

[Back to ToolBox](#)

[Info](#) [News](#) [Film](#) [Shop](#)



[Donate](#) [Programs](#) [ToolBox](#)

Record: Handmade Sketchbooks



[Lesson Plans & Activities](#)

[Digital](#) [Construction + Fabrication](#)

[Making](#) [Graphic Design](#)

[Print This Page](#)

Purpose

It is critical that we come out of the gates “making” and in this case making a tool for recording your semester’s work. The sketchbook is the designer’s version of a journal—somewhere to write down ideas and inspirations, draw and sketch those ideas, work through problems and, generally, get what’s in your head onto paper. This book will also present an opportunity to express your individuality through the illustration you design and etch (using lasers!) into the cover.

Skills

Hand/eye coordination

Following sequential directions

Adobe Illustrator / Laser Engraver

Materials

8 ½" x 11" white paper

Colored posterboard

Ribbon

Thread

Tacky glue

Mousseline

Paper cement

Binder's glue

20mil EPDM rubber

Tools

Awl

Xacto knife

Disc Sander

Adobe Illustrator

Laser Engraver



Process

Each of the steps below will be preceded by a demonstration.

1. fold (2) pieces of 8 1/2" x 11" posterboard in half, punch each using template and awl
2. cut (5) 4" long strips of ribbon and glue to one piece of posterboard, this will be the front cover
3. fold a total of (9) signatures, each comprised of (4) sheets of 8 1/2" x 11" white paper
4. punch each signature using template and awl
5. cut 5-6' of thread, knot one end, thread needle and begin sewing signatures starting with the front cover of posterboard
6. tie off thread after 4 or 5 signatures. cut new length of thread (5-6') and finish sewing the rest of the signatures together ending with the back cover of posterboard. be sure to tie-off the thread at the back cover.
7. clamp and glue ribbons to back cover of posterboard
8. still in clamp, glue mousseline cloth to spine of book and let dry overnight

9. sand edges of paper and pasterboard to achieve a smooth finish
10. complete your cover design in Adobe Illustrator, laser engrave rubber cover
11. using paper cement, glue rubber cover to posterboard one side at a time. be sure the cement has air dried before attempting to stick together.
12. trim rubber as needed.



Timeline/Sequence of Tasks

Day 1: syllabus review / tour of shop, intro to sketching, gesture drawing, demo: layout and measurement utensils

Day 2: demo: 1st steps to making book, hand out materials and begin fabrication

Day 3: demo: sewing of signatures, fabrication: fold, punch, glue, and sew signatures

Day 4: demo: gluing of spine, fabrication: sewing signatures and gluing spines

Day 5: demo: sanding, fabrication: sew, glue, sand, ready for coverDay 6:

point, line, and plane lecture and intro to graphic design, introduction to design concept development process. Day 7: demo: Adobe Illustrator, Illustrator exercise (in pairs). Day 8: Illustrator exercise and practice

Day 9: Illustrator exercise and practice

Day 10: graphic voice lecture, student share-out of inspirational objects, tell story, begin designing book covers

Day 11: develop conceptual schemes for book covers / desk critiques, input schemes into Illustrator / desk crits

Day 12: input schemes into Illustrator / desk crits

Day 13: demo: cover binding, finish illustrator work and export to laser

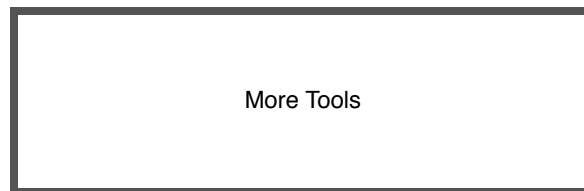
Day 14: finish exports to laser engraver and cover binding

Assessment

Craft: 25%

Drawings and written documentation: 50%

Verbal presentation and participation: 25%



Topics:

Applied Core Subjects **Architecture** **Construction +**

[Fabrication](#) [Creativity](#) [Digital](#) [Drawing](#) [Furniture](#) [Graphic](#)
[Design](#) [Making](#) [Materials](#) [Metal](#) [Products](#) [Skateboarding](#) [Theory + History](#) [Urban Planning](#) [Wood](#)

Name

Email

Subscribe

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Vimeo](#) [Flickr](#)



[Donate](#) [Programs](#) [ToolBox](#) [Info](#) [News](#) [Film](#)