



# P A R K L A N D C O L L E G E

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To: CSC 230 Students  
From: Paul Young  
Date: January 9, 2007  
Subject: Welcome

Welcome back to the world of digital media. Please record the following for your records:

- Class web site: <http://virtual.parkland.edu/young/csc/230/>
- D207 lab key: \_\_\_\_\_
- Server directory: graphics \_\_\_\_\_
- Server password: \_\_\_\_\_

This is a required course in Parkland's Digital Media program and a follow-up course to ART 128 Digital Photography. In this course, we will expand your image making skills as well as your Photoshop skills.

The focus of Digital Media courses is project-based learning. Each project will teach you fundamental skills in design as well as technology. Each project is also an opportunity to add a piece to your portfolio. By the time you graduate, you should have a portfolio of about 10 pieces you are proud of. Your portfolio is your entry into employment in the entertainment, marketing, broadcast or gaming industries. Competition in these industries is stiff. Therefore, you should strive to do your best when creating work for your portfolio.

Photoshop is a very sophisticated piece of software. Although there are software tutorials as part of the coursework in this class, real software skills are learned through practice, exploration, trial and error. There is not enough time in class to cover all the features of Photoshop. In fact, that is not the goal of this class. Instead, we prefer to teach software concepts (why things work the way they do) so that you can begin to explore on your own.

As seductive as the computer is, we must not forget that the computer is only a tool not much different than a hammer. Just as a carpenter will use his or her tools to create functional pieces with aesthetic value, artists use the computer to create beautiful visual communication that entertain, enlighten, inspire and even help sell products. Because this class will be taught as a studio art class, I will be expecting your work to have a high level of craftsmanship and demonstrate an understanding of design principles and visual literacy.

I am aware that there are different students with different learning preferences. If you are having difficulties learning the material being presented in this class, I highly encourage you to see me during my office hours. My personal goal is to make sure that each and every one of you have a fulfilling learning experience here at Parkland. Let's have a great time doing that.

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