

# "Curiosity about life in all of its aspects, I think, is still the secret of great creative people."

"Thinking outside of the box is difficult for some people. Keep trying."

# Contacting the professor

The best way to contact me is via email. I check that a lot. However, I rarely check email outside of business hours, so don't expect replies on weekends or evenings. I don't check my voicemail often and can't check it when I'm working away from the office, so if you need a response from me, email me instead. That is your best guarantee of a response!

# Prerequisite

3JM-ADV, Minimum grades of C or better in MMC 2100, ADV 3000, MAR 3023 and ADV 3203. Coreg: ADV 3501.

# **Course Description**

Application of creative strategy for print, electronic, digital, social, and other media. Required preparation of advertisements, including rough layouts and storyboards. Plus development of your aesthetic sophistication, so you'll know not only how to make an effective ad, but an effective ad that people will enjoy seeing/hearing. That means that I'll be pushing the limits of your creativity and challenging you to enlighten, entertain, enrage, and engage us with your work.

# Objectives:

- To apply creative strategy to an advertising problem.
- To practice writing creative briefs and following them for campaign work.
- To learn how to come up with creative concepts and apply them.
- To learn how to create strategic, memorable, persuasive messages for a variety of media.
- To enhance ability to generate ideas individually and as part of a creative team.
- To develop/improve creative presentation skills.
- To practice and enhance essential design principles and layout skills.
- To learn additional basics of computer graphics and layout applications.
- To learn how to create advertisements for multicultural and/or international audiences.
- To constructively evaluate your own work and the work of others.
- To explore and learn more about emerging technologies in advertising, as well as create ads for these technologies.
- To learn how to self-brand for the job market.

## Required materials

IMPORTANT! By the second class, you need to have the following items:

Flash drive (or use your own computer); Fat, black magic marker; Magazines; One pad unlined paper that is 11x14 (NOT 8.5x11). You'll be buying new paper if you don't buy the right size.

### **Textbooks**

Required: access to InDesign and Photoshop

Recommended: Advertising: Concept and Copy 3rd edition (or later)/G. Felton

Suggested Readings: How, One Show Awards books, Communication Arts magazine (If you're serious about design, get a subscription. They have student rates of \$39 per year. Call 1.800.258.9111 or visit their website at www.commarts.com).

- The Advertising Concept Book by Barry
- Made to Stick by Heath and Heath
- The Pitch on AMC (can download old shows via itunes)

#### **Evaluation**

The major campaign you turn in at the end of the term will serve as your final. It will represent the culmination of everything you've learned this semester. Expect to spend many hours outside class working on it. Your class grade will be derived from your performance on the following projects:

1. Two scheduled exams (50 points each)	100
2. Homework/exercises/critiques	48*
3. Practice Creative (2 total)	30
4. Portfolio	
Major campaign	300
Peer evaluation	see helow

Peer evaluations. Generally peer evaluation are very good. However, when they aren't, they should impact your grade. You will evaluate your team members AND list exactly what you did to contribute to the project.

93.1-100 Project grade is unaffected 90.1-93 Minus 15 points on your final project. 88.1-90 Minus 25 points on your final project 80-88 Minus 35 points on your final project

These will continue to increase in 10 point increments. So those whose evaluations are in the C+ range will have minus 45 points and so on.

Quizzes. You will take two scheduled major quizzes over class lectures and materials. Computer programs (InDesign, Photoshop) will not be on exams or quizzes. Exams and quizzes include short answer and T/F. NO MULTIPLE CHOICE.

Homework/exercises. You receive credit for on-time class participation. Throughout the semester, you will be required do homework, make presentations, and create initial concepts. You will lose 10 points if you come to class unprepared. I will make note of anyone who looks like they threw their work together at the last minute as well. You may not give me your ad to present in lab ahead of time; you must be physically present to present ads in lab. Furthermore, missing a lab for an unexcused reason will not only lose you attendance points, but you will also lose 10 points for not being in class and prepared. Points per assignment, as indicated in syllabus schedule. \*These points may increase or decrease over the semester depending on our time management in class.

"I'm not really an ad man. I'm just a guy who likes to write about cool things."



"There is no such thing as a Mass Mind. The Mass Audience is made up of individuals. When advertising is aimed at millions, it rarely moves anyone."

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Critiques. You will also receive credit for your critiques of your classmates' work in class. I will award these points on the spot in class: 1 point for each helpful comment. 3 pts total. We will also vote for our Top 3 favorites when we present. Winners earn 5 pts extra credit.

Practice creative. These are pieces that you will create in and out of class, on deadline, putting into practice the lessons of the week. EVERY ONE OF THESE PRACTICE CREATIVES WILL BE DONE USING THE SAME PRODUCT, WHICH I LOVINGLY CALL "YOUR FUN PRODUCT." Therefore, choose your "fun product" wisely, so you won't be bored or run out of ideas. You will develop your major campaign from this initial work. See schedule for how many points each one is worth.

Projects. Your project is a major campaign, which will be for a "fun" product of your choice. You may choose a product that fits into one of the categories below or another category expressly approved by me. For example, you could choose to do a campaign Breck shampoo (category 1) or the Windex (category 4). NO CAMPAIGN may be targeted to 18-24 year old college students. Remember that most of the world does not fall into this category, so you need to expand your horizons. NO ADS FOR LOCAL OR REGIONAL BUSINESSES. NO ADS FOR RESTAURANTS.

## Product categories:

- 1. Any kind of toiletry (shampoo, toothpaste, etc.) Avoid perfume.
- 2. Any over-the-counter medication
- 3. Any kind of car
- 4. Any kind of household product
- 5. Airlines or other kinds of services
- Any kind of packaged food item (gum, cereal, etc.)
- 7. Cosmetics
- 8. Beverages
- 9. Electronics
- 10. Other ideas that are approved by your instructor.

YOU MAY NOT DO A CAMPAIGN FOR: condoms, water pipes, hangover medicines, etc. Use common sense!

Major Campaign consists of a creative brief, two print executions, one outdoor ad (billboard, transit, etc.), one TV spot, one social media idea, and one nontraditional type of execution (the nontraditional cannot be another social media idea or banner ad). 300 pts

You WILL work in a team of 2 to 4 to develop your major campaign. (There is no exception to this. In the real world, you work in teams, not alone). No excuses if a partner fails to turn in the project or do his/her share of the work. However, you will evauate your teammates and this will be part of your grad. The team will turn in one campaign and make it clear who you worked with.

# Concepts will be graded on:

Research. Do you have the requisite knowledge to speak credibly about the products and services you have chosen? Have you learned about the target market, what motivates them, and what doesn't?

Strategy. Do you have a good plan for positioning your product in the marketplace? How will you use media to get your message across? Should you use alternative media?

Concept. Is your idea fresh? Extendible? Effective? Appropriate for a campaign or a stand-alone ad?

Craft. Is your layout well-designed? Is your body copy tight, memorable, and evocative? Do the layout and copy work well together? Is the material presentation of your work attractive? Does the typography work? Does your design and copy fit your target audience and the product? Is/are your visuals appropriate and arresting?

Presentation. Were you professional, enthusiastic, thorough, clear, and compelling?

Originality. Do I want to run down the hall and show your work to every person I see? Can you create a unique, interesting way of looking at the product or service, so that people actually want to hear what you have to say about it?

## **Grade Scale**

A+	97-100	Your work was consistently the best in the class. (In reality UF does not allow A+ grades)
Α	95-96.9	Outstanding work. Unexpected, well crafted, on time.
A-	90-94.9	Very good work. Not exactly the most creative idea though. Well-crafted and on time.
B+	87-89.9	Very good. Well-crafted and on time. Maybe a minor flaw. Not a totally creative idea.
В	83-86.9	Good work. Seldom unique, but well-crafted and on time.
B-	80-82.9	OK work. Not unique. Many problems but some promise.
C+	77-79.9	Expected executions; craftsmanship problems; other flaws
C	73-76.9	Expected executions; lapses in craftsmanship, flawed
C-	70-72.9	Expected executions; lapses in craftsmanship and major flaws
D+	66-69.9	Major flaws, with some redeeming characteristic. On time.
D	63-65.9	Little effort. No idea. Poor writing. Messy. On time.
D-	60-62.9	Little effort. No idea. Poor writing. Messy. On time.
F	0-59.9	No effort. Late. Didn't follow assignment or instructions.

Re-do Did not follow assignment so must re-do. Due the following week.

For more information on UF grading policies, see: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

## Other grading factors

I will also take into account attitude, behavior, effort, and the like in your final grade, which may result in a higher or lower grade. So if I see that you're texting, using Facebook, etc. in class or similar behavior, that will reflect in your final grade. If you are constantly late, it will be reflected in your grade.

#### **Absences**

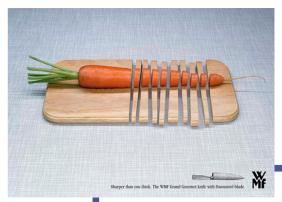
There is a high correlation between regular class attendance and the best grades. Unfortuantely it

is summer so you have ONE vacation day. I will reduce your final grade 5% for each unexcused absence beyond that. Each class is equivalent to 1.77 classes in a regular semester.

I will consider excusing a student in an extreme case, which is at my discretion. DO NOT SCHEDULE DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENTS, JOB

"Images call on the emotion rather than the intellect."





A copywriter, like a lawyer, builds cases for clients by selecting truths that are positive and omitting truths that aren't."

INTERVIEWS, OR PERSONAL TRAVEL (including weddings, family reunions, etc) DURING THESE 6 WEEKS. We don't meet on Fridays or Mondays so weekend events should not be an issue.

Additional information is available at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

If you leave class before it ends without my OK, you may be counted as unexcused. If you text, play on the computer, etc. during critiques, you will be deducted 10 points from your participation score.

If you miss class/lab, you will not receive credit for work missed and no makeups will be offered. I will not review material that has already been covered in class. If you choose to miss class, it is your responsibility to acquire missed handouts, notes, and/or explanations of missed material from your classmates. Also, I will not go over the computers again even if you have an excused absence.

Makeup work for excused absences will be due the next class or lab period. Also if you missed class and it was an excused absence, it is your responsibility to ask for any assignments, handouts, etc. in the following class period and not right before the exam. Unfortunately, I cannot review material that has already been covered in class.

## **Late Policy**

I know we all are late from time to time, but your boss (that's me) expects you to be on time for your job (this class). You will have 10 points deducted from your attendance points for each time you're late after two late class periods. If you come to class more than 20 minutes late, you will not be counted as having attended class that day.

#### Other expectations

I expect you to turn off your cell phone in class and not to work on the computers (or be on your phone) when I am or others are talking. These actions will negatively affect your final grade.

#### Execution

Usually, thumbnails or rough marker comps just enough to convey the idea accompanied by copy by due date for roughs. Final layouts should all be done on the computer, preferrably in InDesign. No restrictions on medium or color whatever works. You have learned how to use computers for layout, but in the first few weeks, the computer is a hindrance to good idea generation. I'd rather you use your time to develop great concepts, not computer layouts. Writing assignments and scripts must be typed (the proper format will be provided). Handwritten final assignments will receive an E.

You are ultimately entering the field of communication. Therefore, spelling and grammar do count. You will be penalized 10 points for every misspelled word (including mixing up homonyms such as it's and its) and 5 points for every grammar/punctuation error. These points will be doubled on the final portfolio.

Always make a backup copy of your work lost originals are not an acceptable excuse for missed deadlines. Why? Because in the field you're going into, a client won't accept that as an excuse.

## Think you're not creative?

For many of you, the idea of "being creative" may be uncomfortable. However, while some people may be more creatively gifted than others, anyone can develop their creativity to a greater degree. You WILL NOT fail this course if you try to do a good job. Let's establish collaborative relationships critique and guide one another. Your work will be better for it.

Critiques aren't meant to hurt you; they're to help you learn. The people who do the best work solicit criticism and make their work better as a result of it. If you hide from criticism or refuse to respond to it, your work cannot improve. EVERY ONE OF YOU WILL GET FEEDBACK ON EVERY PIECE OF WORK YOU DO IN THIS CLASS. It may come from me or from peers. Welcome it. It's necessary for your creative growth.

#### Students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. If your disability requires special testing arrangements (e.g., extra time, quiet environment), you will be taking your exams at the disability office and not in the building. You will also need to keep track of the appropriate paperwork for this.

#### The Honor Code

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class."

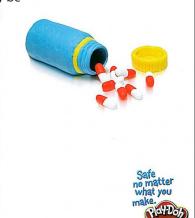
#### Student complaint process

Student complaint process is at: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\_Complaints\_policy.pdf

Class schedule follows on next page.

Syllabus is subject to change with instructor notification either verbal or written. There may be extra credit opportunities related to research studies.

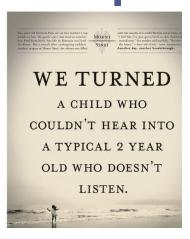
"Advertisers are an uninvited guest in the living room of a prospect who has the magical power to make you disappear instantly."





"Just because your ad looks good is no insurance that it will get looked at. How many people do you know who are impeccably groomed...but dull?"

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.



"There is no such thing as long copy.

There is only too-long copy. And that can be two words, if they're not the right two words."

date	to do
Week 1	Go over syllabus. Fill out information sheets.
Tues., May 10	Begin Creativity, strategy & brainstorming lecture.
The italicized chapters are for	Chps. 1-6, 13, Robin Landa piece on Canvas.
those who bought books and	Cirps. 1 6, 15, Nobili Edilida piece on curivas.
want to follow along.	
Wed., May 11	Creativity, strategy & brainstorming lecture cont.
	Speed teaming. Team declared.
	Present ad for you (5 pts)
	Due at beginning of class: Ad for you (5 pts)
Thurs., May 12	Copywriting lecture
	Team declares fun product
	Watch Creative Tools lecture online
	Work on print ad design
	Turn in 5 thumbnails for print ad design (Toothpaste ad) (5 pts)
	Due at beginning of class: Thumbnails for print ad design (5 pts)
	Read Chps. 7-9, 14-20 for next week.
Week 2	Copywriting lecture finished. Begin Design & Layout lecture.
Tues., May 17	Ad immersion
	In Design brush up
	Reminder Creative Brief due Thursday
	Due at beginning of class: Print ad design (10 pts). Post on Canvas.
Wed., May 18	Design & Layout lecture
	Extend campaigns exercise
	Work on headline/body copy for assignment
	Read Chp. 10-12 for next week.
Thurs., May 19	Present 6 creative concepts for fun product; class vote
	Work time for headline/body copy assignment
	Due at beginning of class: Creative brief for fun product.
	Post on Canvas (10 pts).

date	to do
Week 3 Tues., May 24	<ul> <li>Quiz on Creativity, brainstorming, strategy, Copywriting &amp; Creative Tools (50 pts)</li> <li>Finish Design &amp; Layout if needed, TV lecture Due at beginning of class: Headline and body copy for a product (10 pts).</li> </ul>
Wed., May 25	<ul> <li>Present 2 rough print ads to me; class will vote</li> <li>Read Outdoor advertising (it technically is at the end of the nontraditional lecture)</li> <li>Photoshop exercises/brush up; work time</li> </ul>
Thurs., May 26	<ul> <li>Finish TV lecture</li> <li>Flash assignment Visual only and Type only ad ideas.</li> <li>Work time</li> </ul>
Week 4	Present TV spot to me
Tues., May 31	<ul> <li>Work time</li> <li>Due at beginning of class: Final print ads (20 pts).</li> </ul>
Wed., June 1	<ul> <li>Nontraditional advertising</li> <li>Turn in final visual only or type only ad (5 pts) at beginning of class.</li> </ul>
Thurs., June 2	<ul> <li>Nontraditional advertising finished.</li> <li>Nontraditional and social media ads ready for me to look at</li> <li>Work time</li> </ul>
Week 5	Outdoor ad ready for me to look at
Tues., June 7	Work day  Due at beginning of class: Final TV spot (10 pts).
Wed., June 8	CLASS STARTS AT 12:30 Work day
Thurs., June 9	<ul> <li>Quiz 2: design &amp; layout; nontraditional advertising (50 pts)</li> <li>Work day</li> <li>FINAL PROJECT DUE TODAY AT 5 pm IF YOU WANT THE 10 EXTRA CREDIT POINTS</li> </ul>
Week 6	Goodman at conference this week. Work on final project.
Tues., June 14	
Wed., June 15	Goodman out of town at conference. Work day. FINAL PROJECT AND GROUP EVALS DUE AT 2 P.M. ON CANVAS