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Creative Graphic Designer Course Curriculum

Adobe Photoshop

Introduction

- Creating new images
- Saving files for print
- Saving files for web/screen

Lesson 1. Getting to Know the Work Area

- Using the tools
- Using the options bar and other panels
- Undoing actions in Photoshop
- Customizing the workspace
- Tools panel overview

Lesson 2. Basic Photo Corrections

- Strategy for retouching
- Resolution and image size
- Adjusting the color in Camera Raw
- Straightening and cropping the image in Photoshop
- Replacing colors in an image
- Adjusting saturation with the Sponge tool
- Repairing areas with the Clone Stamp tool
- Using the Spot Healing Brush tool
- Using content-aware fill
- Applying the Unsharp Mask filter

Lesson 3. Working with Selections

- About selecting and selection tools
- Using the Quick Selection tool
- Moving a selected area
- Manipulating selections
- Using the Magic Wand tool
- Selecting with the lasso tools
- Rotating a selection
- Selecting with the Magnetic Lasso tool
- Cropping an image and erasing within a selection
- Refining the edge of a selection

Lesson 4. Layer Basics

- About layers

- Using the Layers panel
- Rearranging layers
- Applying a gradient to a layer
- Applying a layer style
- Flattening and saving files

Lesson 5. Masks and Channels

- Working with masks and channels
- Creating a mask
- Refining a mask
- Creating a quick mask
- Manipulating an image with Puppet Warp
- Working with channels

Lesson 6. Typographic Design

- About type
- Creating a clipping mask from type
- Creating type on a path
- Warping point type
- Designing paragraphs of type

Adobe Illustrator

Lesson 1

Straight Lines

- Using the Pen Tool
- Adjusting the Workspace
- Arranging Objects
- Color Fills

Curves

- Drawing Curves (Pen Tool)
- Anchor Points and Direction Points
- Default Fill and Stroke

Corners and Curves

- Drawing Corners and Curves (Pen Tool)
- Adjusting Anchor Points

Lesson 2

No Smoking Sign

- Fill and Stroke
- Basic Shape Tools
- Grouping Objects
- Layers Panel
- Working with Templates

Super Hero

- Live Trace and Live Paint
- Tracing Hand-Drawn Images
- Coloring Live Paint Objects

- Brushes
- Flare Tool

Lesson 3

What's Behind the Green Door?

- Compound Paths
- Group Selection Tool

Mask Till You Drop

- Clipping Masks (Shapes) Blob Brush Tool
- Eraser Tool
- Reflect Tool

Masking with Type

- Type Tool
- Clipping Masks (Editable Type)
- Filling Text with a Photo
- Placing Linked Images

3D Shape:

- Extrude & Bevel
- Creating Symbols from Artwork
- Mapping Symbols onto 3D Objects
- Lighting and Shadows for 3D Objects

Lesson 4

- Blend Tool
- Blending Options

Wavy Line Blend

- Blending Lines
- Reflect Tool
- Rotate Tool

Juggling Colors and Gradients

- Dashed Lines and Stroke Options
- Saving Colors as Swatches
- Blending Modes
- Gradient Tool
- Saving Gradient Swatches

Combining Shapes with the Pathfinder

- Merging Paths (Pathfinder)
- Transparency Options
- Grouping Objects

Lesson 5

Patterns

- Creating and Applying Pattern Swatches
- Scaling and Rotating Patterns
- Working with Layers
- Align Panel

One-Page Advertisement

- Working with Type
- Text and Character Options
- Adding a Drop Cap
- Type on a Path
- Text Wrap

- Fill Text with a Pattern

Appearance and Graphic Styles

- Graphic Styles
- Appearance Panel
- Multiple Fills

Adobe InDesign

Lesson 1

Letter Creation

- The Control panel
- Text frames
- Basic text attributes
- Basic keyboard shortcuts

More Text Styling

- Baseline shift
- Small caps
- The Line tool
- Making proper fractions

Magazine Ad

- Setting up a document bleed
- Placing images
- Combining text & images
- White type on a black background

Advanced Word Processing/Formatting

- Paragraph spacing
- Tabs

Lesson 2

2-Page Magazine Ad

- Facing pages
- Color swatches
- Defining colors

Sporktown Brochure

- Placing text, photos, & illustrations
- Gradient swatches Drop shadows
- Alignment
- Text wrap

Lesson 3

Professional Typesetting Techniques

- Bulleted lists
- Hanging bullets
- Hyphenation
- Discretionary hyphens
- Special break characters

Multiple Column Ad with Text Wrap

- Multiple text columns
- Drop caps
- The baseline grid
- Text wrap

Magazine Cover

- Placing transparent art
- Defining & using color swatches
- Type on a path

Lesson 4

Style Sheets in a Magazine Article

- Paragraph styles
- Character styles
- Nested styles

Tables

- Placing Excel tables (with their formatting)
- Table headers
- Formatting tables (fills, strokes, etc.)
- Reordering table cells

Lesson 5

Leaders Magazine: Master Pages & 1st Article

- Master pages
- Spanning columns
- Step & repeat
- Paragraph & character styles

Corel Draw

- 1 Getting Started with CorelDRAW
- 2 Visiting Card
- 3 Understanding the Color Palette
- 4 Sticker
- 5 Letterhead with Logo
- 6 Working with the Objects
- 7 Wedding Card
- 8 Flex Banner
- 9 Understanding other controls (Layers and Tables)
- 10 Flyer with Coupon
- 11 Brochure