Important
tools in the
**Illustrator
Toolbar**

Selection

Direct Selection

Pen

Shape

Color Picker

Adobe Illustrator: Image + Text + Shapes

Illustrator is a vector based program. Vector graphics are made up of mathematical equations and formulas. When a vector graphic is enlarged, the program calculates the size mathematically and gives an accurate, larger size of the same graphic with crisp edges and no distortion. Vector graphics are the best choice for type (especially small type) and bold graphics that must retain crisp lines when scaled to various sizes.

For Project 2, you may need to use both Photoshop and Illustrator
1. Edit images   (Photoshop)
2. Import images   (Illustrator)
3. Draw geometric shapes   (Illustrator)
4. Set type   (Illustrator)
5. Mask objects or images   (Illustrator)

1. **Edit images**
Please refer to the Photoshop guide. Always ensure that image resolution is at least 180 dpi even if you are going to finally work in a vector based program.

2. **Import images** : File > Place—Then browse to select the image and place it
You can either draw a box to place your image in or you can place it anywhere on the board. It is advisable to size your images to 6.25"x9.25" (extra 0.25 for the bleed) in Photoshop if using a full bleed photograph. When placing multiple images on the board, be sure to click outside the previous image to avoid image replacement.
When printing, remember that Illustrator creates links to the images you place in your file— which means that if you move the location of the image you used in your computer, it may lose that information, report it as a missing link and not display the image. To avoid this, you can either embed the images inside the file by going into the Window > Links palette (this will increase file size) or make sure you keep all your work files and images in one folder and carry that folder when going to print.

3. **Drawing shapes and forms**
Geometric shapes: Toolbar > Rectangle tool
If you click and hold the rectangle tool, you can choose from the pre-defined shapes of a rectangle, rounded rectangle, ellipse, polygon, star and flare. Click and drag using these tools to create the desired shape. If you want to draw a shape of specific dimensions, select the tool and click once on the page. This will bring up a dialog box for you to enter your specifications. Here you can also increase or decrease the number of anchor points in each shape.

Stroke and Fill:
Any shape in Illustrator has a Fill and a Stoke properties. A Fill refers to the color of the shape, while Stroke refers to the thickness and color of the shape outline. To modify color of either Fill or Stroke, click on the overlapping rectangles icon on the bottom of the Tools panel.
To modify Stroke thickness, click on the Stroke pallet in the right hand side panel and choose Stroke weight.

Combining shapes : Pathfinder tools : Window > Pathfinder > Shapes / Pathfinder
You can create more complex forms using the shapes tools. Select from a variety of options to combine, divide and trim overlapping forms. The pathfinder tool allows you to do the above while creating new paths/anchor points that can later be modified.

Drawing with the Pen tool : Toolbar > Pen tool
The lines drawn with a pen tool are made up of 'anchor points'. Anchor points are the starting points, the ending points and all the points between the two. An anchor point is formed whenever you click with a pen tool. You can add and subtract anchor points for an object.

What can you do with a pen tool?
There's only one thing you can't do with a pen tool—write! But there's a whole lot of other stuff you can do with it. Use it to:
a. Draw a straight / curved line
b. Modify a straight line into a curved line or vice versa
c. Draw a shape / form / object with the straight + curved lines

4. **Set type** : Toolbar > Type tool
a. Click and type to an expandable line length. This is good for headlines or very short texts.
b. Click and drag to make a text box of desired dimensions to auto-fit text in that area. You can modify the dimensions of the text box by dragging the side or corner of the box.

Convert type to outlines: Type > Create outlines
You can convert type into non-textually editable form with this simple command. Once you create outlines of the type, you cannot change the font, but you can modify it as you would modify any other shape made up of anchor points. This is also useful during printing when the print shop may not have the font you used in your artwork installed on their system.

5. **Mask objects or images** : Object > Clipping mask > Make
You can clip your artwork to the shape of any mask you create. The clipping mask displays only the objects/images inside of the shape that you define. If you want to hide some part of images/objects, draw a path (square, circle or random shape using pen tool) of the part of the object that you want to be displayed. Then select the path as well as the object/s below it and go to Object > Clipping mask > Make. The topmost path in this set will mask all of the objects below it.

6. **Crop Marks**
You can create crop marks on your on your composition in order to allow for bleeds.
1. Create a new 6 x 9" shape without any fill or stroke color.
2. Align the new shape on top of your composition by using the align tool.
3. Select the 6 x 9" shape
4.To create editable trim marks or crop marks, select Object > Create Trim Marks.
5. To create crop marks as live effect, select Effect > Crop Marks.

Further reference
Online tutorial: http://www.washington.edu/lst/help/graphics/illustrator/
Adobe video tutorials: http://tv.adobe.com/show/learn-illustrator-cs5/
Illustrator Help: Help > Illustrator Help
Google: If you cannot find your answer in the Illustrator Help, try searching for it using the internet. There are plenty of basic tutorials and discussion forums where you may find similar questions answered.