

Course Description

GRA0446 | Principles of Typography | 4.00 credits

Typography is the art of designing printed matter using type as a medium. The history and development of typography, the use of printer's measurements and the aesthetic uses of type will be covered in the lecture form. The production of learned through hands-on project assignments. Instruction also will include industry standard typesetting equipment and desktop publishing personal computers and software.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate understanding of typography fundamentals by:

- 1. Analyzing the historical development of typography
- 2. Evaluating the aesthetic principles of type design
- 3. Explaining the role of typography in visual communication
- 4. Applying printer's measurements in typographic layouts
- 5. Comparing different typeface classifications and their uses

Competency 2: The student will develop proficiency in typographic design by:

- 1. Creating visually appealing layouts using various typefaces
- 2. Implementing effective hierarchy and contrast in typographic compositions
- 3. Manipulating type to convey specific moods or messages
- 4. Assessing the legibility and readability of typographic choices
- 5. Designing custom letterforms and logotypes

Competency 3: The student will apply typography skills using industry-standard equipment by:

- 1. Operating professional typesetting equipment
- 2. Utilizing desktop publishing software for typographic projects
- 3. Implementing digital type management and organization techniques
- 4. Troubleshooting common typesetting issues
- 5. Adapting typographic designs for different output methods

Competency 4: The student will synthesize typographic knowledge through practical applications by:

- 1. Producing a series of hands-on typographic projects
- 2. Critiquing peer work based on typographic principles and technical execution
- 3. Developing a portfolio showcasing a range of typographic designs
- 4. Presenting and defending typographic choices in a professional setting
- 5. Creating comprehensive style guides for typographic systems

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate an appreciation for aesthetics and creative activities