

# Assignment Handout



## Designed Objects Across Time and Space: A Design History Timeline

DHA 4131 Group Project 2

### Project Description:

This project involves the development of a timeline as a learning tool that provides the comparison of related objects or events during different historical periods. The Digital Media Center will do the technical programming and student groups will develop the content. For example, your group might compare a medieval book, an art nouveau book, and a digital book. Differences and similarities are identified and the effects of culture, technology, and geographic location are considered. The timeline will be an organic learning tool that will grow with each new session of the course.

### Project Goal:

The goal of this project is to develop an interactive timeline that lets viewers (students and all those interested in design history) see the connections between objects and events across time periods.

### Project Objectives:

*While developing content for the timeline students will:*

- complete research on a specific type of object over history.
- identify and select three significant objects/ events in the history of visual communication (objects should be selected from disparate time periods or from disparate geographic locations).
- develop a set of educational objectives stating what they wish viewers to learn from their comparison (a minimum of four objectives)
- write a comparative analysis of the objects that discusses the effects of culture, technology, and location on the content and physical form of the object/event
- identify essential terms that may be unfamiliar to users and define those terms in a glossary
- collaboratively (with the entire class and instructor) develop a rubric that will be used to evaluate each project
- critically review their own, and at least three other projects, using the rubric developed by the class and instructor
- prepare a layout according to the specified style sheet provided by the instructor and present their project using the presentation tool in WebCT.

*While using the timeline students will:*

- identify cultural, geographic, and technological influences on visual communication
- learn and consider critical terms
- compare objects/events across historical periods
- discuss differences and similarities between the objects/events