

Part1; Weekly 2-hour Assignment. Book cover and end papers.

Next week you will be making your own A5 40-page book to work in over the Semester. This week you will be making and decorating/drawing/painting the cover and endpapers (optional). Sadly, we cannot make anything too fancy because of lockdown, but we can all make a book that we can pack tight with experiments, words, thoughts, ideas concepts, information you find really important, drawings and investigations. It can be a jewel of a book. The PDF PowerPoint showcases some amazing examples of books, diaries, sketchbooks, notebooks and visual diaries that have been created over the centuries to the present-day. They are individual and are an inspiration for you in making your own personal handmade book.

Introduction.

Books in the past have empowered people, the masses could access then and become educated. They are extremely important and this dissemination of information has at times become a problem politically. The Nazis burnt 'inappropriate' books in the 1930's, the Vatican has an estimated 53 miles of shelves containing books and documents in its underground vault which can be accessed by carefully vetted scholars but not the general public and now Facebook and twitter are censoring information. The debate is still out there. <https://www.history.com/news/step-into-the-vaticans-secret-archives>



cuneiform, scrolls and parchment

You might think 'why is she getting us to make a book when we can buy them so easily'. This is precisely why; books today are taken for granted. Mass production has made them cheap. Millions of books are binned, at an estimate of 320 million books a year. They are made out of natural resources, trees, cotton and silk etc. They need to be respected. You need to understand your tools, become aware of their history, start to understand that you can choose your own papers, create your own covers and personalise your books. You will no doubt illustrate books in your career as an illustrator, children's books, adult fiction, newspapers, magazines, zines etc. Even though we now use technology, the sale of books has increased by 6.4% in the first 9 months of 2020.

There are so many different types of books in the world. The first 'books' were made of Clay they were tablets with cuneiform writing stamped into the wet clay before they were baked hard in the kilns. Then there was scrolls made out of papyrus leaves, China invented paper and kept it secret for many years. Before there were printing presses, books were handwritten and there were many scribes hand writing pages upon pages of text by hand. Information is power, books in the past were extremely precious objects. Eventually there were printing presses that allowed books to be read by the masses and now of course there is technology where you have access to so much information.



<https://lithub.com/the-89-best-book-covers-of-2020/>

From a book by Dorling Kindersley called: Great Diaries, the world's most remarkable diaries, journals notebooks and letters, forward by Kate Williams.

Make sure you are prepared next week and have all your materials to hand.
See list below.

If you need to go into college to get materials on Friday 5th Feb for next week's session, contact me as I will need to put you on an official list with a time slot to forward on to the Operations team.

If you want other materials to 'play' with over the course of the semester in colour, they could also be requested from the store room. But they will be limited. First come first serve. Acrylics, pastels, crayons and inks etc.

List of materials needed for next Monday 8th Feb

- 3 sheets A1 150-200 gsm cartridge paper; **or** 5 sheets of A2 paper 150-200 gsm; **or** 20 sheets A4 150-200 gsm-(if you wish you can use different types of paper that give different surfaces to experiment with i.e. water colour paper interspersed with cartridge or other types of paper you may have to hand. Whatever you decide to use it must be equivalent to 20 sheets of A4 paper. You can have more sheets but no less.
- Two end papers, this can be a lighter paper. Each piece must be size A4.
- A3 mount board. It would be best if you have mount board, but you could, as an alternative, use the back of old sketch books or cardboard from deliveries, or cardboard from boxes at the supermarket. Just make sure the cardboard is not dented and not too thick. Wine boxes are a good thickness of cardboard. If you do use cardboard, then make sure, if you can't find a complete A3 piece, then two pieces that are A4 or larger will be fine. Remember you will need an additional piece for the spine.
- sewing needle with a reasonably sized eye for the thread.
- sewing thread. Think about the colour to use. You may want it to blend with your paper choice or you may want it to be quite vibrant.
- cutting knife with a new sharp blade. They must be good and sharp enough to cut card. You can get ones where the blades snap off. However, it is a good idea to invest in a good reusable cutting blade rather than disposable one.
- PVA glue
- A big brush to paint glue onto the cover. A cheap household brush would be fine or a large paint brush
- Strip of thin material? This could be a piece of old clothing or bed sheet; you only need a little piece six inches by four inches. We may not use this
- Paper for cover that has some strength in it. This needs to be not too thick. Brown paper is a good thickness and strong. Wrapping paper is good. Tissue is not a good idea. You will be designing your own cover so make sure it is paper that you can work on. Overall A3 will be a good size.
- A piece of ribbon as a marker for your book. Approx. 12 inches. (This is optional)
- A metal ruler to cut against and used to measure. You can use a plastic ruler but there is a risk you will wreck the ruler by cutting into it.

Suppliers of Art materials <https://www.turnersart.co.uk/home/>; <https://www.fredaldous.co.uk> you could order all of the materials in one go so that you do not have to have lots of postage costs. Alternatively, you could order it from Amazon or any other suppliers.

Some of you may already have made a book before. If you have and want to make a bigger one or one of your own design that would be fine. This applies to all of you. If you want to create a larger book, then do so but you will need to take responsibility and be prepared with all of the right sized materials. I am demonstrating how to make a simple A5 book only.

The week after next; Feb 13th

You will need a set of watercolours in pans. This I understand you have all been given. You will also need some good brushes. If you have a 'Flat' that would be good I will write out a more comprehensive list next week. I am telling you this in advance in case you need to pick up watercolours from Uni on Friday.