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**Instructor:**  
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**Design for the Letterpress**  
Summer 2010  
Rm. 127B

7100:489-402  
MTWTh 1:00 - 5:00 pm

### **Course Description**

Learn to design and print using the letterpress printing process.

Prerequisite: none

### **Course Objectives**

To design and print using a non-traditional printing process. Emphasis will be placed on type and layout and embracing the limitations of wood type and other vintage letterpress ornaments. Designs will be done mostly on the computer using FPO woodtype scans provided by me. We will meet in Salem at the Graphic Touch Letterpress Co. at the end of each week (except for week 1) to build your lock-ups and print your designs on the two Vandercook printers in the shop.

Projects will include:

#### **1. Poster series**

Using a subject matter of your choice design a series of 3 posters (type dominant)

- Research
- Develop concepts
- If using imagery consider how you will reproduce the art. Linocuts? Metal engraving?
- Determine page size, paper choice/color
- Digital page composition
- Convert final page composition into woodtype lock up to prepare for printing
- Print final posters on letterpress printer

#### **2. Printed piece of your choice (think multiples)**

Again utilizing the woodtype, linoleum blocks or metal plates design an item of your choice.

Examples include: 2-sided postcard; notecards with envelopes; personal business card

- Determine page size, paper choice/color
- Digital page composition
- Convert final page composition into woodtype lock up to prepare for printing
- Print final piece on letterpress printer

#### **3. Process Book Design**

Throughout the entire 5 weeks you will collect all of your notes, research, sketches and thought processes, as well as scans/photos of your final posters, into a book that you will bind and turn in at the end of the 5-week session.

- Format and size is open
- Be creative with how you bind it
- The cover must be designed and printed on the letterpress

### **Supplies you must buy:**

1. Linoleum block cutting tools and linoleum block to carve
2. Paper to print your designs on (Hollis, French Paper, etc.)
3. Potatoes (if we do potato printing... TBD)

### **Websites for reference:**

<http://www.crankypressman.com/>  
<http://www.iloveletterpress.com/>  
<http://www.hammerpress.net/>  
<http://www.woodtyper.com/>  
<http://www.studioonfire.com/>  
<http://www.briarpress.org/>

<http://www.pressingletters.com/>  
<http://www.hatchshowprint.com/>