Western Oregon University announces a tenure track Assistant Professor of Art position in interactive media. This position will primarily serve students with a major or minor in Visual Communication Design as they build skills for visual communication and prepare for creative endeavors in media-saturated cultural contexts. Situated within the Art Department, the VCD program emphasizes aesthetic, conceptual, and technical development. Coursework begins with art and design foundations, and progresses through upper-division concentrations in print design, interactive media, and video/animation.

We seek an energetic new colleague conversant in both graphic design and fine art, whose teaching and creative work engage these fields at high levels and fuse them together. Applicants must be able to articulate important ways in which art and design feed one another. The successful candidate’s portfolio will demonstrate expertise in graphic design principles applied to interactive web communications, as well as critical inquiry and exceptional creativity.

The ideal candidate will bring a robust pedagogy for art and design that fosters critical engagement with technology, media, and interactivity. He or she will guide students’ abilities in design process, creativity, clarity of expression, ethical decision-making, development of concepts, and digital media proficiencies. Teaching is the position’s primary responsibility, with particular emphasis on web design and related practices. Other responsibilities include mentoring, academic advising, active scholarship through creative practice, and a variety of institutional service activities. The ideal candidate will be eager to contribute to planning, development, and teaching of a potential new graduate degree program. Strong communication skills, particularly writing, are essential.

WOU is a highly accessible public university embracing a liberal arts education model. Our student body incorporates a high percentage of first-generation college students. The VCD program also attracts many international students, particularly from China. As such, this position places high value on experience in international and/or culturally diverse settings. The Art Department’s partnership with the Office of International Education and Development frequently provides opportunities for short-term teaching abroad, especially in China.

Teaching Duties:
- Upper-division courses in web design and emerging interactive media platforms
- Foundations of digital art and design
- Introductory courses in image creation (including basic digital illustration)
- Usually two courses per 11-week quarter, three courses occasionally
- Summer teaching opportunities are possible but not required
- One course release in the first year

Qualifications:
MFA or appropriate terminal degree in the candidate’s field of study, and teaching experience at the college/university level required. Applicants must be comfortable incorporating a wide range of technologies into coursework, particularly Adobe Creative applications and HTML/CSS. Experience with content management systems and JavaScript preferred.

Start Date: September 14, 2015
Contact Information: Questions regarding this position may be directed to Daniel Tankersley, Search Committee Chair, at tankersley@wou.edu

For questions regarding the application process or to submit your application documents, please contact Human Resources at 503-838-8552 or employment@wou.edu.

Application Process
Required application materials:
- A WOU Faculty Application Form available at www.wou.edu/facultyapp
- Letter of intent
- Teaching Statement
- Current curriculum vita
- Unofficial copy of graduate transcript
- Names and complete contact information for three (3) references
- Minimum 20 examples of student work under the applicant’s instruction (PDF or website)
- Portfolio of professional work and/or scholarship in art and design (PDF or website)

Submit Application Materials to:
F1416, Assistant Professor of Art
Western Oregon University
Human Resources Office
345 N. Monmouth Ave
Monmouth, OR  97361

-OR E-mail as an attachment to employment@wou.edu

-OR Fax to 503-838-8144.

Western Oregon University (WOU) www.wou.edu is a mid-sized public comprehensive university located in the Monmouth-Independence area, the heart of Oregon’s lush Willamette Valley. The University serves a large number of first-generation college students. WOU has received national recognition for its commitment and success in serving students. In 2014 Western Oregon University was ranked highest in the Pacific Northwest and 85th in the nation for economic value and employability of its graduates, by Educate to Career, Inc. The campus is about 20 minutes from Salem, the state’s capital, about 75 minutes from Portland, the state’s cultural hub, and a short drive from the Oregon coast, mountains, and other scenic areas. The university is located in an increasingly diverse, bilingual, and rural area in the Willamette Valley. Our student body of about 6200 undergraduate and 400 graduate students enjoys the vibrant and close-knit intellectual community of a leading liberal arts college.

Western Oregon University is an EO/AA/Veteran/Disability employer committed to increasing the diversity of its workforce.