

● CHRISTOPHER PASSEHL

“Consciousness is pure creativity” Depak Chopra

Statement
of teaching
philosophy

While learning how to work in various software programs, develop skills in reasoning, and advance one’s abilities in writing and communication are extremely vital, I feel that the pursuit of unlocking the creative puzzles within ourselves is a fundamental challenge that will engage one’s curiosity for a lifetime. In fact, in my teaching I use examples of brilliant thinkers – some who come from other disciplines – who have made tremendous creative leaps not solely because of their mastery of a particular science or craft, but who have intuitively synthesized a complete solution to a particular problem. Further, this kind of approach to teaching emphasizes not just development of technique, but promotes a creative approach to all things in life. It is a gift to be able to inspire someone, just as it is a gift to receive inspiration. But not all students will go on to realizing a career in the field of choice. I maintain that this shouldn’t detract from the development of their creative lives. Though Albert Einstein said, “imagination is more important than knowledge”, one must have both as a foundation.

Helping a student find their own sense of balance is nothing short of a miracle. Add to this the fact that we live in an age where we are overwhelmed with imagery, messages, and technology. It is my responsibility to be a champion of their ideas, a coach, a colleague, and a tough minded perfectionist for students who need a push. I favor balancing critical discussion of theory with practical “real-world” projects.

Advisor to student interns from Yale, Rhode Island School of Design, Keene State College, Northeastern University, University of Hartford and Central Connecticut State University

Class
Instruction
and Related
Experience

Introduction to Multimedia,
Introduction to Graphic Design,
Introduction to Web Design,
Introduction to Mobile Application Design,
Graphic Design Applications,
Intermediate Graphic Design,
Advanced Graphic Design,
Digital Illustration and Page Layout,
Independent Study advisor,
Communication Design 04
(one of three visiting designers
working with UCONN senior year students)

Additional
Instruction
Topic
Interest

Film Theory and Criticism (undergraduate coursework),
Digital and Analog Photography Experience (Extensive Professional Experience),
Advertising Critique and Concept Development(Extensive Professional Experience),
Questioning the Digital Environment: Experience or Escape (Graduate work)