## Graphic Design 2

Instructor: Prof. Childers pchilders1.@mac.com

**WEEK 8:** Grids and hierarchy

IN CLASS
ASSIGNMENT

**GOAL:** Use a grid system to **establish proportions**,

and create hierarchical order.

**OBJECTIVE:** Examine proportions.

Explore the **diversity** of **alignment to a grid** structure.

The most elementary design tool is the grid, the ultimate multi-purpose tool that offers the ability to organize and distribute content. A grid suggest placement of items for alignment.

Hierarchy uses contrast to influence the order in which the human eye perceives what it sees.

## **PROCESS:**

- I. Create 2 (IIXI7") InDesign documents, no margin, no facing pages
- 2. Grid: Divide composition into a series of proportional (h/w) units; 3:3 and 5:5,
  - On the first document, create a "rule of thirds" (3 columns/rows) grid
  - On the second document, create a "golden ratio" (5 columns/rows) grid. The horizontal rows and vertical columns will be carriers of separate text.
- 3. Text: Use placeholder text, (under the "Type" menu > fill in InDesign)
  - · Use one of your design hero's typefaces
- 4. Break text into smaller units and scale to show hierarchy (extreme size changes for contrast)
  - Show at least (4) layers of hierarchy. (head, subhead, caption, call-out, text, etc.)
- 5. Align text boxes to your grid to define your proportional system

## **REMEMBER:**

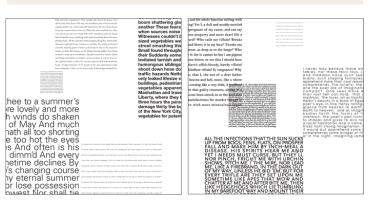
- · Make the grid structure obvious with position of elements.
- To define the grid, **one of the edges** of the type column **MUST** touch the grid line. **Do not center the text column in the middle of your grid!!!**
- Employ scale. placement, alignment, type style, and other cues to create order.
- Be sure to make leading and size appropriate for each new column width.
- Asymmetrical compositions.
- For each study:
  - Use a classical and well-designed typeface that your design hero uses
  - Conventional typographic alignments [left, right, centered]
  - At least 4 levels of hierarchy
  - Use size and scale change to your advantage.
  - Studies should vary as much as possible.

## **HOMEWORK**

- Finalize assignment
- Bring I example of each, printed and assembled, to class.
- · Arrive in class with all studies printed and assembled
  - print top and bottom on 8 1/2 x 11" paper and tape
  - or print full size on IIXI7" paper.

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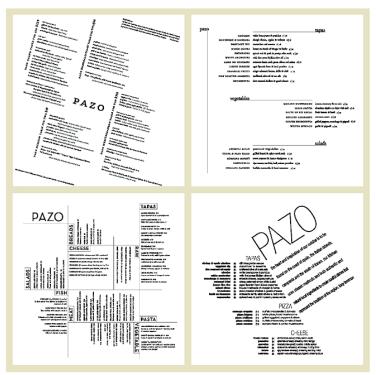
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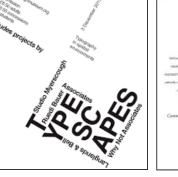


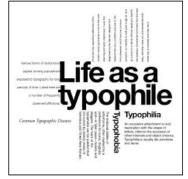


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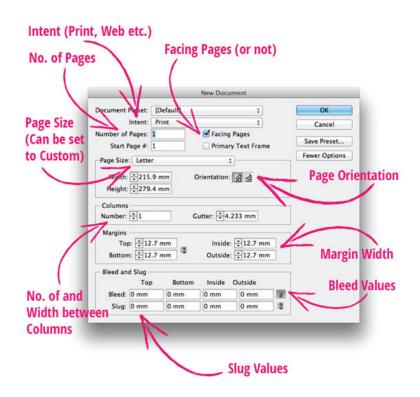
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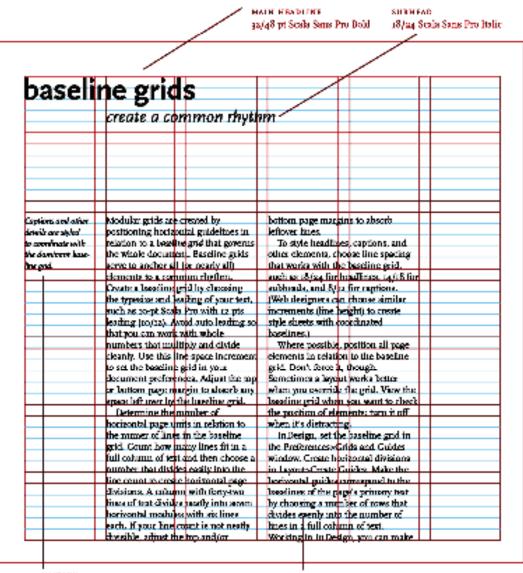




































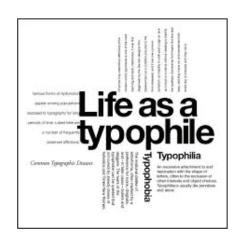


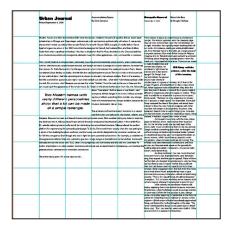


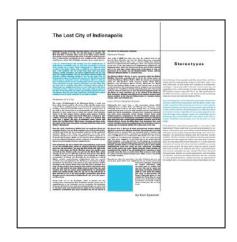


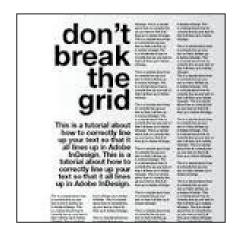












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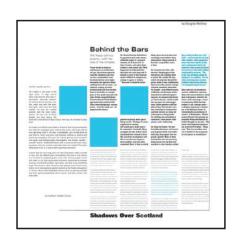
Will Alsop rethinks prisons-

**Behind the Bars** 

By Douglas McGray

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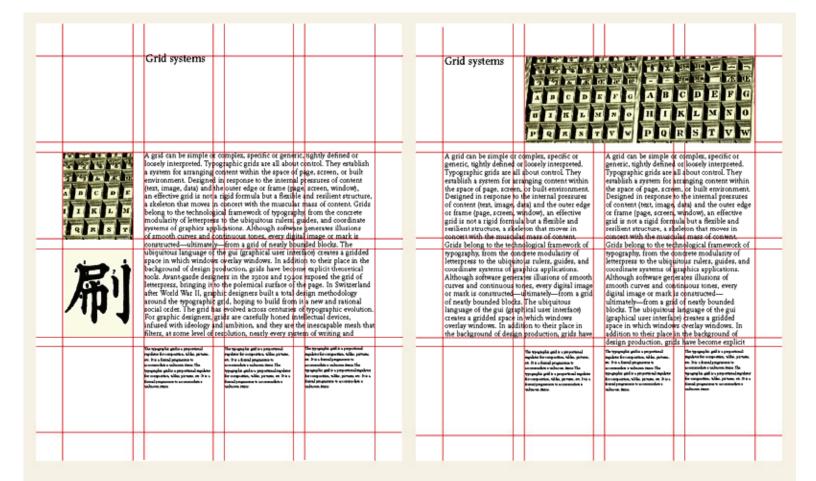
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A grid can be simple or complex, specific or generic, tightly defined or loosely interpreted. Typographic grids are all about control. They establish a system for arranging content within the space of page, screen, or built environment. Derigned in response to the internal pressures of content (text, image, data) and the outer edge or frame (page, acreen, window), an effective grid is not a rigid formula but a flexible and resilient structure, a skeleton that moves in concert with the muscular mass of content. Grids belong to the technological framework of typography, from the concrete modularity of letterpress to the ubiquitous rulers, guides, and coordinate systems of graphics applications. Although software generates illusions of smooth curves and continuous tones, every digital image or mask is constructed—ultimately—from a grid of neath bounded blocks. The ubiquitous language of the gui (graphical user interface) creates a gridded space in which window overlay windows. In addition to their place in the background of design production, grids have become explicit theoretical tools. Avant-garde designers in the 1910s and 1920s exposed the mechanical grid of letterpress, bringing it to the polemical surface of the page. In Switzerland after World War II, graphic designers built a total design methodology around the typographic grid, hoping to build from it a new and rational social order. The grid has evolved across centuries of typographic evolution. For graphic designers, grids are carefully honed intellectual devices, infused with ideology and ambition, and they are the inescapable mesh that filters, at some level of resolution, nearly every system of writing and reproduction. A grid can be simple or complex, specific or generic, tightly defined or loosely interpreted. Typographic grids are all about control. They establish a system for arranging content within the space of page, acreen, or built environment. Designed in response to the internal pressures of content (text, image, data) and the outer edge or

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This modular grid has four columns and four rows. An image or a text block can occupy one or more modules.

Endless variations are possible.