

Project 1: Photography, Repetition, & the Grid

3 points

Project Objectives

- Introduce the Components of Art: Subject Matter, Content, Form.
- Introduce Form/Design: Elements and Principles.
- Promote visual understanding of the different Degrees of Representation.
- Promote visual understanding of the Principle of Organization: Unity.
- Explore photography and collage as art medium.

Project Description

In this project you will learn how to abstract from Subject Matter and focus on Form by finding like images in the world around you. You will use a digital camera to capture these images, taking notice of their similar shapes, utilitarian qualities, and environments, while accentuating their slight variations. Utilizing a grid system as a formatting tool to help attain Unity, you will develop a collage that uses repetition to create a harmonious composition.

Required Materials

Digital Camera | 14"x17" Bristol Board | Printed Photographs | HB Mechanical Pencil | Vinyl Eraser | Metal Ruler | Xacto Knife | Cutting Mat | Glue Stick

Step-by-step Directions

Step 1: Grab your camera and go to your favorite places to photograph like images. Find objects in the world that are similar not only in what they are, their use, but also in their shape.

Experiment with scale in the photograph, as well as your composition. You should take AT LEAST 50 photographs.

Step 2: Look at your photographs on your computer, delete any that you do not want to use. Get your photographs printed at a local store, like Walmart, Costco, or a drugstore. Get two copies of each photo printed so that you have extras. You should do this as soon as possible to ensure that you have enough time to complete your project. You may also choose to print these photos yourself on photo paper.

Step 3: Look at your photographs, which are interesting to you? Which photographs are interesting when put in a group? Using your Xacto knife and ruler, carefully cut out the objects in your photographs. Remember that you are creating a grid, your cut-outs should be either in a square or rectangular shape. Think about how much of the background you need, how big should your objects be. Will your photographs overlap, will they butt up right against each other, or will they be separated by white space? Play around with your options to see which creates an interesting image. What format is most appropriate for your subject? Your final collage must contain at least 12 images.

Step 4: Start placing your photographs on the Bristol Board (do not glue them down yet). How big of a border do you want? This is up to you, but there should be at least a 1.5 inch white border around collage. Re-cut any photos if needed.

Step 5: Once you decide on your composition, lightly use your pencil and ruler to make guidelines of where your grid should be (where each photograph will be). Use your ruler to make sure that your collage will be centered and that all of your lines are straight.

Step 6: Using your glue stick, glue your photographs to the Bristol board to complete your collage. There should not be any glue on top of the photographs or visible to the viewer. Once dry, erase any pencil marks that may be visible.

Project Delivery

1. Final Project with 12 images on Bristol Board
2. Final project documented (photographed/scanned).
3. Final Project uploaded to your E-portfolio
4. Project 1 Self-Critique posted to your E-portfolio

Grading Criteria

This project is worth 3points.

- Took at least 50 photographs. (0.5)
- Printed 2 copies of at least 30 photographs. (0.5)
- Composition: Does the design follow a grid system? Does the grid system activate the entire picture plane by creating connections between the elements of design using repetition to establish a visual flow? (1)
- Craftsmanship: Has the final design been executed in a professional manner? Designs should utilize the designated materials with care, effort, and attention to detail. (1)