

# Unit Plan: Shapes

## Digital Imaging

### Overview:

In this unit, students will gain the ability to create and manipulate 2D and 3D shapes and text in Adobe Illustrator. They will be able to change the color, transparency, and gradient of these shapes. Students will also learn techniques for layout text in Adobe Illustrator to expressively illustrate a poem. In a culminating project at the end of the unit, students will create a postcard design.

This unit utilizes a website: <http://mrhoering.weebly.com/>

### Timeline:

5 Days (each class is 50 minutes long)

#### Day 1: Introduction to Adobe Illustrator and Vector-Based Graphics

- Introduction Mr. Hoering
- Introduction to Grading
- The History of Adobe Illustrator
- Quiz
- Introduction to Postcard Project
- Demonstration on Shapes
- Demonstration on Photograph-Based Shapes
- Due:
  - Abstract Shape design
  - Photograph-Based design
  - Landscapes design (combination of techniques)

#### Day 2: 3D Shapes with Transparency and Gradient

- Demonstration on 3D shapes in different colors
- Demonstration on Transparency
- Demonstration on Gradient
- Due:
  - 3D shapes in different colors design
  - 3D shapes in different transparencies design
  - 3D shapes in different gradients design

#### Day 3: Paintbrush Tool and Text

- Demonstration on Brushstrokes
- Demonstration on Text
- Due:
  - Brushstrokes design
  - Text and Poetry design

#### Day 4: Culminating Project: Postcard

- The History of Postcards
- Quiz
- Work time
- Due:
  - 5 postcard sketches (due at the beginning of class)

#### Day 5: Culminating Project: Postcard and Online Critique

- Introduction to Critique
- Work on Postcards
- Due:
  - Postcard design

## Objectives:

1. Students will use Adobe Illustrator to create and manipulate 2D and 3D shapes.
2. Students will design the layout of text to expressively illustrate a poem.
3. Students will study the history of Adobe Illustrator and the history of Postcards.
4. Students will combine shape manipulation and text layout techniques taught in three classes to create culminating project – a Postcard design.
5. Students will critique their peers' work using an online forum.

## Connection to National Standards:

1. **Content Standard:** Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes  
**Achievement Standard, Proficient:**
  - a. apply media, techniques, and processes with sufficient skill, confidence, and sensitivity that their intentions are carried out in their artworks
  - b. conceive and \*create works of visual art that demonstrate an understanding of how the communication of their ideas relates to the media, techniques, and processes they use
2. **Content Standard:** Using knowledge of \*structures and functions  
**Achievement Standard, Proficient:**
  - a. demonstrate the ability to form and defend judgments about the characteristics and structures to accomplish commercial, personal, communal, or other purposes of art
  - b. evaluate the effectiveness of artworks in terms of organizational structures and functions
  - c. create artworks that use \*organizational principles and functions to solve specific visual arts problems

## Connection to Illinois State Standards:

- 26. A.4e** Visual Arts: Analyze and evaluate how tools/technologies and processes combine to convey meaning.
- 26. A.5** Common for all four arts: Analyze and evaluate how the choice of media, tools, technologies and processes support and influence the communication of ideas.
- 26. B.4d** Visual Arts: Demonstrate knowledge and skills that communicate clear and focused ideas based on planning, research and problem solving.
- 26. B.5** Common for all four arts: Create and perform a complex work of art using a variety of techniques, technologies and resources and independent decision making.
- 27. A.4b** Analyze how the arts are used to inform and persuade through traditional and contemporary art forms.
- 27. B.4b** Understand how the arts change in response to changes in society.

## Material / Resources Needed:

- Computer Materials:
  - Adobe Illustrator
  - Mac Computer
  - LCD Projector
  - Access to Internet
- Resources needed:
  - Website (includes presentations, files, assignment submission forms, etc.)
    - <http://mrhoering.weebly.com/>
  - Paper Handouts
- Backup if technology fails:
  - Paper
  - Colored Pencils

## Terms / Vocabulary:

- **2D Shape** – A flat, two-dimensional shape that has a length and width, or radius.
- **3D Shape** – A three-dimensional shape that has a length, width, and height.
- **Adobe Illustrator** - Adobe Illustrator is a vector graphics editor developed and marketed by Adobe Systems. The latest version, Illustrator CS6, is the sixteenth generation.
- **Anchor** – Point that lines connect to when using the pen tool.
- **Artboard** - Artboards represent the regions that can contain printable artwork. You resize and set the orientation for your artwork by choosing settings in the Artboard Options dialog box.
- **Bitmap Image** - The BMP file format, also known as bitmap image file or device independent bitmap (DIB) file format or simply a bitmap, is a raster graphics image file format used to store bitmap digital images, independently of the display device (such as a graphics adapter).
- **Color Picker** - The Color Picker lets you select an object's fill or stroke color by choosing from a color field and spectrum, defining colors numerically, or clicking a swatch.
- **Gradient** - refers a gradual change of colors (such as purple turning gradually into blues and then greens).
- **Path** – The line created when connecting two points when using the pen tool.
- **Postcard** - A card for sending a message by mail without an envelope.
- **Transparency** - A transparent object, especially a photographic slide that is viewed by light shining through it from behind or by projection.
- **Vector Graphic** - A computer image that is stored and displayed in terms of vectors rather than points, allowing for easier scaling and storage.

## Art History Components:

- History of Adobe Illustrator
- History of Postcards

## Assessment:

- Formative Assessment:
  - Completion of the following exercises:
    - Abstract shape design
    - Photograph-based design
    - Combination of shapes design
    - 3D shapes in different colors
    - 3D shapes in different transparencies
    - 3D shapes in different gradients
    - Brushstroke design
    - Text and poem design
- Summative Assessment:
  - Online quiz on The History of Adobe Illustrator
  - Online quiz on The History of Postcards
  - Grading rubric for Postcard design
    - Includes student and teacher assessments
  - Online critique for Postcard design