Heraldry Project/Assignment

Introduction & Overview
MARIETTA IS ENTERING THE WORLD OF THE ENGINEER.
Mechatronics Engineering

hands that reach beyond the human grasp. Imagination and invention shatter conventions and definitions, populating the impossible. Seeking answers through opportunistic lenses, we invent worlds that transcend boundaries, raising the bar for the human condition.

Software Engineering

YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR. A warning made more cryptic by the ones and zeros behind it. We see structure in that chaos. Using digits as our raw materials, we build elegant solutions to complex tasks. We become architects of numbers.
Visuals and Symbolism

- Associations that can be made
- Single or multiple meanings
- Logos, trademarks, tools, equipment, objects...
- Colors
- Research Blazonry / Heraldry
- Research Symbolism in Art
Blazonry / Heraldry

- Blazon – a formal description of a coat of arms, flag or similar emblem (wikipedia)
- Emblazon – creating the actual image
- The assignment is a VARIATION on this process
- You are required to visually represent yourself- your interests, major, family/heritage, and/or other things important to you that visually you want to share about yourself that depict who you are.
Colors in Western Art

• The Hidden Symbolism of Colors in Western ART
• The symbolic interpretation of Colors used in Byzantine, Gothic and Renaissance Painting
• Byzantine, Gothic and Early Renaissance paintings are rich in philosophical and Christian symbolism regarding the Colors.
• Blue - symbolizes purity; The Virgin Mary; Virgin and Child; The Immaculate Conception
• Purple - symbolizes Christ in Majesty, In Byzantine Style painting Important Holy figures wear purple robes, outlined in red.
• Red- a symbol of greediness and lust. Denotes sin; sins of mankind, original sin; temptation, Judas, Harrowing of Hell, The Fiery Furnace, Slaughter of the Innocents, Apocalypse
• Green - symbolizes the Resurrection, the Ascension, Baptism
• White - is a sign of innocence; Birth, Youth, Betrothal and Marriage; The Virgin Mary; Virgin and Child; The Immaculate Conception, The Holy Family
• Grey/Black/Dark Brown - symbolic of the Entombment, Crosses, Crucifixes
• Yellow - symbolizes a remembrance of the spiritual world; miracles, harmony, sustenance of the soul
• Pink - symbolizes eternal innocence; The Virgin Mary; Virgin and Child; The Immaculate Conception
• Orange - a symbol of materialism and desire for worldly goods in favor of spiritual health. Denotes indulgence; carnal desires, original sin; corruption, Judas.
The Hidden Symbolic Meaning of Everyday Household Objects in Western Painting

- A knife in a loaf of bread, a glowing candle, a dirty window, a Childs toy on a shelf, a clock, an hourglass—all are enchantingly decorative to the average onlooker. For painters of the Gothic, Early Renaissance and High Renaissance periods, everyday household items were part of a powerful visual language.
- In a culture of limited literacy symbolic imagery was vital in enlightening the masses. Byzantine, Gothic and Early Renaissance paintings are rich in philosophical and Christian symbolism regarding common household objects.
- Whisk broom- symbolizes marital faith.
- Mirror - signifies vanity or an introspective nature.
- A knife in a loaf of bread- symbolizes holy communion.
- The glowing candle - a symbolic reminder of Christ's Passion.
- A Childs toy - symbolizes the freedom and innocence of early life.
- Glass prayer beads symbolic of the all-seeing wisdom of God.
- Coins on top of a Bible - symbolizes the triumph of the material world over the pious and holy.
- A red pillow- symbolizes hedonism and depravity of the soul.
- A clock with missing hands - signifies mans powerlessness to control his own fate.
- A lemon next to a salt shaker- symbolizes a doer of wicked deeds.
- Hourglass - symbolizes the inevitable passing of time and the certainty of death.
- Nails/Nails - The Crucifixion of Christ
- An overturned copper tea kettle - symbolizes loss of faith.
- A rabbit on a white or silver platter- implies fertility.
- A club - symbolizes martyrdom, Saint Jude, one of the apostles, was beaten to death with a club.
- A fluttering blue of white curtain- symbolizes a heavenly world in which the splendor of the holy and divine is only beginning to be shown.
- An unsheathed knife near a money purse or pile of coins- denotes a rebellious and materialistic viewpoint.
- A burned out candle - symbolizes a lack of devoutness and piety.
- A white or blue pitcher and basin - is a symbol of Purity, signifying clean thoughts and an uncorrupted essence. The pitcher and basin are also symbolic of forgiveness of sins, cleansing, sanctification, unity with God, eternal life, glory, theosis.
- A dirty window- suggests physical malady (usually a venereal disease or leprosy); a polluted body.
- A spilled or overturned inkwell- symbolizes broken promises, broken political treatise, missed chances. If the spilled inkwell is on the desk of a Saint then this symbolizes martyrdom; divine sufferers who spilled their blood in Gods name.
- Lute - a musical instrument symbolic of romantic love.
Paragraph 1. [Description] Identifies/you: list your- a. name, family b. major c. involvement at SPSU d. interests e. job f. experience/interest in art g. other.

My name is Keyan Shod. I am of Panamanian and Iranian descent. I am a senior management major at SPSU. I am a full-time student while I am employed full-time. Obviously, this severely limits my time available to get involved on campus. The only time I am here is to attend class. I work for a computer support (IT) company. We supply onsite technical support to all three major Lockheed Martin Aeronautical sites. I consider myself very athletic. I still play baseball in a national organization. Baseball is my outlet from school, work, bills, girlfriend, etc. I do not have much experience with art, but this class has gotten me more interested.

Paragraph 2: [Description] Describe what you see. How did you use the elements of art? (line, shape, form, space, value, color, texture (implied) (Be specific, identify what and where used, ex. I used straight thin lines at the top…)

I used a shape of a shield for my project. Many family shields in classical times had shields. I actually find those interesting. I separated the shield into three sections. The top section represents my job/job skills. I have computer equipment with different lines of code and symbols to represent my work with computers. The bottom left section represents my love for German cars. I have a BMW logo and the general shapes of a Porsche and other cars. The lower right-hand side represents my family and the cultures of the races that I represent. I have some farsi writing. I tried to represent the Panama Canal, but that didn’t work out so well. In the center of the shield is two baseball bats crossing each other to form an “X” and a baseball in the center of that. It represents my favorite interest.

I feel that I used space and color very well. I used about a dozen different shades of colors in my shield. Everything is separated in its own areas with the baseball representation in the center to reflect importance. The shapes are basically accurate. There is no distortion in shapes or colors. There are no blurred lines either. All the lines are clear and defined.

Paragraph 3. [Analysis] Analyze the use of design principles. Did you-how did you create/suggest and/or use . . . (rhythm, movement, proportion, balance, variety, emphasis, unity))

I think there is balance and proportion. The shield is almost evenly separated in three sections. But they are all brought together by the baseball bats in the center. There is variety in what I represented. I did not have a general theme (ex. Technology, family, etc.). I tried to imply movement in the section representing cars.

Paragraph 4. [Interpretation] Explain what you were trying to do? Explain the symbolism, explain how the shield/coat of arms reflects who you are.

I was mainly trying to show what my interests are and what is important to me. My family and culture obviously is very important. I am proud of my heritage. The computer and computer
Creative project/activity

• Design your own heraldry/coat of arms
• How can you visually describe yourself?
• How can you visually identify yourself?
Heraldry Project

• **Heraldry Creative Assignment;** Arts 2001, Colebeck: Sketch due___ Final Due___ Name___________

• **Historical-Background:** Heraldry is a very old visual language that was originally used to identify warriors. Knights in armor looked alike so each chose a symbol and color to identify/distinguish himself. These identifications were first used on his shield then on the surcoat over his armor, thus the origin of the phrase, “coat of arms”. Arms were granted to individuals not to families, so if you want one you need to design one yourself. The special language of heraldry is called blazonry. **To blazon a coat of arms** is to describe the symbols and colors upon it in a precise sequence so that it can be read and understood.

• This assignment is a variation/take off from Heraldry and Blazonry. It combines visual design and writing to depict “who you are”. You will create a shield and a written description of your creation. The assignment incorporates practical application of material covered in the course, similar to a “lab”. You will be involved in the creative process; application & evaluation of the elements and principles of art; and analysis/critique of the work you create.
Directions

• **Assignment:** Design your own “coat of arms” and “Blazon” – (explain through writing the visuals/symbols & how the shield reflects who you are.)  **The final design must be original.**

• During class examples of heraldry and blazonry will be presented. You might also consult other sources.

• **Working Time:** Designs ½ hour; The final project visual should be able to be completed in about/reflect one hour of time.

• **Design: Exterior Shape** of shield should almost fill but be no larger than 8 ½ x 11.

• **Design: Interior Area.** Carefully plan the inside area. You will be using elements of art and arranging them using the principles of design, you do not have to use them all. (Will it have one-center focal point? or be divided up ½, 3 parts, quadrants? Will there be a boarder design around the edge? What will the colors be? Why? (Remember to look at your design from a distance to check for visual impact.)

• **Ideas/ Sketchs:** Plan/Draw 2 ideas, rough drawings/designs on 8 ½ x11 paper may be ½ page or full size. **Due:** ___ bring ‘sketches’ to class for review. **Submit reviewed sketches with writing and final project.**
Two sketches / ideas

- Bring two ideas for review to class
- Professor will review and return
- You will then make adjustments and create your final version
- Include these sketches when you submit your final version
visuals

- **Materials:** Final size 8 ½ x 11;
- create by hand or your own original computer generated design.
- Paper: 8 ½ x 11-computer paper is thin so you may use cardstock paper as the base or for backing. You may draw directly on the cardstock paper (colored pencils, markers, ink, etc.); and/or add other materials onto, paste-collage. (construction paper, foil, etc.) (may use tools- stencils, photography, computer) Final design may be an original computer-generated work. Keep as 2-D/flat as possible.
- **Images:** include visuals that reflect you/your life; your likes, activities, interests, major at SPSU, family and/or heritage. Graphic/computer images may be included. Existing family crests etc. may be incorporated into your new design but cannot be the only image. Be original visually reflect you!
Written part

• **Written Section:** Type Five paragraphs. [*Roughly follows the Feldman Method, analyzing works of art- see Web page and handout.](Reflects/identifies who you are; why/how you selected the images/symbols; how/why arranged and what/how utilized the elements of art and principles of design, & evaluation.)

• Paragraph 1.  [Description] Identifies/you: list your-a. name, b. major, c. interests d. family.

• Paragraph 2.  [Description] Describe what you see. How did you use the elements of art? *(line, shape, form, space, value, color, texture)*

• Paragraph 3.  [Analysis] Analyze the use of design principles. Did you-how did you create/suggest . . . . (rhythm, movement, proportion, balance, variety, emphasis, unity) *(Ex. I showed rhythm using..)*

• Paragraph 3.  [Interpretation] Explain what you were trying to do? Explain the symbolism, explain how the shield/coat of arms reflects who you are.

• Paragraph 4.  [Evaluation] Critique: the level of craftsmanship. How carefully was it done? Identify the most successful aspect; Identify the least successful; what would you do differently?; Rate the project— 1 good-nice met criteria, 2 better, 3 very nice, 4 Wow-wonderful, best, 5 Exceptional, superior!
Grading - Evaluation

• **Grading:** Taking into consideration that you are not studio art majors, you will not be graded on your ‘artistic’ ability. You will be graded on your effort, craftsmanship and fulfilling requirements/directions.

• Your grade will be an evaluation of:

  • **Describe:** Visual Design: (exterior and interior design(s));
  • **Analyze:** Written explanation, clear, reflective and supports the visual.
  • **Interpret:** Impression, overall visual impact, effort
  • **Evaluate:** Execution, met criteria, all components/parts; Craftsmanship-how neat/careful. presentation is, effort