Syllabi   Course Syllabi

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MART 102.01M: Digital Technology in the Arts

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School of Media Arts

SYLLABUS

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COURSE OVERVIEW

MAR 102 Digital Technology in the Arts is an introduction to the relationship between aesthetics and the emerging capabilities of digital technology. This course will begin with a Timeline Overview focusing on artistic and technological achievements and then divide into three areas of study:

1. THE DIGITAL FOUNDATION
   - Platforms, devices, the digital language, and the Internet
2. ARTISTIC APPLICATIONS
   - The pioneers, contemporary digital art, movies and gaming
3. THE DIGITAL AGE
   - Digital trends, the network culture and emerging technologies

OUTCOMES

The challenge of the media arts student is to integrate the capabilities of digital computation with aesthetic expression. The technological landscape continues to change dramatically so it is critical that the student artist stay in tune. With this in mind, this course has been designed to help each student gain a cohesive understanding of the multiple facets of digital technology and it's relationship with art.

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:
- Understand the evolution of the computer and the Internet
- Understand the basic functions and capabilities of current platforms and devices
- Understand the historical relationship between digital technology and art
- Articulate the aesthetic approach of pioneering and contemporary digital artists
- Articulate the role of creative and artistic expression in our expanding network culture

- Demonstrate an understanding of the realities and potentialities of 21st century emerging digital technologies

RESEARCH / ASSIGNMENTS

Each week there will be a primary research topic with associated focus areas. Each focus area will be divided into Overview, Specifics, and Links which will outline the research threads that you will work with. There will also be a Perspectives area that provides you with insights on that particular topic from a variety of industry leaders. You will be responsible for researching the assigned topic and writing a one-page single space response to the assignment question. Detailed information for each assignment is found in the Assignment area of your Moodle course shell. Do not cut and paste information from websites. Your responsibility is to articulate a clear and concise perspective based on the information. Each assignment must be either a Word file or a PDF file. ***See Course Calendar for due dates and specific topic information.*** There will be no exams. It is recommended that you bookmark any additional web sites used so that you can begin to build an organized online resource center. You will be responsible for listing all of your sources for each assignment.

WEEKLY LAYOUT

On each weekly topic page you'll find an overview, a list of the focus areas, and a weekly quote. Next to that is the overview video that will layout the basic focus of that particular week. Below that you will find the Focus Areas in Depth and the Perspectives area. *You are not restricted to these information sources and are encouraged to develop your own learning threads as you progress through the course.*

GRADING PROCEDURE

Grades will be based primarily on the student's ability to:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the specific characteristics and integrative capabilities of the assigned topic in your own words.
2. Articulate a clear and concise perspective. Cutting and pasting or copying word for word off the Internet will result in loss of points.
3. Present an organized paper including proper and punctual delivery of the assignment files. Late assignments will result in loss of points.

There will be a total of **100 points** based on the following formula:
Assignments 1 through 5 will each be worth 6 points (30 points total)
Assignments 6 through 10 will each be worth 7 points (35 points total)
Assignments 11 through 13 will each be worth 8 points (24 points total)
The final assignment (The Future Imagined) will be worth 11 points
Points for each assignment will be earned based on the following areas of assessment:
- Demonstrating an informational grasp of the assigned topic (see #1 above)
- Articulating a clear perspective (see #2 above)
- Organized paper and punctual delivery (see #3 above)
Points will translate into the following letter grade:
A 95-100
A- 90-94
B+ 86-89
B 83-85
B- 80-82
C+ 76-79
C 73-75
C- 70-72
D 60-69
F 0-59

Academic Misconduct and the Student Conduct Code
All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available online at http://life.umt.ed/vpsa/student_conduct.php