EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

YORK/SHERIDAN DESIGN
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Design Department
FA / YSDN 2109 3.0 SECTION N
HISTORY AND CULTURE OF INTERACTION DESIGN
FALL 2018 / WINTER 2019

Last Modified Date: 01/14/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Introduces students to the development of interaction design as an emerging field of practice and research as it relates to the discipline of graphic design. Grounded in historical advancements, the role of interaction design as a cultural and technological practice will be explored. Using a blended course model, classes alternate weekly between face-to-face and online meetings. Prerequisite: FA/YSDN 2102 3.00 or FA/YSDN 2102 6.00 or permission of the Department of Design.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Course description

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FA/YSDN 2102 3.00 or FA/YSDN 2102 6.00 or permission of the Department of Design.

Expanded course description

The course introduces students to the theories and practices of interaction design by exploring the historical developments and cultural conditions of this emerging discipline. This course will provide a grounding in the significant achievements of interaction design that have impacted the contemporary technological and social landscape. A foundation for understanding the evolution of interaction design will provide students with a basis to form their own ideas concerning the state of the art.

Students are introduced to the evolving definition of interaction design. By studying key design innovations, these contributions can be seen in relation to contemporary uses and conventions of interaction design. From a theoretical perspective, the course will examine significant research that has contributed the use of frameworks (eg. user-centered design) applied in interaction design.

Course learning objectives The purpose of this course is to assist students in developing a critical understanding of the historical and theoretical significance of interaction design as emerging field of practice and research.
Upon completion of this course, each student should be able to:

Critically review and articulate an understanding of the role interaction design in historical and cultural contexts;

Identify and build knowledge around the key developments of interaction design as a field of professional and academic practice;

Develop a critical framework for describing and analyzing interactive products, services and environments;

Undertake in independent research and learning of interaction design topics;

Read and interpret long-form and shorter bodies of academic texts to deepen understanding and synthesize concepts;

Practice academic writing to articulate a critical point of view and make information clear;

Cultivate a collaborative and positive team learning environment.

Course text

There is no required textbook for the course. Instead the instructor will refer to various texts and resources (online and print) as required readings throughout the course.

Bibliography


Erickson, Thomas, and David W. McDonald. HCI Remixed: Reflections on Works That Have Influenced the HCI Community. MIT Press, 2007.


Writing Quality: make concepts and information clear to demonstrate writer’s knowledge; use of relevant terms and vocabulary; coherent sentence and paragraph structuring; accurate grammar and spelling; correct citation of sources.

Research Skills: identification of current and relevant problems, topics and issues; selection and analysis of academic sources; integration of multiple sources to establish an informed point-of-view; synthesis of evidence to make reasoned conclusions.

Presentation: make information engaging for the audience in visual, textual and oral forms; articulation of work that is effective and appealing; organization and assembly of materials to make information understandable (e.g. printing, type, layout, visuals)

Course grades and continuing success will be significantly affected by:
- frequent absence (both online and in-person);
- late submission of assignments;
- lack of participation.

Procedures for submitting work
All work is to be turned in as outlined in the assignment description. Assignments must be handed in at the scheduled time on the due date (unless otherwise specified) to fully participate in following classes. Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 10% per business day that the assignment is late. Exceptions to the late project penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course instructor but will require documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter)

Grading
The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A 8, B+ 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests* will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90,13+ = 75 to 79, etc.) (For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar - http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/design

Students may take a limited number of courses for degree credit on an ungraded (pass/fail) basis. For full information on this option see Alternative Grading Option in the AMPD section of the Undergraduate Calendar: http://calendars.students.yorku.ca/2017-2018/design

A+ 90-100% rare and exceptional work, thorough knowledge of concepts and techniques and exceptional skill and/ or great originality in the use of those concepts and techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course
A 80-89% excellent work, thorough knowledge of concepts and techniques together with a high degree of skill and/or some elements of originality
B+ 75-79% very good work, thorough knowledge of concepts and techniques together with a fairly high degree of skill in the use of those concepts and techniques
B 70-74% good work, good level of knowledge of concepts and techniques together with considerable skill
C+ 65-69% competent work, acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and techniques together with considerable skill representing the student’s competence to continue and the department’s wish to have the student continue
C 60-64% fairly competent work, acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and techniques together with some skill
D+ 55-59% passing work, slightly better than minimal knowledge of required concepts and techniques together with limited skill
D 50-54% poor work, representing a lack of effort or minimum knowledge of concepts and techniques, despite completion of required exercises
E 31-49% very poor work
F 0-30% inadequate work

Information on Grades and Grading Schemes can be viewed at: https://registrar.yorku.ca/grades/legends/fa
All courses taken at York and Sheridan, including failures, are included in grade point average calculations. To calculate your Grade Point Average please visit: http://www.yorku.ca/finearts/sas/gpa.htm

**Attendance and Lateness**
Regular and punctual attendance is required professional behaviour in industry and therefore in this program. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Students are responsible for letting faculty know ahead of time if they are going to be late for class, or not attending.

Being late twice equals one absence. Lateness of more than thirty minutes equals one absence. If a student is absent from four classes during the term, a grade of “F” will be given for the course. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter). Students will be responsible for all academic, financial penalties and consequences resulting from their non-attendance.

**Last date to drop course**
March 8, 2019 is the last day that a student can DROP this course without receiving a grade.

**Assignment Submission**
Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed as outlined in the individual project description.

**Lateness Penalty**
Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 10% per business day that the assignment is late. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

**Presentations and In Class Exercises**
Students are expected to be in attendance for all in class presentations and exercises. If missing with a documented reason, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., doctor’s letter) may request accommodation from the instructor. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

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Students will be responsible for all academic, financial penalties and consequences resulting from their non-attendance.

**Important Course Information For Students**
Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**
YSDN students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=69). Students are expected to review the materials on the York Academic Integrity website (http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity).

**Occupational Health & Safety**
Students must be aware of ergonomic factors related to the course work and should practice recommended exercise to prevent developing occupational related health problems. Please refer to the following web page for details: http://www.yorku.ca/dohs/ergonomics/ergonomics.htm

**Access/Disability**
Both York and Sheridan provide services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University and Sheridan.
Students in need of these services are asked to register with Counselling & Disability Services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs.

At York University:

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/ cds or by contacting the offices of the disability service providers:


Ethics review process

YSDN students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately.

Religious observance accommodation

York and Sheridan are committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course Director immediately.

Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

Student Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the student to always back-up/save/archive digital work—the hard drives on the computers will be deleted of all student files on a regular basis read and understand the University Policy on proper use of computing facilities (Check yorku.ca and Notice Boards in and around the Design studios).

It is important to inform the instructor, in a timely fashion, of any problems that may interfere with the student’s progress in the course.

Student Conduct

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class.

A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website http://www.yorku.ca/univsec/policies/document.php?document=82. Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents): http://www.yorku.ca/
Entering External Award Shows

In an effort to encourage more students to enter external award shows and competitions, the York/Sheridan Program in Design will reimburse the entry fee for winning entries at outside award shows and competitions, up to $30 (CAD) per piece entered.

To take advantage of this, students must enter the competition, pay entry fees and postage and arrange for delivery. Also provide written proof that they have received an award/prize. Students must submit the original receipts for the entry fee in CAN$ (If the entry fee was paid in another currency, we require a receipt indicating the exact amount you paid in CAN$). Students are responsible for any other fees that may be associated with the prize. Please contact Barb Batke (email: bbatke@yorku.ca) for reimbursement after receipt of the award.

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University's course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University