

2006-2007 Mini-Grant Title III Mini-grant Program Report
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As a result of the grant I was able to take a Photoshop CS2 Fundamentals Course. The class was offered through Connect Learning, Sterling Ledet & Associates in Houston, Texas an Adobe Solutions Network Certified Training Provider. I successfully completed the course which took place on November 9-10, 2006. The course was an 8 Hour, 2 day intensive class. Upon completion I received a Certificate of Achievement, Completion of Photoshop CS2 Fundamentals Course.

This class helped me to obtain greater knowledge in the workings of adobe photoshop. I already knew how to use parts of the program from a self-taught standpoint, but I am more knowledgeable and comfortable with the program as a result of the course, and I now feel prepared to teach students in photography and other art studio courses how to use the Adobe Photoshop program to digitally manipulate their photographs and digital images. It also helps me to prepare students for applications to professional opportunities and graduate school since they will be able to digitally manipulate digital images of their art work as a part of their image portfolio preparations for applications and interviews. It is essential to their success that they are able to prepare a digital images and digital portfolios to present their work to art galleries, juried shows, art museums, exhibition venues, and other professional opportunities related to their career. Digital images and portfolios of their work are the vehicle through which others make decisions about their future, and if they cannot manipulate the images and take digital photographs they may be left behind.

Eventually, I would like to offer a service learning class in Photoshop to the community much like the communication course that Doran O'Donnell has created recently to increase our campus connection to the community. At some point I am going to incorporate the use of Photoshop as a part of the Basic Design and Color Design curriculum as well. This class has been a major step in obtaining these goals.

I originally meant to take more than one class with this grant, but I did not do so since the payment for travel was complicated and I was unclear on it was supposed to work. I just assumed that travel was included in the monetary figure amount that was awarded (not over and above the grant award amount), since the application announcement said that the necessary travel was included in the funds granted as a part of the award. In the future, I would suggest a clearer set of procedural instructions (possibly a checklist or categories to fill out) both for applying for the grant, what specifically the grant covers once awarded, and once the grant has been awarded what to do in how to request and obtain funds for travel and all aspects of the grant request based on what was awarded. I really did appreciate the opportunity to participate in the grant, and this final critique in closure is not a complaint, but just a request for clarification to make the process easier. I hope to participate again in the future. I feel that what I did obtain from the grant was very beneficial, and that it will help to improve the quality of courses that I teach and what I can provide as a professor to LSUA and the surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

Jeremy W. Simmons