

Prerequisite Waiver Instructions for students

Students who believe they have already mastered the content of specific Mason Gross courses that are prerequisites to advanced courses may apply for a prerequisite waiver and be placed out of the course. A prerequisite is waived upon positive portfolio review by area faculty. Please be aware that these courses cover a very specific set of skills and concepts. In order to be placed out of a course, we must see that the material has been covered successfully. Please be aware that although you may have taken a course elsewhere that has the same name unless you have successfully covered the same material as the course offered by Mason Gross, you may not be eligible to place out of the course. We understand that you may have covered this material in a different manner than the specific assignments below; if so, please include what you consider to be an equivalent project that demonstrates similar objectives.

YOUR SUBMISSION

Please submit a minimum of 15 slides per course you wish you receive credit. Be sure to include for each image:

COURSE TITLE

DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

YEAR

MEDIUM

SIZE

Visual Thinking A: Black & White

General Objectives: Students should be able to demonstrate through a final portfolio that they have a basic, fundamental working knowledge of formalist design principles and basic compositional strategies in two and three dimensions. They should be able to demonstrate basic skill sets within a variety of materials and approaches. Specifically, students should be able to demonstrate the ability to transform ideas and materials from one form into another, to demonstrate/document the ideation process of a concept from idea to final execution, to convey time and motion, to use successfully: specific design strategies such as figure/ground; sequence and narrative; symmetry/asymmetry; modularity; etc. They must demonstrate the ability to conduct research which shows an understanding of both formal and conceptual concerns as well as a commitment to their studio work.

If you are looking for a course waiver for Visual Thinking A, please include in your portfolio the following 15 examples. Please note that Visual Thinking A is course that examines various design strategies in *black and white*.

All of the following examples must demonstrate the successful activation of the two-dimensional plane and in addition, more specifically projects should:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the character/qualities of "line".
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of pressure, tension, speed, flow. *4 examples, one of each.*
3. Demonstrate an understanding of equal figure/ground relationships.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the "gestalt" theory or specific relationships of parts to the whole.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the "gestalt" theory in relation to the structure of the grid.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of various organizational methods as strategies for pictorial design, (ie: hierarchy, emphasis, structure, unity, proportion, symmetry/asymmetry) *5 examples, 1 of each.*
7. Successfully transform a two-dimensional image/object into a three-dimensional image/object with oppositional properties (ie: create a three-dimensional object using foamcore that gives the *feeling* of weight, density, heaviness etc. or using the same materials create a three-dimensional object that *is* strong, ie: can hold, support weight.
8. To demonstrate the ability to visually communicate the concept of "time" within a variety of methods. To demonstrate the different nuances of the concept of "time" as they relate to implied time, actual time, chronology, and narrative.

