

Northern Virginia Community College
Loudoun Campus

ART 131-Fundamentals of Design 1

Monday & Wednesday, 7 - 9-15 pm

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Office Hours: by appointment

Mindmap // Self Portrait // Connectivity

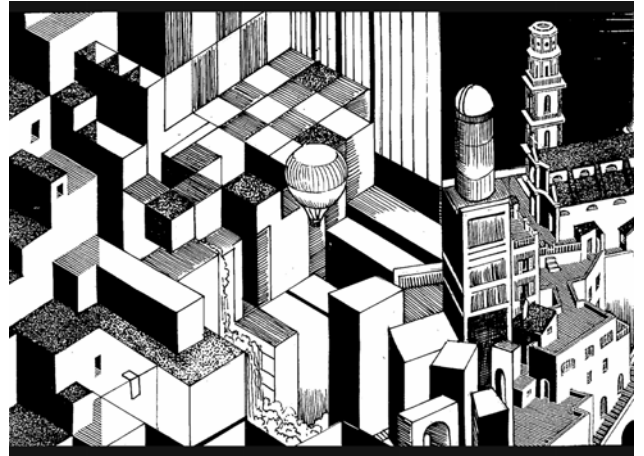
Assignment #9

Contract:

Phase 1

Brainstorm

Who are you? Write words and sentences that describe you in detail. Don't stop until you have at least 100.



Phase 2

Mind map

Choose 5 key words or phrases from brainstorming session that target you best. Develop a mind map with drawings and words that reflect your brainstorming session. You can use any materials you would like for this.

Phase 3

Portrait

Draw a self portrait of yourself that is based on the mindmap. This is not a literal interpretation of your mindmap rather a symbolic interpretation using the key words and symbols that stand out in the mind map. This portrait should be done on 18 x 24 bristol board. Materials used will be sharpee markers. Leave edge space for the next phase of the project which is to connect with other self portraits from your classmates. The design of the edge areas will be negotiated by your team members during lab time.

Phase 4

Connect

Use M.C. Escher's idea of Metamorphosis as a starting point or appropriation and bridge the gap between your self portrait and your team mates. Look at the individual pieces and decide what makes them a unit. This is a good opportunity to brainstorm again with your team mates. You can use previous projects as a means to develop ideas or develop a new strategy. Spend some time before

you get started looking at the work. Then brainstorm together. From this session you will get five strong ideas that you can narrow down to one and formulate a connective design. Remember connectivity requires teamwork. That's what its all about—the connection.

Materials:

Bristol Board, sharpee pens, materials of choice for first mind map.

Approach to the process:

1. Look carefully at the starter image you have been given. What are the most interesting characteristics of each fragment? What similarities and differences do you see? How many strategies can you invent to create a bridge between the two sides?
2. Make at least four photocopies of the starter image. Sketch various ideas on each copy.
3. Refine the best idea. For best results, redraw the Escher fragment so that the final result is crisp, clean and continuous. Modify the final image as necessary to match the designs made by the students next to you and to create an image that fits into the banner as a whole.

Purpose:

To encourage collaborative problem solving.

What you should be thinking while working on this project:

Sharing ideas, working together and community.

FORM: The organization or inventive arrangement of all the visual elements according to the principles of design.

Elements: Line, Shape, Color, Contrast and Texture.

PRINCIPLES:

- **Variety:** variations on a theme or strong contrast of elements
- **Harmony:** pleasing arrangements of elements
- **Balance:** distribution of the visual weight of design elements
- **Dominance:** the most obvious elements
- **Economy:** using only what is needed, eliminating distracting elements
- **Proportion & Scale:** **proportion** deals with the relationship to the human figure; **scale** deals with the relationship between size of an image and Size of its surroundings.
- **Movement:** any visual element that causes the eye to travel across the surface of a composition. For example: diagonal lines tend to suggest movement

Questions to ask yourself while working on this project: These questions are related to the final critique sheet handout.

1. What elements are you using in this project?
2. How many elements did you use?

3. What is the relationship between the elements? How were they used, and with what media?
4. What design principles are prevalent in this project?
5. Do the elements and principles achieve a unified piece of artwork?
6. Is it inventive?
7. Is it obvious?
8. ?) Is your project clean and is the presentation excellent?
9. What problems are you solving during this project?
10. Do you think you were successful in solving the project?
11. What concepts did you explore while working on this project?
12. Is there an idea that explains the work?

Veto: I reserve the right to make change on project assessments.