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MART 102.50: Digital Technology in the Arts

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MART 102 DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE ARTS | SPRING 2016

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

OUTCOMES

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 present 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 individual perspective based on the information. Each assignment must be either a Word file or a PDF file. ***See Assignments Page 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.

WEBSITE LAYOUT

At the top of each assignment page on the website you'll find a **video overview** and the list of the **focus areas** for that assignment. Below that will be each of the focus areas organized in **individual tab modules**. The first tab of each focus area module will contain an **overview video**. Click on the rectangular image link to view it in a light box player. Additional tabs will have video links that are recognizable by the red caption contained in a rectangle. These videos will also pop up in a light box player. Other links, such as external websites, will appear as hyper-link words. They will open in a new window in your browser. At the bottom of each page will be 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.

IMPORTANT: Assignments handed in after the due date and time will have points deducted for lateness. This will be in **addition** to any points deducted for content. Those

that are uploaded late but within one week of the due date will lose 1 point for lateness. For those uploaded after that, the number of deducted points will be at the discretion of the faculty.

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 9 will each be worth 7 points (28 points total)

Assignments 10 through 13 will each be worth 8 points (32 points total)

Assignment 14 (The Future Imagined) will be worth 10 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://www.umd.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php