computer art media

course syllabus

"A computer terminal is not some clunky old television with a typewriter in front of it. It is an interface where the mind and body can connect with the universe and move bits of it about." - Douglas Adams

Description

digital art media - **f354c**

website:	**http://www.digiwocky.org**
unique ID:	78730
meeting:	mtwthf 1pm til 5pm
location:	ARTL lab 1.206
format:	digital studio

Instructor

neal daugherty

email:	neal_daugherty@mail.utexas.edu
phone:	695-9749 between (9am and 7pm)
office:	2.202
hours:	mtwthf (daily) (by appt.)

context and objectives

The class will explore digital content creation by means of capture, modification, transmission, and critique. You will be primarily using tools such as the Macintosh computer system, digital cameras, specific software, and the internet. Exploration of production methods will include; sound and video formats, static and temporal recording, lighting and filming theory, website construction, and applied digital motion graphics. Issues involving practical methodology of storage, content delivery via installation, presentation, internet delivery, and techniques for personal portfolios and professional presentation will be examined. This course will develop concepts and skills by addressing assigned conceptual problems and applied technical skill sets. These assignments and presentations will help you creatively consider interaction of digital media, content creation, manipulation, and digital delivery methods all while preparing you for your professional career as an artist.

This course will be an examination of contextual aspects regarding observational, analytical, and technical projects. Research topics and readings are to be expected. Expect additional work outside of the specified class time. There will be no final exam for this course. With the exception of the grade and attendance policies, parts of this syllabus are subject to change with advance notice, as deemed necessary or appropriate by the instructor.

projects are based upon digital creation, manipulation, transmission, and critical introspection:

1) **Weekly Individual Progress** - While working on respective projects you will receive a grade based upon your weekly progress and project growth. You will be meeting with me every Friday to discuss progress and your 'milestone' grade for that week. You will receive (**4**) four total 'milestone' grades for the course. These weekly 'milestones' will constitute **25%** of your cumulative grade.

2) **Participation -** Developing your digital skills sets, through participation in both collaborative and individual projects, is paramount to achieving a good grade in this class. You will be graded on your own individual progress and also against your peers. Your participation in critiques is expected and will factor heavily in this grade. Participation is perhaps the most important part of your grade, as it ties together all of your learned experience with work ethics and conceptual understanding of core and advanced concepts within digital media. Your cooperation with ARTL equipment use is also factored into this grade. Participation will constitute **25%** of your cumulative grade.

3) **Group Collaboration -** Collaborative exploration into a 'class committee project' will examine digital content creation by digital multi-tasking and collaborative group projects. This work will be the criteria for your *Weekly Individual Progress* grades. A group critique will be held. Completion of projects and Individual Progress will constitute **25%** of your cumulative grade.

4) **Individual Project 'Student's Choice' -** Exploration into a individual digital and conceptual problems by use of *specific* digital tools and applied skills. This project will also be criteria for your *Weekly Individual Progress* and milestones grades. A group critique will be held. Completion of projects and Individual Progress will constitute **25%** of your cumulative grade.

In addition to the discussions of the formal artistic and technical content of the class, broad dialogue may occur regarding contemporary art and its social and historical context. Visual stimulus will be presented weekly, if not daily. This may include the expression of thoughts, experience and concepts of contemporary and historical individuals. Self-expression is to be expected and explored both visually and verbally. Open and frank discussions of cultural mores and taboos (as it applies to art and internet culture) will be discussed regularly.

If this becomes problematic for you at any time please feel free to discuss this with me privately.

storage, media, service requirements & recommendations

Each student will need to purchase/have available the following for the course:

- Blank DVD-Rs for personal use and file backup
- Internet Access and a Working E-mail Address
- Bevo Bucks for printing
- Large (4GB+) USB 2.0 Flash/Thumb drive(s) and/or External Firewire/USB 2.0 hard disk drive

****backup of your data is solely your responsibility and should be done daily to avoid loss of any work****

classroom locations and the ARTL lab

The class will be held in the **ARTL** lab located in **1.206**. Lectures, presentations, performances, and critiques will be primarily at other specialized locations. All technical demos and classwork will be primarily held in the **ARTL** lab in **1.206**. The **ARTL** lab has specific hours of operation and equipment rules. Please refer to **ARTL's** posted times and schedule. The word of ARTL, its managers and proctors, is bond. Follow the rules and be polite.

do's N' do not's

1) DO THE CLASS A FAVOR. TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE.
2) DO NOT BRING FOOD OR DRINKS INTO THE LAB! NOT EVEN IN YOU BACKPACKS OR PURSES! NO EXCEPTIONS!
3) DO NOT MISS OR BE LATE FOR DEMO AND CRITIQUE DAYS.

grading

Each student will receive four grades for the semester. The grades will be based on completion of particular projects throughout the duration of the course. Students will be evaluated on comprehension of specific terminology, grasp of course technology, presentation, aesthetic development and artistic growth. Collaboration with others students will be expected and factors of attendance and class participation will be extremely important to each project's grade.

Grading in a studio art class is inevitably subjective, meaning that the final evaluation of the work presented is based on how the criteria for the assignments is met and on the opinion of the instructor as to the work's quality. The following offers some of the criteria used in determining grades. Starting in the Fall of 2009, the University will switch from its current system to a plus/minus system. This system will be applied to your final grade.

A+/- means outstanding work exceeding the requirements in both quantity and quality. A clear and complete understanding of techniques and processes is evidenced. Significant participation in critiques has occurred. Finished and fully developed work is innovative and well presented.
B+/- means good work beyond the requirements. Good understanding of techniques and processes is evidenced. Individual approach has formed.
C+/- means average work. Requirements are met; projects are completed on time. Regular attendance is maintained. Adequate participation in critiques and understanding of techniques and processes is evidenced.
D+/- means poor work. Requirements barely met, understanding of techniques and processes lacking. Skill level low.
F means unacceptable work. Requirements not met. Little understanding of techniques or processes.

Grading System Scale:

A	= 4.00	**C**	= 2.00
A-	= 3.67	**C-**	= 1.67
B+	= 3.33	**D+**	= 1.33
B	= 3.00	**D**	= 1.00
B-	= 2.67	**D-**	= 0.67
C+	= 2.33	**F**	= 0.00

attendance

Studio Division Class Attendance Policy
Class attendance is a requirement and use of the full class period is expected. You will be allowed three sick, personal, physical or mental health days without grading consequences. It is up to your discretion how you use these three days. Being late to class three times or leaving class early three times will count as an absence. 15 minutes late to the start of class will constitute a tardy. Leaving class before being dismissed by your professor will constitute an early departure. A 4th absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by one letter grade. Absences, tardiness and/or early departures beyond this could result in course failure. If a serious medical or personal situation occurs affecting attendance, please discuss it with your professor. All late work will drop one full letter grade for each class day it is late. No incompletes will be given. If you feel you will not be able to complete all work on time, you should ask the instructor for a grade of Q or drop before the deadline for doing so passes.

University Attendance Policy: Religious Holy Days
A student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor, in writing, as far in advance of the absence as possible so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

academic honesty

According to the General Information catalog, "the value of a university degree depends on the absolute integrity of the work done by each student for that degree, a student should maintain a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work" (page98). Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

accessibility

Upon request the University of Texas at Austin provides appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Information can be found by contacting the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641 TTY or online at: http://www.utexas.edu/depts/dos/ssd

a few words about subject matter...

Art is always subjective. What someone considers beauty others might consider obscene. Regardless, it is my strict policy to never censor your art or restrain your freedom of speech. There is, however, some considerations in which to make note. As this class deals with the use of photographic/ videographic imagery it is important to be aware that recording illegal activities or illicit substances could very well lead to legal troubles with the authorities. Be aware that even though you may only be "documenting" said activities or substances you could still be implicated if anyone was to find your imagery problematic. The university follows all the laws of the State of Texas to the letter. Please keep this in mind when dealing with illicit images or potential illegal activities in your work. Be the "cutting-edge" artist you want to be...but make sure you are protected legally.

Use of other artists work falls into the category of fair use. Consult http://www.utsystems.edu/ogc/intellectualproperty/ccmcguid.htm for basic guidelines on the use of copyrighted work and multimedia within your own projects. The instructor will go into detail about fair use with your projects.

****PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO INSTRUCTOR****

RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT FOR VIDEO ASSIGNMENT

The University of Texas at Austin - Department of Art and Art History
DIGITAL FOUNDATIONS -COURSE **303L**

PARTICIPANT: _____

Name (last name first - please print or type)

_____

Address

_____

City, State, Zip Code

PROJECT DETAILS: (see attached intention outline)

Name of Instructor: _____

I, the above named student, am eighteen years of age or older and have agreed to participate in the above project. I acknowledge that the nature of the Project I have designed may expose me to hazards and risks that may result in my illness, personal injury or death, and possible legal issues and appreciate the nature of such risk and hazards. I also have read the section on "Subject Matter" on my course syllabus and fully understand the legal risks involving filming and use of illegal substances and activities, firearms (fake or real), and copyrighted material.

In consideration of my participation in said project, I hereby accept all risk to my health and of my injury or death or legal consequences that may arise from illegal actions that may result from such participation and I hereby release The University of Texas at Austin, its governing board, officers, employees and representatives from any and all liability to me, my personal representatives, estate, heirs, next of kin, and assigns for any and all claims and causes for action and loss of or damage to my property and for any and illness or injury, arrest or incarceration, to my person, including my death, that may result from or occur during the participation in said activity, whether caused by negligence of The University of Texas at Austin, its governing board, officers, employees, or representatives, or otherwise. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless The University of Texas at Austin, its governing board, officers, employees and representatives from liability for the injury or death of any person(s) and damages to property that may result from my negligence or intentional act of omission while participating in the described activity.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTAND IT TO BE A RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND CAUSES OF ACTION FOR MY INJURY OR INCARCERATION OR DEATH OR DAMAGE TO MY PROPERTY THAT OCCURS WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE DESCRIBED ACTIVITY AND IT OBLIGATE ME TO INDEMNIFY THE PARTIES NAMED FOR ANY LIABILITIES FOR INJURY, IMPRISONMENT OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CAUSED BY MY NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL ACT OR OMISSION

_____
Signature of Student

Date Signed: _____