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Graphic Design is art that combines images, words, and ideas to communicate messages to an audience. When first staring this class, I didn't know what to expect. My goal was to learn my brush strokes and the perception of colors. When my friends ask me what I’m doing in graphic design class, I tell them that we are learning to apply principles of design and visual perception to out designs using a proportion, symmetry and positive and negative space. It’s not just about learning to draw a perfect square.

After attending few classes, I realized that it is much deeper in a different direction. This class goes deeply into the basics of art and creating pieces of work that are made to feel natural. One needs to learn the basics before they can move on. Learning that precision and placing your layout in just the right location, is necessary to catch the eyes of consumers. Having a focal point that stands out in just the right way is essential in design. Size and spacing is another important element that any design piece is supposed to have. Taking any dull design piece or object and creating the appropriate perspective can change the way people view it.

The most important aspect of graphic design is making something appealing to the eye. Being able to understand and apply the principles of color, shape, and composition are essential in being able to even begin to create appealing designs. Using these same principles in my paintings and drawings have definitely improved them greatly. For example, when I would create an art piece before I took graphic design, I would always just stick the subject in the middle. Now, I know how to place the subject off center, in a way that it connects with the surrounding environment, which is more appealing for people to look at, and creates better artwork. Before I took graphic design, I thought I wouldn't like it, but now I know how much it has helped me.

The projects have given me inspiration with applying color and shape onto design. Before this class I didn’t understand placement or the saying “Less is more”, now I can look at any art piece and tell you if the piece has too much negative space or if it brings in the right attention.