Exercise Week Four **Albers Exercises** [5 points]

The following exercises are from *The Interaction of Color* written by Josef Albers, who created the first color theory class for the Bauhaus in 1922. The book was created with the help of his color theory classes at Yale University.

**Background Influencing Foreground**

**procedure:** Create a grayscale of 5 steps. Place a shape of the same size and value within each step. The internal color should seem to get darker as the outlying color (actually) becomes lighter.

**materials:** Color-Aid paper or paint (if your color-aid doesn’t include gray)

![Grayscale example]

**Illusion of Transparency**

**procedure:** Place a piece of transparent material onto a composition created using shapes of varying hue, value and intensity. Re-create this composition using solid paper while maintaining the illusion of transparency.

**materials:** Color-Aid paper, transparent material

![Transparent material example]
Two Colors Acting As One

**procedure:** Select 2 colors and make them look like 1 by changing the background colors. Create a background of 4 colors: two warm on one side and two cool on the other. Select a third and fourth color to place over the four background colors. The foreground colors should look like the same colors because of the backgrounds selected. Place a sample of each foreground color below the example to demonstrate the difference in the colors.

**materials:** Color-Aid paper
One Color Acting as Two

procedure: Select 1 color and make it look like 2 by changing the background colors. Create a background of 2 colors: one warm and one cool. Select a third color to place over the two background colors. The foreground color should look like two different colors because of the backgrounds selected.

materials: Color-Aid paper

due: week 5
Exercise Week Four Albers Illustrations [5 points]

**procedure:** Create a still life illustration (looking at 3-D objects) that demonstrates a specific color effect. Use one of the following concepts as the color palette.

The composition should be 6x6 inches with no paper showing within the square.

Include a description of the selected effect and swatches of the colors used.

**materials:** Paint on Bristol Board

**color concepts:**

Chevreul effect

simultaneous contrast

Bezold effect

negative afterimage

**due:** week 5