

FAQs on Altered Book and Other Tips for Success

Q: There is much freedom in this project. How do I know if I'm meeting the requirements? How do I know if I am doing A work?

- Rubrics are available at www.designbc.com under Assignments.
- I will briefly walk through each requirement. Some are specific. Most are open to many different solutions.
- Donated altered books from previous classes are there for your perusal. Steal, don't borrow.
- Look online for hundreds more ideas
- Make this book what you want it to be--use the requirements as a starting point but feel free to follow the path your creativity leads you to.
- Feel free to fail. Simply trying to guess what I'm looking for will hinder your creativity. Have an idea--go for it!
- Your grade is based on your ideas and how well you execute them (craftsmanship + elements and principles of design)
- You choose which 15 pages I assess. I expect that you may have 5 or more pages that are unfinished or abandoned.
- You will have the opportunity to elaborate on any designs after initial grading. Remember that an A is for exemplary work. B's are for proficient and C's are for beginning. Usually B and C pages are simply unfinished and need more effort.

Making lemonade out of lemons. If something doesn't turn out the way you intended, look for a creative solution to make it work. Don't worry about what is required--sometimes the finished project becomes even more successful/interesting when you are forced to think outside the box. Or just leave it and move on to another page.

Ex. One of my triangles on my color wheel is wrong or has a mark or some other "imperfection"

Possible solutions: Create a pocket in your book that your color wheel can be tucked into which "hides" the undesired area.

Common Feedback

- Make sure your designs extend off the page to create interesting negative shapes.
- Carry your design into the center fold. A design requirement should cover a two page spread. While one page designs can work, it is more difficult to pull off.
- Remember to incorporate "you" into all of your designs. Repeat favorite design motifs. Use your references and continue to gather more. You will be able to use this visual dictionary in all future art projects.
- Overlap media. Use a wider range of media
- Take more risks. Feel free to fail

