EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
YORK/SHERIDAN DESIGN
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Design Department
FA / YSDN 4004 6.0 SECTION G
DESIGN WORKSHOP
FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 09/04/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Students develop a series of self-directed projects using a multidisciplined approach in solving two-dimensional, three-dimensional, and interactive digital design problems. The student proposal is adjudicated by a department committee. Required course for design major which can only be taken in their graduating year. Prerequisites: All required practicum and studies courses or permission of the Department of Design. Note: For students not in the BDes program, compulsory and voluntary supplementary fees apply.

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Section Responsible Faculty: FA
Section Responsible Unit: YSDS

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<td>March, James</td>
<td>Sec. G / STDO / Y</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Technical requirements for taking the course:
1. Computer with a webcam and microphone.
2. High-speed internet connection, preferably 50mbps or above
3. A Google account/log-in (free)
4. Adobe InDesign CC, Adobe Photoshop CC, Adobe Illustrator CC
5. A Figma account (free for students)

A way to determine Internet connection and speed: Online tests, such as Speedtest (https://www.speedtest.net/) can be run.

Useful links describing computing information, resources and help for students:
- Computing for Students Website: https://student.computing.yorku.ca/
- Student Guide to eLearning at York University: http://elearning-guide.apps01.yorku.ca/
- Learning Skills Services: https://lss.info.yorku.ca/online-learning/
- Zoom@YorkU User Reference Guide: http://staff.computing.yorku.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2012/02/Zoom@YorkU-U-
- Zoom@YorkU Best Practices: https://staff.computing.yorku.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/Zoom@YorkU-
Location: Please note that this course depends on remote teaching and learning. There will be no on-campus interactions or activities. It is recommended students cultivate a low-traffic, quiet space within their residence from where to join synchronous class activities during scheduled class time.

Organization of the course:
The course will comprise of synchronous and asynschronous components. During the class time (9:00AM – 1:00PM EST) students will be assigned individual and group appointments with the instructor. Lectures will be provided as streaming video content accessible via the course website. Announcements will be made during class time and will also be posted to the course website.

TOPICS AND CONCEPTS

Expanded course description
Design Workshop presents students with the opportunity to conceive, develop and finalize their own work independently, under the supervision of a course director and with peer involvement. Students must take into account the practical, economic, cultural and aesthetic challenges of their project as if for a real-world audience.

Design Workshop is unique in the program. It first requires you to research and investigate a theme, developing an understanding of the many aspects of the theme. The ultimate design objects are not predetermined. Only after thorough research and consideration of intended audiences will you begin to define what forms your designs will take. Working with your Course Director, you will finalize the definition of designed objects, making sure they constitute acceptable results for the three-credit Winter term.

You will be encouraged to research the thematic material both through conventional library and other sources, as well as to investigate it visually by documenting aspects of it in our environment.

During the Fall term all students will engage in primary and secondary research to explore the theme. They will report on the results of their research and develop a proposal for a design project that integrates their research as project content. During the Winter term students will complete their design project deliverables.

Class time will be allocated for ongoing work on projects as well as personal and group critiques. There will be special lectures on topics related to selected themes. Workshop time will consist of:

- Ongoing work on projects
- Presentation, by students, of work in progress
- Discussion of work challenges and related questions with faculty and peers
- Special lectures

Suggested Texts

Other pertinent readings and resources will be provided and/or recommended during the course.

**LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF**

**Professional**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
• Conduct individual academic and visual research and prepare a research report
• Conceive an appropriate overall project and break it down into its component parts
• Negotiate a project proposal based on a research report
• Present ideas, challenges and questions to an audience of peers and instructors
• Critique the work of other students in an observant, constructive manner
• Set appropriate, realistic deadlines and meet them
• Manage all aspects of a project responsibly
• Work with others in a cooperative and collegial way

**Technical and theoretical**
Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate:
• Extended and refined knowledge of design theory and information technologies
• An increased awareness of strategic goals, client relationship and identifying issues surrounding the design process
• Develop a design intelligence and sensitivity that extends beyond the visual aesthetic

**GRADED ASSESSMENT**

The proportional weighting of the coursework is as follows:

**Fall Term**
15% Visual Essay
30% Research Report
30% Design Proposal
15% Fall Project Documentation with Reflective Assessment
10% Participation & Attendance

**Winter Term**
10% Work in Progress Presentation 1
10% Work in Progress Presentation 2
50% Design Deliverables
10% Process Documentation
10% Project Management
10% Participation & Attendance

**Final Course Grade**
Grades from the Fall and Winter semesters are averaged together to determine the final course grade. Course grades and continuing in the course will be significantly affected by:

- Frequent lateness and absence
- Coming to class unprepared to participate in studio work, critique and presentation
- Absence at appropriate lectures

**Evaluation**

Evaluation criteria are defined as follows:

**Concept:** Originality, appropriateness and the ability to articulate the merits and processes involved in the solution. Does the final solution have impact? Is it innovative, relevant and informative?

**Process:** The ability to analyze ideas within the framework of project requirements, to conduct research, to explore a wide range of initial approaches, and to test and refine solutions.

**Presentation:** The ability to make concepts and information clear through verbal explanations. The ability to use visual materials to support the communication of ideas. Use of adequate volume, connecting to the audience, and making information interesting for the intended audience.

**Production:** Overall production quality of presented materials.

**Project Management:** The ability to meet deadlines on a consistent basis, to break down a project into phases and manage the work with minimal supervision. (A critical skill for transition to professional practice.) Students are expected to proactively move the project forward through critical phases while maintaining a strong link to the research and the given theme.

Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Assignments are to be handed in on their due date, at the time and in the format specified by the Course Director. Projects will be graded at each stage of development as outlined in the project brief. A grading sheet will be returned with each project.

**Attendance & Lateness:**

Participation will be assessed based on regular, timely, and prepared student participation in scheduled critiques and other course activities. Students are responsible for informing faculty ahead of time if they cannot participate in scheduled class activities and making alternative arrangements to keep up their progress in the course. Exceptions for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor. Supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter) may be required upon request.

**Missed Deadlines or Tests:**

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. Supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter) may be required upon request. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: **November 6, 2020**
**Academic Policies / Information**

The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
- Access/Disability
- Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
- Religious Observance Accommodation
- Student Code of Conduct

Additional information:
- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy

The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

- Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
  
  [http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm](http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm)
- Manage my Academic record
  
  [http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/](http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/)
- "20% Rule"

No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

**Additional Information / Sheridan College**

- Accessible Learning Services, Trafalgar campus, B104, (905) 845-9430, ext. 8196
  
  [sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/accessible-learning-services](http://sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/accessible-learning-services)
- Counselling Services, Trafalgar campus, B104, (905) 845-9430, ext. 2557
  
  [sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/counselling-services](http://sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/counselling-services)
- Health Services, Trafalgar campus, B129, (905) 845-9430, ext. 2550
  
  [sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/health](http://sheridancollege.ca/life-at-sheridan/student-services/health)

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

[**Moodle @ York University**](http://moodle.yorku.ca)