confusion or misinterpretation.

optical texture-an illusion of texture created by repeated patterns. Seen not felt.

organic-an irregular or regular shape without angles. Found in nature. Not mechanical.

original-first of its kind. An authentic work by the artist's own hand.

outline-a single line that defines the perimeter of a flat, 2D shape.

overlapping-stacking or placing things on top of each other. Similar to layers in collage or layers in Photoshop.

P

.pdf-Portable Document Format

.png-Portable Network Graphic. Bitmapped graphics file format endorsed by WWW Consortium.

.ppt-extension for a Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation.

.psd-PhotoShop Document

painting-the application of pigment in binder to a surface, ground, or support. Also a function of the Brush Tool in the Toolbox in Photoshop.

palette-a piece of wood, plastic, glass, or other flat implement on which paints and their colors may be mixed to achieve color for painting. Color palettes are used on Photoshop.

palette function-in Photoshop, the range of colors from which one selects for fill, draw, or paint.

parchment-writing or drawing surface made of peeled and sanded cured sheep skin.

pattern-principle of design. Repeated colors, shapes, lines, or motifs in a design. 10 classes of patterns include both natural and human made: spirals, mosaics, lattices, symmetry, waves, fractals, meanders, polyhedral, branching, and spheres.

PC-personal computer-usually refers to computers that use Microsoft programs.

pen tool-in Photoshop, a much more precise selection and art making tool. Accessed from Toolbox and other drop-down menus.

perimeter-the distance around a 2D or flat area.

perspective-a system of lines, horizon line, and vanishing point to achieve a 3D look on a flat surface.

photo/image release-document signed by artist allowing their work to be published in print or online.

Photoshop-a software program by Adobe that allows for image manipulation and art making.

physical properties-the size, weight, media, scale, and proportion of a work of art.

picture plane-the surface of a 2D work of art or its frontal boundary. Appears closest to the viewer.

pigment-the color in any medium. In aqueous or fatty binder. Mineral, plant, animal, or synthetic.

pixel-short for picture element. The dot of color on a monitor. Color is depicted in pixels digitally.

point-digitally, refers to a pixel of light. In type refers to the height of a letter in a font style.

polyptych-a multi-panel work of art. Sometimes seen as an altarpiece.

pop-up-in publishing, a type of 3D book in which paper or cardboard sculptures appear when the pages are opened. In computer software, a list of options that arise when one clicks on a list like Edit, File, Image, etc.

portfolio-a hard-copy folder of artworks OR a digital presentation presented as a slide show featuring representative examples of an artists work.

portrait-a likeness of a specific person, drawn, painted, photographed in full face frontal/three-quarter view/profile, full length/half-length/shoulders and head/head. Not a self-portrait.

positive space-in a composition, the area that is filled with color, line, shape, or design.

posterization-a high contrast treatment of light and shadow. Few details. Similar to tenebroso.

ppi-pixels per inch. Affects the quality and size of image. The following link concisely explains the difference between dpi and ppi. <http://www.andrewdaceyphotography.com/articles/dpi/>

practice-artistic practice-repetition of a skill to become a habit. Can refer to a tradition or the manner in which someone approaches his or her studio work.

principles of design-ideas applied to the organization of the elements of art in a composition. Can include unity, variety, repetition, rhythm, scale, proportion, pattern, balance, harmony, contrast, emphasis, movement, time, anomaly, focal point.

primary color-the three colors on the color wheel that cannot be mixed: red/yellow/blue

print-out-a photocopy or proof of a work of art.

professional development-skills and techniques that lead to a portfolio which may be used to get employment. Those skills that will help an artist sell their work: enter or curate art exhibits, mat and mount work, learn public relations skills, write an artist statement and biography, complete a resume, follow instructions, give presentations to the class. Develop good practices to help you get ahead.

process-series of steps or techniques where one learns a skill. Digital art makes use of many processes.

proof-preliminary copy or practice print to test how a work looks OR to show the work was done.

PS-abbreviation for Adobe Photoshop.

Public Domain-that area of resources for which copyrights have expired.

puppet warp-a function in the Edit Drop-down Menu to distort a whole image or selection of an image in Photoshop.

PPT shell-refers to the Power Point Presentation plan used by digital art students and others. Uses Microsoft Office software.

Q

quadrant-one fourth of a work. Upper left, upper right, lower left, lower right refer to quadrants.

R

radial balance-anything arranged by rays of a circle, from the center point to its edge.

radius-the distance from the center point of a circle to its edge. Half the diameter.

rays-the lines that project from the center of a circle to the edge.

readability-in type or text, the legibility of the words seen from any distance. The ability of an artist to communicate meaning through compositional design.

reading art-the interpretation of a work of art and the ability to decipher subject and meaning of the work within a specific context.

real-usually interpreted as what is seen by the artist's eye.

realism-natural representation of people, places, or things in a work of art. not idealized.

relief-sculpture which projects from a background. To be seen from one view like a coin.

repetition-principle of design where same image, line, pattern is use over and over.

replica-a copy. Used more often in manufacture than in art.

representation-an artist's depiction of what is seen. May be abstracted.

representational-describes work depicting what is seen realistically or abstractly. Recognizable.

resize-reference to scaling the dimensions of a digital image for reproduction, projection, or sending via email.

resolution-the visual quality of a digital image expressed in ppi-pixels per inch onscreen or dpi-dots per inch in printing. PPI and DPI are used interchangeably, although they technically are different.

résumé-a professional document that lists education, work, and gallery exhibit experiences. Used in professional development and documentation.

RGB-color mode-red, green, blue-the primary colors of light on a computer monitor or television screen.

rhythm-principle of art that refers to regular placement or repetition of elements of art to create a sense of movement in a work of art.

rotate-turn around an axis. In Photoshop, found in the Edit/Transform drop-down menu to change the orientation of a composition.

rough/rough draft- the early drawings or sketches of a design. Sometimes called a rough draft. An unfinished work. To draft is the act of making that initial design.

S

salon style-a salon is a room. Salon style art displays show the works installed on the wall from floor to ceiling, visually stacked 3-5 or 6 tall. Allows for a large amount of artwork to be displayed in a relatively small area.

scale-principle of art or design having to do with size. The actual size of something is full-scale.

scan-capture an image using a scanning device

scanner-device to capture a digital image. Used with computer to develop digital sources.

scanogram-a composition or image composed on a scanner bed using found objects. Objects dragged across the glass while the CCD or charge coupled device captures an image of it.

scribble tool-in Word, drawing tool found under Insert in Word for MAC, or in Shapes in the drawing menu on PC. Under Lines and Connectors, Scribble is one of the options.

sculpture-a 3D format in relief of freestanding, created by carving, modeling, casting, or assembling.

search engine-program for retrieving date, files, or documents from a database or network-Internet

secondary color-color made by mixing together 2 primary colors. Violet, green, orange-secondaries.

selection tools-in Photoshop, the Marquee, Magic Wand, Lasso, Move, and Crop Tools all allow the digital artist to choose what area of an image to copy and delete or paste (insert), It is essential to understand the selection tools in manipulating imagery.

self-portrait-a likeness that an artist creates using himself or herself as subject. Drawn or painted from a reflection in a mirror. See *vanitas*.

sequence-linear or successive arrangement of objects or events.. Related to series or serial imagery.

serial imagery-sequential works of art that relate to one another in color, location, time, season, subject matter, content. Became popular during the Impressionist period in the late 19th century.

series-can refer to editions of prints or works of art that are related by color, location, time, season.

setting a show-the placement and organization of art works to be positioned or hung in a gallery.

sfumato-smoky or cloudy light effect. Can appear out of focus. Leonardo DaVinci was a master of it.

shade/shading-value gradation on a 2D shape that gives the effect of a 3D volume on a 2D surface.

shape-element of art that refers to geometric or organic forms in 2D and 3D. Circle, sphere, square, cube. 3D shapes are sometimes referred to as volumes.

share folder-folder either on the West Loop DigiComm Share Drive or in the Cloud. Holds folders where students may store their documents and find instructor documents.

shareware-computer software which is available free of charge and usually found online.

shiny-description of a visual texture

shortcut-keystrokes or key combinations that allow an artist to quickly complete repeated functions. Cmd-A instead of Edit Dropdown/Copy.

show labels-the printed identification included with a work of art submitted to an exhibit. Also the printed label that identifies the work for the viewer: artist, title, medium, size, price or other variables.

site-in architecture, the location of a building or work of art. includes concern for soil, climate, neighborhood conditions, zoning, availability of water, transportation, energy, etc.

size-refers to the dimensions of a work of 2D or 3D art and its scale.

sketch-a quick drawing that captures the appearance or action of a place or situation. Preparation drawings for a potentially larger scale work.

skew-a function in the Edit/Transform drop-down menu.

SLR-single lens reflex-refers to an old fashioned non-digital camera that takes photographs on film. Some SLR cameras are now digital.

smudge tool-one of the functions in the Photoshop tool box that smears the image.

software-written computer programs designed to direct a computer to do certain actions: word-process, manipulate images, design websites, and much more. Word and Photoshop are examples.

source-a saved, original scan, photograph, or drawing in the IRL. Used in combination with others to create a digital art work.

source image slide-a document that shows the sources used to create a digital montage or image.

space-one of the principles of design affected by placement of images, perspective, and shading.

spell-check-computer software that checks and suggests corrections in word-processed documents.

spiral-a type of radial balance. There are two kinds-the helix and the volute.

spontaneous interaction-refers to the color interaction of complementary colors in a composition.

static-related to stasis. Lack of movement or stillness. Compositions with vertical lines or figures.

still-life-picture of inanimate objects, including containers, food, flowers, books, clothing. See vanitas.

stippling-drawn method of shading that uses dots rather than lines.

straight edge-a ruler, metal or plastic. Even folded paper to make an edge against which one can scribe a straight line on another surface.

stretch-the act of stretching canvas around a wood frame and attaching it with nails or staples to create a surface on which to paint. In Photoshop, achieved by using the Transform functions in the Edit drop-down menu-scale, distort, skew, warp.

stroke-a mark an artist makes with drawing tool, brush, knife, stylus. In Photoshop, an outline or border function in the Edit drop-down menu.

structure- made up of various components to make a whole, using elements, principles, function

studio- workshop or space where an artist makes, teaches, or studies art. Fr.-atelier. Italian-Bottega.

style-an artist's manner of expression. Style is affected by historic and geographic setting as well as the localized artistic influences. Manga and Anime are both Japanese styles of cartoons.

stylized-to alter shapes, forms, colors, or textures to make an image in a preset style or manner.

Stylization is a more controlled application.

stylus-a pointed instrument that engraves on a softer surface. Digitally, refers to the tool used on a digital drawing tablet. Functions like the computer mouse.

subtractive color-mixing of paint pigments is subtractive. Subtractive primary colors are cyan yellow, and magenta.

syllabus-outline of a course of study including calendar, requirements, contact information, grading.

symbol-an image that represents a meaning other than what is seen.

symbolic-something that represents an abstract idea or concept. Crescent moon is symbolic of Islam

symmetrical-and image organized so that one side duplicates or mirrors the other. Formal balance.

T

.tif/.tiff-Tagged Image/Interchange File Format. Flexible file storage format for handling images and data in and between files. Considered an industry standard. Good for saving original images. A lossless format.

T or TB-loosely, one million million bytes or terabyte. Unit of computer memory or storage capacity.

tactile-relating to the sense of touch. Associated with texture.

teamwork-collaboration or the combined action of a group of people, often effective in large scale art projects, like exhibitions, mural painting, installation.

template-a pattern or guide to making something with accuracy, like a stencil. PPT provides slide style templates.

temporal-art in real time. Performance, film, video, computer, & digital art fall into this format.

tenebroso-"in the dark manner." Italian word for dark and gloomy. A style of high contrast between light and dark. Dramatic effect.

tertiary color-in color theory, a hue created by mixing adjacent primary and secondary colors together (blue-green, yellow-orange). The primary color is listed first.

text block -a segment main body of words in a book, printed, or electronic publication. In Word, a Textbox may be inserted as a layer over a document. In Photoshop, "T" may be selected from the Toolbox to insert a segment of text as a layer in a digital document.

text tool-in Photoshop Toolbox, the type or text is selected by clicking on 'T'. When in Text mode, one may select size, font, style, and various manipulations from the menu bar at the top of the screen.

textbox-in Word, Text Box is available under Insert on the Home ribbon. By selecting a Textbox or choosing to draw a box, one can create a space in which to insert copied text or type original text.

texture-an element of art referring to surface quality or the feel of an object (smooth, rough, soft). Texture may be actual or visually simulated. Actual is felt with fingers. Simulated is visual.

three-dimensional-having or appearing to have height width, and depth. Achieved through shading, perspective, value gradation.

thumbnail-small, loose drawing. Digitally, small image derived from a larger one for a browsing icon.

time and motion-principle of art to show passage of time and movement by placing an image in several locations within an image, to change shadows or angles of shadow within the picture plane. Rhythmic placement and scaling of images will indicate motion. Changing direction and angle of lines and shapes will indicate motion as well. Not easy to define.

tint-in color theory, the result of adding white to a hue or color.

title slide-in a presentation (ppt or keynote) slides that are used to identify content, names of works, identify of artist.

toolbox-for a studio artist, a kit that contains the implements and drawing media needed for class (tape, pencils, crayons, erasers, clips, stapler, hammer, nails, etc.) For a digital artist in Photoshop, visible menu of the various tools with options that can be used to manipulate digital imagery. There are also drop down menus, but the Toolbox or Palette is easily accessed.

trace-using translucent paper over an original, drawing the original on the paper. A transfer method.

tradigital-refers to art, especially animation, combining traditional and computer-generated imagery (CGI). Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter are examples of tradigital media.

transfer-to copy or move an image from one place to another

transfer techniques-artistic methods to move an image from one place to another. Tracing paper, carbon paper, digital scans, rubbings, chemical transfers, contact printing are transfer techniques.

transform-to change the shape or appearance of something. Digital artists transform sources into works of art.

transition-a bridge or neutral area where one moves from one style to another, one color to another, one subject to another.

transparency-picture on a transparent surface to be projected via slides or overhead projector. Also, the piece of acetate or plastic that can protect a work of art or scanner bed. A slide.

triptych- a three panel work of art, often hinged together or displayed side-by-side.

trope-figure of speech or expression. Metaphors, hyperboles, synecdoche, irony, parody are tropes.

tutorial-a face-to-face, telephonic, or digital program allowing for a short period of instruction, demonstration. Sometimes accompanied by step-by-step verbal and pictorial instruction.

two-dimensional-flat, having height and width but no depth.

two-point perspective-application of linear perspective in which all lines meet at either of two points on the horizon line, creating an illusion of deep space.

U

unique-one of a kind. Original. Unique needs no modifiers.

unity-principle of design emphasized wholeness by manipulating the elements of art. Harmony.

upload-sending a file to another computer. The opposite of download.

URL-Uniform Resource Locator-Address system to locate reference files on Internet. Gives type of resource (scheme) & the path to the file. The syntax: scheme://host.domain[:port]/path/filename. The URL for HCC Homepage is: <http://www.hccs.edu/portal/site/hccs>

USB-universal serial bus. A connection technology to attach peripheral devices to a computer for data exchange.

V

value-an element of art. refers to the lightness or darkness of a color, monochromatic, or gray scale image. In drawing is often achieved by hatching, cross-hatching, or stippling, patterns, texture, or value scale. Value variation helps the artist achieve a three-dimensional visual effect.

value scale/gradation-a series of spaces or a scale, starting with white or lightest color tint on one end and ending with black or the darkest color shade on the other end.

vanishing point-in linear perspective, the point on the horizon line where lines appear to converge.

vanitas-a type of still-life. A collection of objects symbolizing death to show the shortness of life and the temporary nature of earthly pleasures and achievement. Use of skulls, mirrors, broken pottery, glass, wine, maps, etc.)

variation-causing change, making something diverse, sometimes through progressive alteration.

variety-principle of design that combines elements of art using diversity & change. Avoids monotony.

vector graphic-digital image encoded as formulas for lines and curves. Use of mathematical functions to create all shapes. Smaller files than made with bitmap images because less information is stored. Can be reduced or enlarged with no loss of resolution.

vellum-a fine writing surface, originally calf-skin, used for manuscripts. A type of paper surface that has the appearance of the original vellum or parchment.

vernissage-preview or opening to art exhibit. Originally referred to "varnishing day" where finishing touches were put on works by their artist prior to the official public opening.

vertical-direction going straight up & down. Perpendicular to horizontal. Portrait mode on computer.

viewfinder-small window cut into a piece of paper or card to determine a composition OR a small window on a camera that shows the image that will be seen in a photo composition.

virtual reality-interactive computerized simulation experienced by multiple senses.

visual culture-often used in art education to refer to art. Inclusive. Does not rely on value judgments. Includes many types of media. Sometimes called material culture and can link with social issues.

vitrine-a transparent case or box placed over a pedestal to enclose and protect a 3D artwork.

volume-the space within a form. In 2D, the use of shading to create the optical illusion of a 3D appearance. In architecture or sculpture, the actual physical space enclosed by the building or object.

W

warm color-color temperature of reds, oranges, and yellows on the color wheel. Often associated with fire and sun.

warp-Part of the Edit>Transformation menu tools in Photoshop. Allows an image to be distorted using a grid.

weight-relative mass or amount of something. Visually, the area of a work with the most visual information, usually the bottom of the work.

width-the side to side measurement of an area or an object

Word-refers to Microsoft Word, a word-processing program on the computer. Extension is .doc

work ethic- set of values based on promptness, attendance, completion of assignments, meeting deadlines, collaboration, leaving an orderly workspace, and communication.

works cited-an alphabetical listing of sources or references used by a writer in an academic paper. These references are usually listed by author. Documents support for ideas presented in the paper.

WWW- World Wide Web-an information system of documents on public sites on the Internet that provide information using a point and click system.

WWW Consortium-World Wide Web Consortium or W3C-organization that determines standards for the World Wide Web.

X

X-acto-refers to a type of knife used by artists. Brand name that identifies the type of knife.

Z

zoomorphic-imagery in animal form or having animal characteristics.