

GRAPHIC FISH

PROJECT

2

**DESCRIPTION**

Using Illustrator’s Pen tool and Live Paint functions, to create an organic area-based graphic illustration. You will work from a photo of a fish, so choose one (a fish) with lots shape and detail — a shark or dolphin DO NOT work very well for this project. The more detail, the better...

**ASSIGNMENT**

Using the functions of the Pen tool and Live Paint, create a stylized color graphic interpretation of a FISH + a visual background or environment.

Create your fish using properly created connected lines using the **Pen Tool** to define the areas — "comic book style" line art — that describe your fish, use **LIVE PAINT** to fill the areas defined by your lines. You can also construct some elements of your image out of **closed** and **filled** shapes (eyes for example) created with the geometric tools. The background can be created using overlapping shapes or second Live Paint Group — but needs to be **separate** from the fish!

For your illustration, work directly from a **photo** of your choice - make sure the image has enough detail and contrast to make for an interesting graphic. Place the photo into an Illustrator file **as a template**, and use it as a guide to to draw (trace) your image.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

DOCUMENT FORMAT

- **10"x 16"** image area/artboard (vertical or horizontal) .

DESIGN & TECH:

- The color scheme is **RGB**.
- Document color mode is RGB.
- Create your fish using properly created **connected lines** using the **Pen Tool** to define the areas — "comic book style" line art — that describe your fish. **Do not use** overlapping/abutting shapes like we did for the train graphic - except for elements line eyes, etc.
- Make Live Paint Group(s) of the fish line work and use **LIVE PAINT** to fill the areas defined by your lines.
- ~~Create a background~~ for your graphic using overlapping shapes on a separate layer or as a separate Live Paint Group. **OPTIONAL**
- Feel free to use gradients.
- Use Groups in combination with layers to help manage complex elements.
  - 2+ artwork layers— one for background, one for fish. *Note: groups will be combined and layers flattened if are in same Live Paint Group.*
  - properly defined template layer with sketch or photo,
  - name your layers
- Template is embedded — not linked.

ASSIGNMENT  
SCHEDULE

Project Intro Illustrator Demo	M	3/2
Image choice <b>DUE</b> at start of class	W	3/4
Illustrator Demo work	M	3/9
<b>QUIZ I</b> work	W	3/11
SPRING BREAK	T	3/12
SPRING BREAK	TH	3/14
<b>PROJECT 2</b> <b>DUE</b> start of class	W	3/25

## PRESENTATION

### **Paper**

~~100% scale (do not scale/do not fit to page) on **tabloid** (11x17) paper to the **color tabloid printer AND** print of your fish reference image/template.~~

### **Digital**

Single Adobe Illustrator document file of the final version of your design.

- Title the ILLUSTRATOR file: PRJ2-your initials.ai

#### **Submit via DROPBOX - no specific folder**

- Click on the link below, though you may have to copy and paste it into your browser.
- The link will open a DropBox window to allow you to upload files, from here it is self-explanatory.

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/C7vrJR8s0EvQqYm7eeVI>

## EVALUATION — *project letter grade*

- 10 **Process** - ongoing progress (milestones), quantity/quality of comprehensives, revisions and refinement to finished design.
- 50 **Concept/design/composition** - visual impact and interest (creative visual solution); effectiveness of composition and information hierarchy; follows visual guidelines and contains correct information.
- 20 **Technical** - document construction and quality of execution using tools, procedures, and techniques (Adobe Illustrator); follows specifications.
- 20 **Presentation** - ~~paper~~ and electronic.
- 10 **Deadline** - (deduction for not meeting deadline).

## TOPICS

- Adobe Illustrator functions — covered in previous exercises
  - pen tool
    - kinds of anchor points, smooth and corner
    - location or "plotting" anchor points - the "bump" rule
    - segments
    - control rods
    - selecting and moving anchor points
    - adding and deleting anchor points
    - modifying and converting anchor points
- Adobe Illustrator functions — "new"
  - simple masks
  - draw inside/behind
  - Live Paint
    - creating live paint groups
    - adding to live paint groups
    - filling live paint groups
    - color the stroke of live paint groups—shift to acquire live paint brush
    - edit line work within a live paint groups
    - adjusting gaps in a live paint group
    - expand a live paint group
    - adding gradients to a live paint group
    - live paint group selection tool

NOTES

## PROCEDURES

### SETUP AND PREP

- Acquire **photographic image** of a fish to use as reference - **no** drawings or graphic images.
- Create a new file and set the Artwork Board to **10"x 16"**, page orientation to vertical or horizontal.
- Place photo into Adobe Illustrator, **embedded** as a template.

### CREATE YOUR ARTWORK

- Start by studying your image and deciding how best to organize into Live Paint groups, and construct some elements using closed & filled organic shapes. Experiment on some areas before committing to final creation.
  - Place photo as a template. Scale it as needed, lock and dim it again.
  - Setup layers using the Layers Palette. A suggestion would be to put "background" on one layer and the fish on another layer.
  - Create your fish image using connecting lines to create the areas — "comic book style" line art. You can also create some elements using filled and closed geometric shapes (eyes) for example
  - Use groups and layers to help organize and manage your graphic. Though groups will combine and layers will be flattened when in Live Paint groups.
  - Alternate between Artwork and Preview modes to help isolate specific shapes as your image becomes more complex. Turn off/on layers may also help.
  - Use a Live Paint Group(s) to apply color to the areas in your fish.
  - You can use a combination of closed and filled shapes and Live Paint for the background design. If use Live Paint, make sure it is a separate Live Paint Group from the fish.
- ~~— Print 100% scale on tabloid paper to color tabloid printer. Proof carefully. Make changes and refinements. Print and check again.~~

### SAVE

**Save.** Save your artwork as a .ai file in the Illustrator CC version.

**Backup.** Make appropriate backup copies of your file on servers, Flash drive  
NO EXCUSES for lost files.

### FINAL OUTPUT & PRESENTATION

~~— **Print.** Print **100% scale** (do not scale/do not fit to page) on **tabloid** (11x17) paper to the **color tabloid printer.**~~

~~— **Assemble process as required.**~~

**Assemble file as required.**

NOTES