ART 2020 Digital Tools and Technologies for Creative Practice

Instructor Information

Instructor: Christina Donaldson (she/her/hers)
Email: Contact via Canvas Messages
Office: 212
Office hours by appointment: Tuesdays, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
(Additional virtual appointments via Zoom available if needed)

This class meets twice weekly in ART 233:
ART 2020.001 M/W 8 am – 10:50 am
ART 2020.002 M/W 11 am – 1:50 pm

Course Description

ART 2020 Digital Tools & Technologies for Creative Practice is an introductory course exposing students to the language and application of digital media and resources for art and design practice. The course will introduce students to digital art-making and communication for art environments, social media, interactive media, and 2D/3D digital fabrication technology through the use of digital tools, including Adobe Creative Cloud applications, iMovie, and open-source software. Students will achieve competency in basic contributions to digital image culture through the use of various technology both in application and process.

Course Structure and Content

This class meets face-to-face. Do your required reading and tutorials before coming to class. As a studio-based course, students will be expected to work on assignments during class time. Class time will be split between lectures, workshops, and independent studio time. The class will include critiques, technical demonstrations, and class discussions in preparation and at the completion of course projects. This course will use readings and video tutorials to introduce technical concepts in digital imaging processes and may feature out-of-class trips or guest lecturers by visiting artists where students can witness the impact of computer-generated images and objects within creative communities. Because our course has students with a diverse body of knowledge and skill-level in the art, design, and media, students should expect to revisit course readings and video tutorials both during in-class studio time as well as outside of our class time.

All projects are designed to be implemented in different ways so if a student feels more advanced, the student can pursue a project that is a little more ambitious (while also considering the time-commitment that will be required to complete the project). Students should expect to use the Computer Lab in ART 375 (3rd floor-North Pavilion) for the completion of projects outside of independent studio time in class.

Course Goals

– Demonstrate basic knowledge of visual arts, design, and culture using Adobe Creative Cloud applications and other digital tools.
– Demonstrate knowledge of image-making and digital fabrication using open-source/web-based platforms.
– Develop a wider understanding of the use of digital fabrication within art and design practice.
– Produce images and objects for art-making, social media and for the creative economy.
– Discuss the history of computing and its applications by artists and designers.
– Work both individually and collaboratively to produce works and projects that ask critical questions about the role of technology within art and design.
– Research and present upon readings based on digital visual culture and creative communities.

Course Prerequisites

Two of the following: ART 1600, ART 1700, Art 1800, Art 1900

Required Texts and Resources

1. Assigned videos, online content, and PDF articles/chapters/essays as posted on Canvas
2. Adobe Creative Cloud Tutorials: Tutorials, creative cloud for new users: link
3. Onstead FabLab Demo: An introduction to techniques, practices, and tools in the Fabrication Labs: link

Required Materials

– Materials needed to complete individual projects (i.e., photos, 2D art to scan).
– Sketchbook/ notebook
– $50 budget toward fabrication costs through the semester

Technology Requirements

To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System as well as the items listed below. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content.

Equipment Requirements

Students are required to use tools and technologies in the CVAD computer labs and Fabrication labs.

– Computer. Mac computers are available in the classroom and computer labs.
– An External hard drive or flash drive 64GB minimum for Mac computer and Personal Computer (PC) because students will also use a computer in the CVAD Fabrication Labs.
– A Wacom Tablet: Students can check out equipment such as a Wacom Tablet from the College of Visual Art and Design Service Desk: Link

Software Requirements

– Microsoft Word or equivalent
– Adobe Creative Cloud (Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign, XD – or open-source equivalent)

UNT offers heavily discounted Adobe Creative Cloud subscriptions to currently enrolled students. https://news.cvad.unt.edu/adobe-news. If you already have an active subscription to the Adobe Creative Cloud, purchased through Adobe or another seller, but would like to take advantage of this offer: Adobe will allow you to opt-out of your existing agreement without incurring an early termination fee. See https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/adobe/ for details.

Important Note: Each subscription is valid for the entire academic year, August 21st 2023-August 31st, 2024. All subscriptions will expire on August 31st, 2024 - regardless of the date of purchase. There is not a prorated price, the price is $50 plus a $3 processing fee year-round. Students that continue their enrollment at UNT beyond the current academic year will have the option to renew their subscription before the expiration date. These subscriptions allow students to use the Adobe Creative Cloud applications on any device: personally owned computers (home desktop or laptop), university desktop computers (labs and classrooms), laptops (university checkout) and the UNT Online Lab computers. Students without a subscription may access some of the Adobe Creative Cloud applications while using a computer in one of the on-premises classrooms or labs at no cost: cloud features and many applications are not available. It may take up to two business days for your Adobe Creative Cloud subscription to be activated. Adobe Customer Care can be reached by phone at 1-800-
833-6687, you may also visit their support website and talk to someone via chat. Please contact the representatives at untadobe@unt.edu if you have any further questions.

Technical Assistance
Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UNT IT Help Desk
- Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
- Live Chat: https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/chatsupport (Links to an external site.)
- Phone: 940-565-2324
- In Person: Sage Hall, Room 330
- Hours and Availability: Visit https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk (Links to an external site.)
For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (Links to an external site.)
(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Supporting Your Success and Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment
As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation so we will work as a class to collaborate in ways that encourage inclusivity.

Major Assignments and Course Requirements

Studio Coursework
Your major assignments will be where you apply some of the concepts you learn about from the readings, activities, warm-ups, and planning. While you will receive parameters for each of your major assignments, you will have significant leeway in how you choose to respond to them. As such, a portion of your grade for each of these assignments will depend on your choice of appropriately challenging subject matter. The remainder of your grade will depend on how well you meet the technical and conceptual challenges you have set out for yourself. You are not expected to be an expert in this class, but to grow your technical and conceptual abilities over the semester.

Digital Consumption Journals (10 Total)
You are asked to write a brief (250-300 words) journal entry -or- submit a 2 to 3-minute video to Canvas documenting and reflecting on your digital consumption. Prompts will vary.

One design, Three Products
You will design and create vector-based artwork that will be produced into 3 different products (using 3 different tools) in the Fabrication Lab. Note: based on tool choice, you may need to edit your file and use other programs to manufacture your design. You will be required to provide your own materials for production, and materials will need instructor approval as well as approval from the FabLab prior to production.

Final Project: Zine Package (8 Weeks)
Students will choose a topic that is near and dear to their heart and become advocates for their cause through by designing a compelling collection of materials. Additional assignment details will be posted on Canvas.
Attendance and Participation

Students should be prepared to engage in class discussion by viewing and reading all assigned course presentations and readings, and engaging with respect and insight in lectures, class discussions, presentations, and all course activities. It is important that you communicate with the instructor prior to being absent, so you, the instructor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the instructor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community. IMPORTANT: Do this in advance, meaning more than one hour prior to the start of class.

Students will be notified by Eagle Alert if there is a campus closing that will impact a class, and the calendar is subject to change, please see UNT’s webpage for the Emergency Notifications and Procedures Policy (PDF) (https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.049_Syllabus%20Policy%20Statements_supplement.pdf).

Attendance

Class attendance is a requirement and use of the full class period is expected. You will be allowed (3) sick, personal, physical, or mental health days without grading consequences. A 4th absence will result in the lowering of your overall final grade by (1) letter grade. Additionally, 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. (3) occurrences of late arrivals/early departures = (1) absence. 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.

Participation

You will earn to 10 points/day. Your studio participation is an extremely important component of the class and a significant part of your overall grade. Your awarded points are based the following expectations: Coming to class meetings on time and with your supplies, being prepared to discuss materials from your coursework, completing other occasional homework, and actively participating in class discussions, group activities and critique.

Assessing Your Work

A: 90% course average or above. Excellent work produced throughout the semester
B: 80% course average or above. Good work produced throughout the semester
C: 70% course average or above. Fair work produced throughout the semester
D: 60% course average or above. Passing work produced throughout the semester

Late Policy
All work should be turned in on time according to the due date specified on the syllabus. For each day late, the grade will drop by 1/3 of a percentage point. Thus, if an A assignment is turned in one day late, then the grade will drop to an A- and so forth unless special permission by the university or a doctor is provided.

Grading Policy
Grades are based on mastery of the content. As a rule, I do not grade on a “curve” because that is a comparison of your outcomes to others. I do, however, encourage you to find opportunities to learn with and through others. Explore Navigate’s Study Buddy (https://navigate.unt.edu) tool to join study groups. Maximize your learning with our coaching staff at the Learning Center.

Academic Integrity
Every student in my class can improve by doing their own work and trying their hardest with access to appropriate resources. Students who use other people’s work without citations will be violating UNT’s Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of guidelines for your academic success (https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email me or come discuss this with me during my office hours.

Course Risk Factor
According to University Policy, this course is classified as a category two course. Students enrolled in this course will not be exposed to any significant hazards and are not likely to suffer any bodily injury. Students will be informed of any potential health hazards or potential bodily injury connected with the use of any materials and/or processes and will be instructed how to proceed without danger to themselves or others.

Disclaimer
The instructor reserves the right to make modifications to the course schedule, assignments, and information throughout the semester.

UNT Policies
Student Academic Integrity Policy
The University of North Texas promotes the integrity of learning and embraces the core values of trust and honesty. Academic integrity is based on educational principles and procedures that protect the rights of all participants in the educational process and validate the legitimacy of degrees awarded by the University. In the investigation and resolution of allegations of student academic dishonesty, the University’s actions are intended to be corrective, educationally sound, fundamentally fair, and based on reliable evidence.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences
Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.
ADA Accommodation Statement

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time; however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website (http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Blackboard online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

Access to Information

Eagle Connect Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: Page 3 of 4 my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail: eagleconnect.unt.edu/

Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 [insert administration dates] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will
receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT’s Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim’s compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at oeo@unt.edu or at (940) 565-2759.
ART 2020 Digital Tools for Creative Practice

Sections .001 and .002

SYLLABUS CONTRACT

Printed Name_______________________________ Student ID#___________________

Phone_________________________________ email____________________________

Acknowledgment
I have read the syllabus and understand what is expected of me in this course. I understand the course structure, grading, and attendance policies. I have had the opportunity to ask questions. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions.

______________________________________________________________________________

Course Number and Section

______________________________________________________________________________

Signature ____________________________ Date ________________