A Graphic Designer is a creative problem solver who is trained to conceive, plan, and execute a design that communicates a direct message in an imaginative and visually arresting manner to an intended audience regardless of the medium. Effective visual communication requires a Graphic Designer to inform and motivate a viewer.

Welcome to Introduction to Graphic Arts and Design where you will be incorporating the Elements and Principles of Design into two Adobe Design Standard CS6 Programs. You will also be learning the basics of printing and finishing projects using lamination and various print techniques to finish a project. This class does require Online research outside of class, and occasionally taking digital photographs for assignments. In general, this is some of what we will be covering this semester, contingent on completion of assignments:

- **Adobe Photoshop**: Digital Collage, Movie Poster, DVD Cover, Magic Wand, Lasso, Contrast, Balance
- **Adobe Illustrator**: Logo Design, Cellphone Wallpapers, Digital Drawing, Line, Shape, Color/Value Theory

We will be further investigating these programs with the concepts of **Elements and Principles of Design**. As you complete each project, you will then be presenting your project in front of the entire class for a mature, group critique. Developing your presentation skills are very important to your future career and in college.

**Homework and Attendance are significant parts of your grade.** I cannot send the software home, so if you are absent, you are expected to stay after to make up work.

**Late projects and a late final will not be tolerated.** Every day the project is late, your project will be docked 5 points. Projects that are more than 2 weeks late will be given no credit.
Homework: 10% Homework will be based around your projects, and I will ask you to study some handouts as well. You will need to take photographs for some assignments, and there are cameras that can be signed out if needed. Expect homework at least once every week.

Participation: 35% This includes completing in-class assignments, staying on task, and group work. You will have a weekly participation grade. Points will be taken off for using Facebook, Twitter, or an other Social Networking site. Playing internet games is not permitted at any time. Cellphone use is not permitted in class, no exceptions! If you stay on task, then you will do very well in this area!

Tests/Projects: 45% Intro to Graphic Arts and Design is a project-based course. This will include the ones I personally assign and the occasional school or district related print projects. Any tests that are given will be contingent upon various vocabulary introduced. There will be a grading rubric for each project, and you will be expected to incorporate what you have learned in the software as well as the Elements and Principles of Design that we will discuss throughout the semester.

Final: 10% Your final will be a business design package that will be printed out and handed in to me, and will also include an essay discussing the Elements and Principles of Design. No one is exempt from the final project.

Attendance Policy

According to Auburn High School policy, you grade will drop 10% after 5 unexcused absences for failure to meet attendance requirements.
What You Will Need

There are some materials you will be expected to bring to class every day.

• **School email/Google Drive:** According to the school’s technology policy, you may only use your school email account and Google Drive to save your files and communicate with your teachers. It is your responsibility to make sure your login information is correct. *It is highly suggested that you purchase a flashdrive/USB storage to back up your work!*

• **Notebook/Sketchpad:** You will need to take notes on various tools and sketch out ideas. So don’t forget a pencil or pen too!

• **Headphones:** I will announce two days in advance when you need to bring them in. There will be projects in which you will have to design a project around a video or music clip.

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

Please have your parents/guardians look over this information and bring it into class as soon as possible! I will take these forms no later than September 9, 2016. This form counts as a homework grade.

Student Signature: __________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____________________________________

• By signing this form, I understand the expectations for my student in the Introduction to Graphic Arts and Design class.

• Parents/Guardians: If you have any questions, my preferred form of contact is by email. I am available for appointments after school as well!