

A Level Graphic Design Summer Independent Learning Activity

Welcome to the A Level Graphic Design course, please complete the following 5 tasks to start to practise some of the key skills you will need for the course and to prepare for your first day at New College.

Task 1: You will submit your work in an online Google Slides presentation that will be shared with graphic design staff. If you haven't already got an account on Google Mail please make one and then click on the link below.

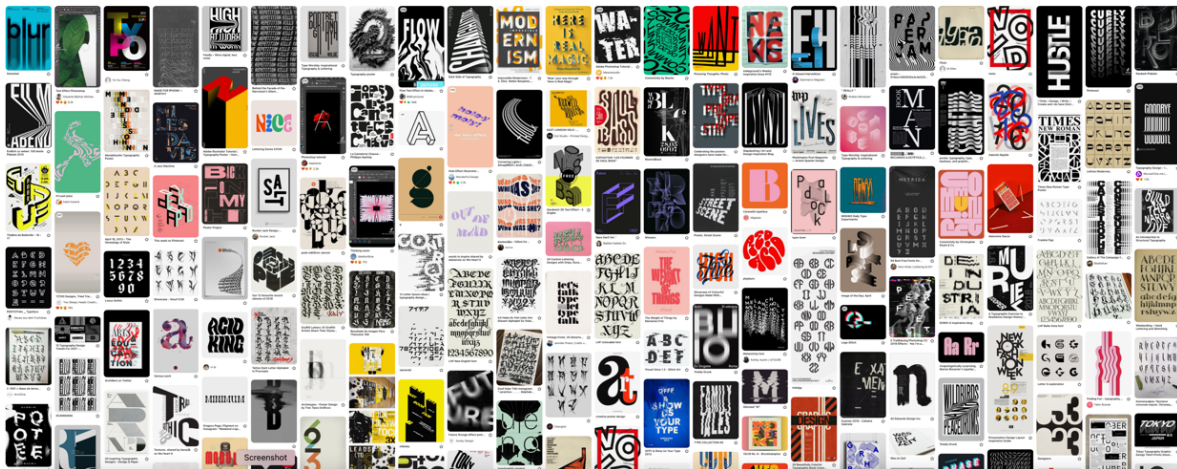
Google Slides: <https://www.google.co.uk/slides/about/>

This is a google slides presentation and where you will be recording all of your SIL work tasks. You should try designing a layout for your google slides presentation, consider how the tasks you complete can be displayed successfully. Stick to plain coloured backgrounds and simple, block fonts as this will show off your work the best. Share your new google slides with: katie.bourke@nclt.ac.uk (click the yellow share button at the top right of your google slides).

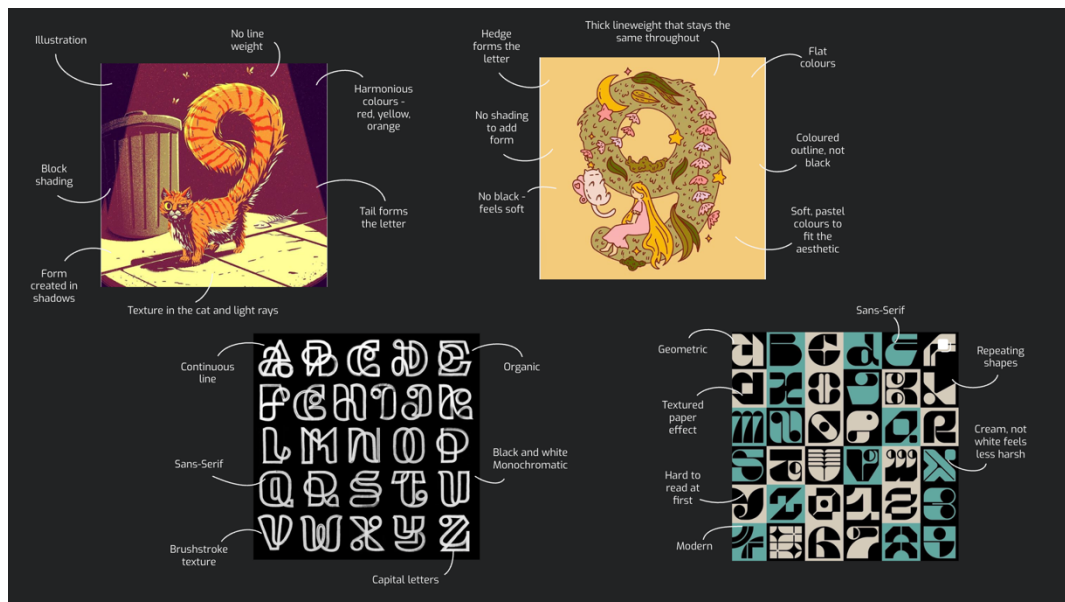
Task 2: If you haven't already got an account on Pinterest please make one and create a board (at least 25 pins) with inspiration for handmade and/or digital Typography. You should also look on the board linked below for this task for some extra inspiration (search Pinterest for terms like *type*, *typography*, *lettering* etc – only pick designs that you like). Have a look at the following pinterest board for further ideas:

<https://uk.pinterest.com/katiegraphicsnclb/graphics-year-11-summer-independent-learning/>

Add a screenshot and a link to your Pinterest board on your new google slides.



Task 3: Inspired by <https://www.instagram.com/36daysoftype/>, I would like you to produce your own **typographic alphabet**. To start generating ideas choose at least 4 typography designs (from either Pinterest or the 36 days of type Instagram) and pick out visual elements that the design uses. Consider things such as tone, colour, colour schemes, line, shape, texture, pattern, typography and form. This can be done by labelling the design on your google slides. See below for an example.



Task 4: Inspired by <https://www.instagram.com/36daysoftype/> we would like you to produce a **mind map** of themes and ideas for your own illustrated alphabet. We would like you to attempt to **create all the letters of the alphabet A-Z**. The design of these should follow a specific theme or visual style **that represents you in some way**. For example, if you enjoy illustration, you may want to attempt an illustrated alphabet or if you prefer clean, precise design you may want to attempt to create a geometric, blocky typeface. Write out a range of ideas for the theme, style, colours, imagery, textures, shapes and anything else you might use in your designs. Roughly sketch out some quick design ideas on your mind map to show your thinking. The more sketches the better! Photograph or take a screenshot (if created digitally) of your mind map and upload it to your Slides presentation.

The idea is to accompany your letters with illustrations/patterns, or design them in the shape or style of something, that shows some personal significance.

Potential ideas could include; favourite foods, favourite animals, objects linking to your hobbies and interests, things to represent your favourite films/books/TV shows, using your favourite colours, or using a style that represents you as a person.

You could also look on <https://www.behance.net/search/projects?search=36daysoftype> which is a collection of Graphic Designers who have completed the 36 days of type challenge.

This image displays a set of 26 stylized, colorful letters arranged in a grid. The letters are designed in a playful, rounded font. To the right of the grid is a large illustration of a man and a woman sitting together under a pink umbrella, suggesting a romantic or cozy theme. The man is wearing a blue jacket and the woman is wearing a pink dress. The background of the illustration is dark with white stars, and the umbrella has a pink interior and a dark exterior with white stars.

[illegible]

SIL

Creating alphabet design

Initial design ideas & experimentation

After my first go, trying to arrange all my ideas into a design I decided to start a new one with the same ideas but a more consistent theme. However, I still didn't like the design and decided to go in a new direction completely

My initial idea was to create a little village out of all the letters and add little details relating to the new house, shop or park. However, I didn't like how it was turning out and felt like the design wasn't reflecting what I wanted. So I decided to redirect my ideas and look for more inspiration

More inspiration

Creating the final design

I was particularly inspired by the design on the left as I really liked the colour scheme and the artist transformed the letters whilst still keeping the same theme throughout.

Colour scheme & Further ideas

Because I had changed the direction of my design I also created a new mind map which included things that I incorporated such as my favourite flower and reading

Task 5: Create your designs! These can be **hand made or digital**, you are demonstrating your creativity and skill so should spend around **at least 20mins on each letter** to get a high-quality outcome. You should also **spread the tasks out over several weeks** up to when you start in September. Try and stick to a consistent style or a selection of colours where possible to make your alphabet fit together as a whole. You could even use an existing typeface as a base and manipulate it! Photograph, scan or make an export of each letter and upload it to your Slides presentation. This is your opportunity to show us what you can do – make designs you are proud of! If you are photographing any drawings, make sure the photos are clear.

Some suggestions for creating designs by hand:

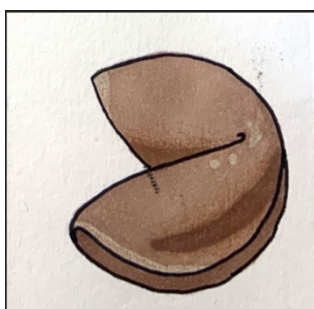
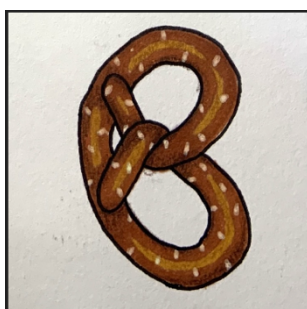
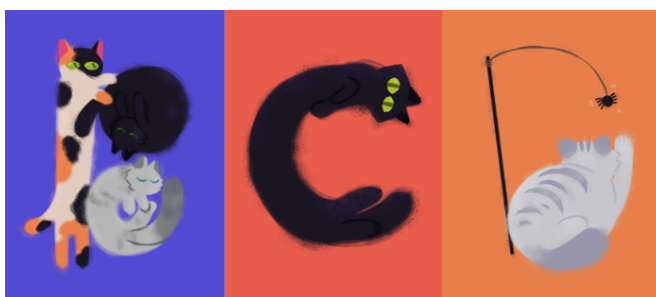
- Sketch in pencil first then go over in fine liner (different thicknesses of fine liner is best!) - Use coloured pencils, colour fine liners, markers or watercolour paint to add colour.
- Choose good quality sketch paper or try and make different backgrounds to draw onto e.g. newspaper, magazine pages, collaged and layered papers, coloured papers, painted abstract or patterned backgrounds.
- You don't just have to draw onto paper – cut into it instead! (Paper-cutting)
- Watch YouTube tutorials for different tips and techniques for particular tools/materials, especially if you are finding it difficult to achieve the effect you want.

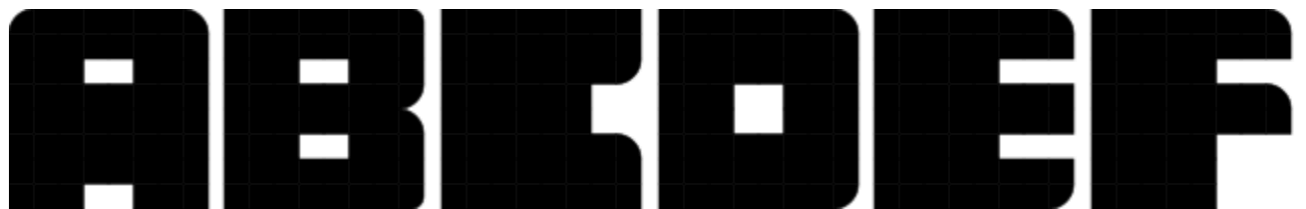
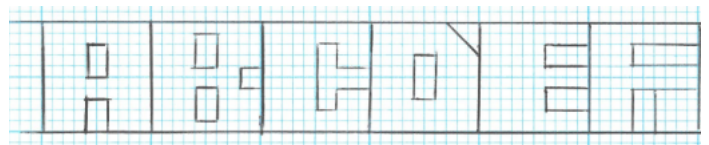
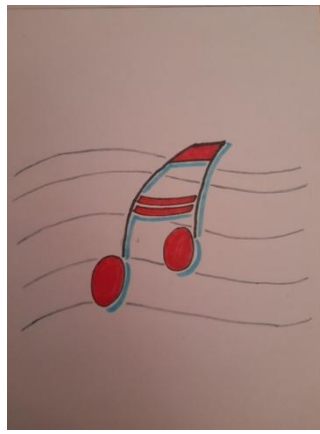
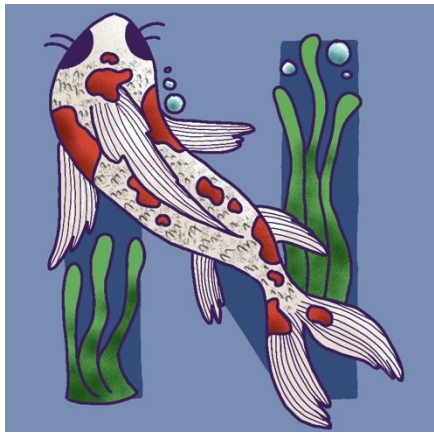
Some suggestions for creating designs digitally:

- Get a free trial of Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop and use Adobe Help for how to tutorials (this will only last for 7 days).
- Try a free alternative such as Gravit Designer (use in web browser, similar to Illustrator) or PhotoPea (use in web browser, similar to Photoshop). If you have access to it, you could use procreate.
- If you are trying to create a geometric, clean, blocky typeface the website FontStruct is great.
- If you are confident using your own software, please use this.
- Watch YouTube tutorials for different tips and techniques for particular software, especially if you are finding it difficult to achieve the effect you want.
- Use a website such as 'Adobe Colour' to test different colour palettes.

Avoid copying existing designs from the internet – take inspiration from them.

Examples of previous SIL submissions:





CHALLENGE YOURSELF:

You should also challenge yourself to try create a design using your typeface – could you write out song lyrics or a favourite word/quote using your type. How would it become a full piece? Consider a background. Go back to pinterest!

If you have any questions about the tasks, email katie.bourke@nclt.ac.uk



Message

2,218 following

36daysoftype invites designers, illustrators and artists to share their view on the letters and numbers from the Latin alphabet. by [@treintayseisestudio](https://www.treintayseisestudio.com/2023-edition)
www.36daysoftype.com/2023-edition



GUEST...



Series ...



36 Day...



Contest



GUEST...



SERIES..



36days..

② TAGGED

