

KCPA 110: 2D DESIGN  
INSTRUCTOR: SARAH KNILL  
EMAIL: KNILLS@FERRIS.EDU

**ASSIGNMENT II: ANATOMY OF A COMPOSITION**

**DUE 9/17**

Objective: To introduce the elements of art and the principles of design through observing master/contemporary art works. Students will identify areas of positive/negative space, compositional balance, dominance, movement and proportion based on the application of the golden section.

Process: Research master art works. Find 3 different images to discuss with instructor. You will choose 1 final image to work from, which must be approved by instructor.

- Use a high resolution image.
- In Photoshop reduce color to achromatic values, adjust contrast if necessary.
- Adjust image to roughly 3.75" x 6".
- Print six identical quality copies, do not Xerox.
- Use sharpie on an overlay of vellum to identify the specified principles below.
- Adhere image with vellum to slightly larger white board to create white borders.
- Arrange and mount the 6 final pieces to 15" x 20" black presentation board.
- Label presentation board with your name, project name and identification labels for each image.
- Craftsmanship is crucial.

Copy #1: **Positive and Negative Space:** On the vellum, distinguish areas of positive versus negative space with Sharpie.

Copy #2: **Balance:** Identify visual weight distribution within the composition by drawing lines and/or boxes. Decide whether balance is symmetrical, asymmetrical, approximately symmetrical or radial. Label the image with which type of balance is shown.

Copy #3: **Dominance:** Identify primary, secondary and tertiary areas of focus. Draw geometric shapes around focal points to differentiate them.

Copy #4: **Movement:** Using arrows, identify directional forces within the composition. Arrows may be straight, curved, vertical, horizontal, diagonal or circular. How did the artist intend the viewer to move throughout the composition?

Copy #5: **Harmonic Decomposition:** Identify areas of proportional division within the composition. Look for areas of convergence within these proportional divisions. Consider applications of the Golden Section. (Do at least two practice pieces first in your sketchbook).

Copy #6: Your original image.

*Art Fundamentals: p. 2-4 Terms & p. 28-32 Basic Concepts of Two Dimensional Art & Two Dimensional Media and Techniques. p. 46-47 Vocabulary of Form.*