Introduction to Adobe Illustrator

Duration: 2 Days

OBJECTIVES

This Adobe certified course is designed for anyone who needs to understand the fundamental features and uses of Adobe Illustrator and the best way to use these to create drawings, illustrations and other artwork.

PRE-REQUISITES

None other than a working knowledge of Windows or the Macintosh.

COURSE OUTLINE

Basic concepts, overview and tools
*   Vector and Bitmap images
*   Using Panels. Customising the workspace
*   The Illustrator toolbox: paths and points selection; drawing simple shapes and selecting objects
*   Using multiple artboards
*   Transformation tools and the Free Transform tool; Using online help
*   Managing files with Adobe Bridge

Drawing
*   The pen tool; controlling curves, creating and amending paths; splitting paths, manipulating anchor points
*   Using Templates, Pencil, Erase, Smooth and Brush
*   Using Image Trace to convert Bitmaps to Vectors
*   Adding and deleting anchor points
*   Splitting cutting and erasing paths
*   Drawing with the Blob Brush tool

Colours and fills
*   Fills and strokes on objects and paths
*   Process, Pantone and Registration colour
*   Gradients, patterns
*   Applying gradient transparency
*   Editing gradients directly on an object
*   Applying a gradient to a stroke
*   Live Paint and Live Colour

Brush effects
*   Calligraphic, art, scatter & pattern brushes
*   Editing existing and creating new brushes
*   Scribble Effect; using the brush libraries

Typography
*   Basic typography; the type tool; type on and in a path; type as outlines
*   Character and paragraph styles

Text work
- Linking text boxes and using using circular text; text wrap around objects
- Typographic control including kerning, indents and baseline shift

Arranging your work
- Send to back/Bring to front
- Group/Ungroup and group selections
- Working in Group Isolation Mode
- Cut/copy/paste & paste in front/ behind
- Working with Rulers, Guides and Smart Guides
- Getting the best from Layers
- Using multiple artboards
- Editing the artboard size
- Positioning elements
- Aligning and distributing artwork

Working with layers
- Creating layers
- Using layers effectively

Modifications and special effects
- Transformations including blending shapes and the Gradient Mesh tool
- Pathfinder panel and compound paths
- Using the Shape Builder tool
- Effects, graphic styles and masks
- The Flare and Distort tools, including the warp and liquify tools, envelope distort and envelope mesh
- Using Live Paint to modify images

3D Toolset
- Rotate
- Revolve
- Bevel
- Extrude

Working with patterns
- Simple patterns and artwork patterns
- Converting logos to symbols for reuse
- Using the symbol spray to instance symbols around page
- Update symbols, manipulate symbols

Using Illustrator to present data
- Graphs and graph types
- Graph styles such as pies and bars
- Representing qualities graphically

The Actions panel
- Using existing actions
- Using Custom actions for automation

Web Work
- Optimising for the web; flexible web vector export; converting to Flash format
- Slicing and CSS layer support to create entire web pages