

06.21.2015

Delta State University  
1003 W. Sunflower Rd.  
Cleveland, MS 38733

I would like to be considered for the Assistant Professor of Graphic Design position at DSU. Teaching as an adjunct lecturer at Mississippi State was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and would like to continue that opportunity at Delta State. Another positive aspect of the position being Rosedale, MS is my hometown. I have been looking for the opportunity to return to the great Mississippi Delta to be closer to family and get back to the bucolic Delta lifestyle.

My education and experience in higher education, as well as, the professional field, provide the qualifications desired to excel as a graphic design professor at DSU. My graduate degree, although a Masters of Science, was concentrated in Electronic Visualization, which was based solely around design fundamentals, such as rendering two-dimensional design in three-dimensional space, or using adaptive video to change a viewers perception of space and composition.

While teaching at MSU, I developed a teaching philosophy that focuses heavily on a student's responsibilities to their craft and class; the confidence and freedom to explore, create, and fail; and ability to receive and interpret positive criticism. I also created a new course curriculum for Introduction to Computing for Graphic Designers, which was adopted by faculty at MSU, as well as Louisiana Tech University and Keene State College. Teaching at a university level forced me to constantly seek out new design and development styles. It was a recursive loop whereby the ambition of the students inspired me to perpetually work to achieve something greater, which inevitably made me push the students to a higher level. I believe this is why my student evaluation score was one of the top in the Art Department. Another major responsibility I assumed at MSU was also to upgrade and maintain the Design Lab. I worked with our IT department and lab monitors to manage and properly license new equipment for students so they would have greater experience with current technology in the design field.

From a technical standpoint, I have all the qualifications needed to assume the responsibilities outlined in the position. I have been working as a designer since graduation in 2008 using tools of the trade, such as Mac OS, Adobe Creative Suite and the latest web development tools. A major focus of my professional work has centered around web design, especially UI/UX and more recently responsive design. I am currently the lead developer at University of Tennessee tasked with creating and managing the new development rollout for utk.edu. This, along with my experience at SVA, designing, developing, and managing sva.edu sites, and work with non-profits like NY based Art in Odd Places, has provided considerable knowledge of how to succeed, and often adapt in the professional design field.

The chance to be back home, working at Delta State would be a wonderful opportunity. My work in Mississippi, as well as NYC and Italy, bring a unique perspective to my teaching aesthetic, which could prove useful to the design faculty at Delta State.

Thank you for consideration.  
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