

Devon Robertson assists classmate Desiree Walker with her first semester design project on the iMac in the 28-station lab, which is part of the Graphics Design and Layout II class offered at Jay County High School. *Right:* Senior Taylor Franklin combines her experiences in 2D and 3D Art and two years in the graphics class to create a professional looking advertisement for Herbal Essence shampoo using the Adobe Creative Suite programs of InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator.



## Real work under deadlines

### Graphics class offers authentic skills

**W**ith plans to work on their personally-designed Christmas cards next on the agenda, 20 students scurry to complete and hand in their first projects to their teacher: an original ad design project, three tutorials on the Adobe Creative Suites program software, and a worksheet over screen printing.

"It's really time consuming," says senior Graphic Layout and Design student Taylor Franklin.

Alexis Franklin, Taylor's sister, who sits right next to her in the computer lab, agrees.

"You can't mess around in class. You just have to do it."

Calling it the "best decision I ever made in my life," graphic arts teacher Chris Krieg has

been instructing students from Jay County and surrounding schools how to design on the computer, silkscreen, print, collate and bind materials since 1995.

Krieg, a printing technology graduate from Ball State University, spent 12 years in the industry before making his move into teaching.

"I love being around the kids," Krieg says.

"Obviously we're in a class where we train students for real life experiences," Krieg continued.

"In here we have a job to do. Kids have to learn some skills and work under the environment of a deadline."

Currently, the full day program offers Graphic Imaging I, II and III, but will align the classes next year under the changing

state curriculum and guidelines.

Next year, students will have the opportunity to enroll in Graphic Imaging I and II, which will have an emphasis on printing; and in Graphic Design and Layout I and II, which will be all computer-based.

Other changes on the horizon include applying for membership in Printing Industry of America (PIA), which would give students connection to the professional world.

Because of the rapidly expanding program, Krieg says there is a plan to purchase 20 additional laptops to help accommodate the overflow of students.

"Kids like to come in here and work," Krieg says. "If you can make it fun, they'll learn."

#### COURSES AT JAY COUNTY:

Graphic Imaging I  
Graphic Imaging II  
Graphic Design & Layout I  
Graphic Design & Layout II

#### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Membership application to PIA "Printing Industry of America" for 2013-2014.

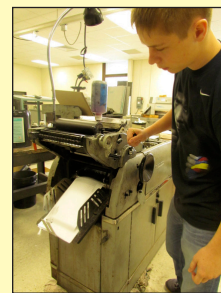
#### POTENTIAL JOBS:

Graphic Artist - \$51,150

Printer - \$40,010

Advertising - \$49,740

- Average pay across the U.S.  
Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012



Brennen Krieg operates the Multilith offset printer to meet a deadline for projects that are printed for school, community and non-profit organizations for 10% above cost of materials.



Second-year graphics student Trey Teagle discusses his project on the iMac with instructor Chris Krieg. "I like working on the computer. I probably will go into this field when I graduate," Teagle said.