

## Color Theory on the Computer

### Teacher's Statement

Patricia Johnson

Computer Graphics Education Consultant

This course offers methods and exercises for the study of color theory, using the computer. The reasons for exploring color on the computer are numerous. Many educators prefer to use computers for color study so students can work quickly and avoid some of the drudgery of traditional painted methods. Though there are some concepts that cannot be translated to the computer this tool does give students the advantage of speedy experimentation with many color solutions and immediate application of these solutions to art works. This makes the study of color immediately relevant as the student moves from color study to color application. These are the methods are reflected in this workbook.

To quote a colleague, Don Wass, Chairperson of the North Western Regional High School Art Department, Winsted, CT, who has been using the computer as a tool in the art classroom for over a decade, "As the chairman of the art department teaching seventh through twelfth grade in a small school for over thirty years, I have felt fortunate to have so many ways to reach out to students. Art educators have always had a wide variety of media available to teach our curricula and help students express their ideas but the addition of the computer to this tool set broadens these options enormously. Students quickly recognize the value of being able to choose the most appropriate tools that best fit what they want to say. In the last ten years the addition of computer technology to our media choices in the arts offers this generation of computer literate students, wide choices for learning in a medium which they find completely natural to use."

In my art classes, students experiment with color systems and then apply color exercises to computer painting, storyboarding and design assignments intended to illustrate expression through color. These projects are then printed digitally and bound to become a part of their portfolios. These books have proved valuable for college applications and for obtaining employment in the design and animation industries.



**Pat Johnson**

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Adobe Curriculum Exchange Planning Meeting with Don Wass and Art Educators at Northwestern Regional High School  
This workbook represents methods for teaching Color Theory on the computer used at Northwestern as well as lessons from college level courses taught by Ms. Johnson