

DAVID STEPHAN GRAVES

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EDUCATION **Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier VT**

MFA, Graphic Design, October 2018

Commencement Speaker

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, N. Dartmouth MA

BFA, Graphic Design, May 2011

BFA, Photography, May 2010

Minor, Art History, May 2011

Magna Cum Laude

Bristol Community College, Fall River MA

AA, Graphic Design, May 2008

Certificate, Web Design, May 2008

Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE **Material Creative Studio**

Co-founder, 2019–present

Acting as a dual studio, both working with clients and small businesses to fulfill their design needs, and offering creative workshops to the public. *Workshops include:* printmaking, fabric dyeing, paper making, weaving, mixed media. *Clients include:*

Bunker Hill Community College, Boston MA - website, printed academic journal

Solar Evaluator, Fairhaven MA - logo design, website, branding/identity, collateral

Jess Boyer Crochet, Somerset MA - logo design, print collateral, signage

Dr. Tammy Gleeson MD, Southcoast MA - print collateral, advertising

DSG Designs

Owner, 2011–Present

Freelance design and photography, including print and screen-based design work, portraiture and event photography, in and outside of a studio setting. *Clients include:*

ACLU, Boston MA - event photography, logo design

Little Green Bird, Somerset MA - branding, logo design, print collateral

93.7 WSTW/Joe Alan, Wilmington DE - print collateral, logo design

Moby Dick Brewing Co, New Bedford MA - print collateral, menu design

Briana Paquin, Salem, MA - editorial photography, album cover

La Vie Est Belle Apothecary, New Bedford MA - print collateral, advertising, signage

Armin Innovative Products, Dighton MA

Creative Director, 2011–2016

Overseeing print, web and production design for interior sales companies.

Maintaining design and functionality for all e-commerce websites. Overseeing creative department and directing production team with all art/decoration for manufacturing purposes. All internal and retail product photography for associated companies and resellers. *Clients include:*

Toys R Us, Wayne NJ - POP displays, branding inserts, product and concept design

Restaurant Depot, Avon MA - print collateral, catalog design, product photography

Homegoods/TJX, Framingham MA - branding, packaging, concept design

MetalGrommets, Dighton MA - web design, print collateral, product illustration

Estée Lauder, New York NY - product design, display manufacturing, concept design

Honeybee Gardens, West Reading PA - packaging, print collateral

Ketel One/Nolet Distillery, Schiedam Netherlands - packaging, print collateral

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS **Bristol Community College, Fall River MA**

Adjunct Professor, Art & Design
2014–present

Youngstown State University, Youngstown OH

Lecturer, Graphic Design
2021–present

Wayne State University, Detroit MI

Lecturer, Typography & Graphic Design
2020–present

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, North Dartmouth MA

Lecturer, Graphic Design
2018–present

VISITING ARTIST/CRITIC **Artist Mentor, CVPA Summer Arts Lab**

Summer 2019 & 2020

As part of the inaugural group of artists and teachers making up the Summer Arts Lab, I ran the photography sessions with a group of ten senior high school students. We explored narrative, long exposure, portraiture and documentary style photography during a 72 hour, all-day intensive studio collective. Students ended the immersive three-day journey with a pop-up gallery show, featuring large format prints and hand-bound photography books chronicling their experience. In 2020 I was asked back to head a virtual version of this experience in the midst of the pandemic, and developed a 3 day experience that included studio practices, post-production, as well as workshops and a 3-day lecture series (Topics included Composition, Manual Photography Settings, Narrative Photography and Photography for Social Change.

Design Mentor, YEAH! Corps

Summer & Fall 2019

Art and design mentor for high school students in client environments, navigating the conceptual process of job building, client relations, brainstorming, collaboration and design processes. Clients include: Southcoast Health, BayCoast Bank

Visiting Artist, Bristol Community College

October 2013, April 2014, April 2018, May 2019

Presented by work as a practicing designer and freelance photographer, as well as working artist to the graduating students in *Visual Art Colloquium*.

Guest Lecturer/Critic, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

March 2015, February 2016, March 2016 & April 2019

Design Thinking, finalizing a group project focused on Human Centered Design, and brainstorming for an “outside of the box” product design. Brainstorming included group mind mapping, list making and conceptual exploration. During the beginning of their senior project processes, I was asked to visit and talk about the conceptual process, including book making, narrative photography and working from personal experience/influence.

Peer Reviewer, AIGA National Design Education Symposium

November 2018

Invited to review abstracts from the AIGA symposium, gave critical feedback on five proposed presentation and projects.

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

The Role of Trauma in Art, Design & Education, Bristol Community College MA

December 2021

Lectured on the historical, contemporary and pedagogical benefits of creating work based on personal experience, including traumatic making practices, and how these experiences can be shared beyond a studio classroom setting. [Primary author]

Trauma-Informed Making, DePaul University IL

April 2021

Presented research on trauma-informed making practices in a studio setting, and how to utilize those practices in a healthy, productive manner, including with clients, for personal work, school work, design and fine art. Presentation included excerpts from "*Making Myself Whole*." [Primary author]

Design Incubation, Quinnipiac University CT

October 2019

Presentation (peer reviewed) "*Benefits and Consequences of Art Therapy in Art and Design Pedagogy*." [Primary author]

Rising Tide, Acushnet MA

June 2019

Volunteer event photographer for the *Gifts to Give* charity dinner. Images used for digital and print purposes, self-promotion and newspaper release.

Making Myself Whole, Vermont College of Fine Arts VT

October 2018

Book publication and audio/video installation, exploring the use of art to overcome trauma. Includes personal narratives, anonymous interviews, and research into art therapy theory and techniques. [Primary author]

Action Report, ACLU of MA

2009, 2011 & 2012

Photography published in "*Advancing Equal Rights*" story and full back cover (2009)
Photography featured, including "*Stopping Censorship*" (2011) and full cover (2012)

Running with Oranges, New Bedford MA

May 2011

Book publication and photography installation, analyzing photographer as subject, fear of self portraits, and a personal narrative of familial exploitation. [Primary author]

The Docket & Civil Liberties Calendar, ACLU of MA

Fall 2011 & 2013

Docket: Photography published, including event photography from 2013 Boston Pride parade, and "*Faces of the ACLU*" profile. Calendar: Photograph featured as full June spread and back cover.

Little Spaces, Dartmouth MA

May 2010

Book publication and photography installation, exploring topics of materiality, gender identity in children, consumerism and cultural bias. [Primary author]

90th Anniversary Bill of Rights Dinner Program, ACLU of MA

May 2010

Photography published within program.

SELECT EXHIBITIONS **Pride – A Collection of LGBTQIA+ Artists**

MaiatoFitz Art Gallery, New Bedford MA

Summer 2021

Juried exhibition. Four pieces accepted.

WSU Faculty Exhibition

Wayne State Galleries, Detroit MI

Fall/Winter 2020

Faculty members who advance the study and practice of art history, design, and fine art, come together to showcase the full spectrum of disciplines in these areas.

Bristol Faculty Exhibition

Grimshaw-Gudewicz Gallery, Fall River MA

May 2016 & 2019

As a faculty member, I was invited to exhibit at the triennial faculty art show.

Inspired Views

Montserrat College of Art, Beverly MA

June 2016 & 2019

Invited to participate in the annual art and design teacher's exhibition.

INTER()

Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier VT

October 2018

Group show, featuring graduate thesis exhibitions. As class president, I both exhibited and curated the gallery.

Black and White

Gallery X, New Bedford MA

Summer 2016

Juried exhibition. Three pieces accepted.

More Than Design

The Sky Room, New Bedford MA

May 2011

Group show, featuring undergraduate thesis exhibitions.

Little Spaces

Medium Studios, New Bedford MA

June 2010

Solo exhibition, showcasing "Little Spaces" book and installation.

Duo AHA!

Garage Studio, New Bedford MA

March 2010

Two artist exhibition (with painter Russell Paul Graves Jr), showing full bodies of work, including painting, photography, sculpture and printmaking.

Kaleidoscope

Garage Studio, New Bedford MA

March 2010

Two artist exhibition (with artist and author Jess Boyer), showcasing the relationship between photography and painting, with a focus in color theory.

- CLASSES TAUGHT**
- Art Exploration:** A Dual Enrollment course that explores artistic processes and historical relevance in tandem. Methods of making include drawing with pencil, charcoal and ink, collage, painting and mixed media. Emphasis is put on the creative process and understanding materials and mediums. This course includes a basic overview of art history, from Renaissance to Minimalism of the 1960's and 70's.
Lectures developed: *Grid Transfer Drawing, One-Point & Two-Point Perspective, Found Materials, Intro to Color Theory.*
- Color & Pattern Design:** This course is written as an advanced color theory and pattern making course for juniors and seniors working finishing their BFA in a design or studio practice. Techniques taught include exploration into monochromatic display and print processes, hand-making pattern practices, AR mock ups, and encourages students to explore color psychology in a way that benefits their capstone research.
Lectures developed: *Understanding Repetition and Rhythm, Analog & Digital Practices, Color Theory: Screen & Print.*
- Computer Graphics:** In this course, I introduce students to Adobe software, including Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. My approach to this 100 level class begins with hands-on image making thumbnails, sketches and group brainstorming, and moves to peer critique before images are digitized and finalized. Printing and presentation are crucial to project completion, and ideation is fostered.
Lectures developed: *Screen vs Print, Vector & Raster Imagery, Information Design, Text & Image in Harmony, Understanding Poster Communication, Using Color: the Practical Approach, Typographic Hierarchy.*
- Darkroom Photography:** This studio class offers students the opportunity to work in a darkroom setting developing their own black and white 35mm film and creating prints. While learning photographic composition and techniques, they are also learning to mix and use development chemicals, manual cropping, camera-less print making, dual exposure, burn and dodge, and compiling a printed portfolio.
Lectures developed: *Film Development: D-76 to Permawash, Dual Exposure, Zooming vs Cropping, Print Size and Ratio, Narrative Picture Making, Street Photography & Series Images.*
- Design Solutions II:** Expands upon students understanding of industry standards and design programs, including Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. Focuses on design thinking and problem solving, including packaging and product design, print vs screen based design practices, way-finding and inclusive design initiatives.
Lectures developed: *Passive & Aggressive Information Design, Way-finding: Using & Battling the Environment, Inclusivity & Accessibility: Inception to Implementation.*
- Digital Photography:** In this course, designed for both art and non-art majors, students learn the fundamentals of making digital images. This hands-on course allows students to explore the basics of photography, including composition and lighting, while developing skills in pixel-based photographic design and processing. It introduces students to the use of the digital camera, scanner, Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop to create and manipulate images.
Lectures developed: *The Rule of Thirds, Compositional Elements, Color Balance & Temperature, Chaos vs Harmony in Visual Aesthetics*

CLASSES TAUGHT CONT. Graphic Design I: This course teaches both the technical and conceptual aspects of image making in a graphic design setting. Hand-making techniques are emphasized for the first half of the semester, including material exploration and non-traditional making methods. Conceptual components are added to these techniques for the second half of the semester, and digital techniques are combined with hand rendered images. Several techniques are experienced in a group setting, including class-wide mind mapping, brainstorming, sketching and critique.

Introduction to Art History: As an introduction to art & design for majors and non-majors alike, this course first seeks to explain art and design appreciation, including vocabulary and visual literacy, before exploring art and design history in a survey format. Students are not asked to memorize dates or movements, but instead learn to appreciate, understand, evaluate and discuss art and design, while seeking a history and contextual connection between movements, periods and artists.

Lectures developed: *Elements of Art, Principals of Design, Gender & Context, Color Theory and Technology, Visual Culture, Race & Privilege: Re-Evaluating the Canon.*

Instructional Development: This course is designed for graduate students entering their first semester of teaching. The course prepares them for the rigors of the classroom, including but not limited to creating and implementing assignments, tutorials and demonstrations, presentations, and evaluating work. Students spend the semester writing course work for the upcoming semester, as well as developing their teaching philosophy and CV to prepare for graduation.

Lectures developed: *What Do You Value: Writing a Teaching Philosophy, Diversity & Inclusivity in the Classroom - Not Just on Paper, Maintaining Your Identity - How to bring Yourself into the Classroom.*

Introduction to Design: This course is open to both Graphic Design majors (prerequisite) and non-majors (elective) to introduce students to design theory, conceptual thinking, and the Adobe Creative Suite. Assignments are built linearly, beginning with single program requirements, and built up to cross-program solutions. Topics include information design, image making, research-based design, raster and vector exploration, print and screen based output.

Lectures developed: *Composition and Image Making, Collecting & Visualizing Data, Poster Design, Color Theory, Conceptual Portraiture, Thumbnail to Production.*

Packaging Design: This upper-level design course uses real-world situations and examples to explore and gain understanding of industry standards, print technology, product and packaging trends, typographic hierarchy and image usage.

Lectures developed: *Re-Designing & Iteration, Sustainable Design Practices, Universal Design in a Consumer-Based Industry.*

Photography II: Digital: This class provides a firm technical and aesthetic foundation in contemporary photography practices. Students learn to create images in full manual mode, and process their images using Adobe Bridge, Camera RAW and Photoshop. I wrote the curriculum to allow exploration into several major fields of photography, including documentary, narrative, editorial, and conceptual storytelling.

Lectures developed: *Visual Storytelling, Making vs Taking an Image, Exposure Triangle & White Balance, Narrative Photography, The Dynamic One-Off vs Series Presentation, Conceptual Photography, Editing or Manipulating?, Book Design with Photography, What Is Fashion Photography?*

CLASSES TAUGHT CONT. **Photography III:** In this advanced course we study two platforms, product photography and studio portraiture. Through demographic analysis we utilize different approaches to product photography, focusing mainly on advertisement. In our portrait explorations, we expand upon the importance of pose, lighting, and concept-driven photography. Advanced editing in Adobe Photoshop and Camera RAW is taught, and different printing techniques are explored.

Lectures developed: *Demographic Identification, Using Light as Narrative, Visual Advertising, Editing for Screen & Print.*

Print Design II: In this advanced design course, students are asked to evaluate industry standards in print production, trends in agency and freelance-based design circles, in-house and outsourced print practices, and designing with a print deliverable. Students work on large and small format printing projects, including cards, packaging, posters, books and advertising.

Publication Design: This upper-level course consists of a semester-long capstone project in typography, where each student will create, develop and produce an issue of a new magazine. From conception and audience identification, to layout design, and finally to production, students are responsible for every step of the creative process. In addition to sourcing their ads and articles, students are tasked with researching and writing their own feature article. After completing the printing process, students must layout their magazine in a digital format, taking into consideration screen size and space available (mobile, web, tablet) as well as the user experiences involved in their digital formats.

Lectures developed: *Type Appropriateness, International Design, Grid Structure and Modality, Visual Narrative: The Photo Essay, Understanding Your Audience.*

Senior Studio: In this Senior-level course, students develop and produce a capstone project that utilizes the skills they've learned throughout their undergraduate career. Projects include deliverables (digital and print-based) as well as a class-wide web presence where each student designs their own project-based web space.

Lectures developed: *What is a Manifesto, Understanding Human-Centered Design Theory, Interactive Design for All.*

Two-Dimensional Design: This course establishes the fundamental principles of organizing visual elements on a two-dimensional surface. Students work in black and white to understand composition and representation before exploring color to expand upon their compositional comprehension.

Lectures developed: *Understanding Gestalt, Color Theory, Lines & Mark Making.*

Typography I: This introduction to typography teaches typographic anatomy, structure, and usage, while emphasizing the importance of grid layout and simplicity. While teaching the foundations of type for both print and web, there is a focus on practice as well as lecture, including hand-rendering, process and digital output.

Lectures developed: *Typographic Anatomy, Serif & San Serif (& Everything In-between) Understanding the Grid, Type Families, Variable Type, Type for Screen & Print, Type in AR, Typographers: Against the Canon.*

COLLEGE/COMMUNITY SERVICE **Bristol Community College, Fall River MA**

2018–2022

Dean of Arts & Humanities Transition Team, Bristol Art & Design Club Co-Faculty Advisor, Publication Specialist Search Committee, Safe Zone Training, Student Award Committee (Valedictorian/Salutatorian), Portfolio Review, Service Learning Handbook, Presidential Portrait, Paragon Award Portraits.

College Governance: Learning Council, Strategic Planning/Modality, Adjunct Development, Dual Enrollment, and Professional Development.

Black Lives Matter City Mural, New Bedford MA

2020–2021

Co-Art Director, creative mentor, collaborative designer. (DBA Material Creative Studio)

Commonwealth Honors Program Instructor, Fall River MA

Spring 2015, Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021

Gifts to Give, Acushnet MA

June 2019

Event photographer for Annual Clamboil Fundraiser.

Brockton Without Violence: A Walk for Peace, Brockton MA

May 2015

T-shirt design and printing.

ACLU of Massachusetts, Boston MA

2009–2015

Event photographer for Boston Pride, publications and digital logo designs.