

Fall 2011
EDCI 406: Technology and Two-dimensional art
Professor Walker
Tues/Thurs. 1:00 – 3:00 pm.

A New Focus

The Chesapeake Project
Sustainability in Art Education

This course is designed for students studying to become art teachers, and will be teaching art to K-12 students in the public and private schools in Maryland and DC. We focus on art materials and processes that the students will be teaching, as well as planning and assessing the lessons.

The idea of sustainability will be incorporated into the course in two ways: through both a theoretical lens, and practical application.

Theory: Each year, there is an overarching theme, or 'Big Idea', that threads each of the 12 art assignments together to bring continuity to the ideas and images created throughout the semester. This Fall, we will be focusing on 'Sustainability' as our overarching theme. The students will read 8 articles from the text '*Choices for Sustainable Living* (Northwest Earth Institute, 2009)', and engage in a conversation with Mark Stewart from the Sustainability office on campus. The artwork for each of the assignments created this semester will tie into this theoretical concept.

Practice: Traditionally, students buy texts or packets of articles, purchase sketchbooks and commercial art supplies for this course, and submit all work, including an end-of-course portfolio, in a non-digital format. This semester, we will reduce our course footprint significantly by posting digital copies of the articles, and requesting that all written work be submitted and returned digitally on our class site. In addition, we will be making our own sketchbook journals for all classwork out of found materials, such as discarded text books, used printer paper and articles from past courses, paper shopping bags and other found paper. Emphasis will be placed on the natural recycling that art teachers have always engaged in (utilizing yogurt cups for water, newspapers for papier mache, etc), and how my students can influence the actions of their future K-12 students.