



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

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To: GDS 172 Students  
From: Gretchen Wieshuber  
Date: January 12, 2009  
Subject: Welcome

Happy New Year, and welcome back to the world of graphic design.

Typography II is a class designed to teach advanced software skills required to obtain employment in the graphic design field. We will do this through hands-on tutorial-style exercises both in class and as homework. Several projects this semester will give you the opportunity to add some pieces to your portfolio.

Many competing software packages do page layout. Some are used by professional graphic designers and others are used by non-professionals (also known as “desktop publishers”). Professional-strength software packages are needed to produce documents for commercial printing. Page layout software is a fairly new phenomenon. Both InDesign and Quark are rooted in PageMaker, which was first published by Aldus in 1985. PageMaker and all word processing software are based on computerized typesetting systems (i.e. Compugraphic systems). In other words, page layout software is first and foremost designed to help designers set type. Therefore, we will be studying the conventions of typography from a traditional and historical perspective as well.

Designing publications that can be manufactured with integrity by commercial printers is a daunting task filled with technical “do’s” and “don’ts.” This class will give you some experience in this area known as “print production” or “digital prepress.” Because designers today are responsible for all prepress issues, attention to detail is critical.

Different students have different learning preferences. If you are having difficulties learning the material being presented in this class, please request a meeting with me. Because I am teaching only this one class, I do not have an office on campus, but will arrange a time and a place convenient for you.

I'd like each and every one of you have a fulfilling and fun learning experience here at Parkland.

*Gretchen*

P.S. Your syllabus, calendar and assignments are all available online 24/7. Please bookmark this page on your home computer: <http://gds.parkland.edu/gds/172/>