Senior New Media Studio

ASTU 4700 // Thursdays 8 - 10:55 AM
Professor LaFleur, Liss.LaFleur@unt.edu (she/hir/hirs)
Office hours: Tuesday 8 AM - 9AM // https://unt.zoom.us/j/4355820940 or by appointment

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Description

*Advanced studies in new media with an emphasis on in-depth individually generated projects. Students will focus on **professional development** and **portfolio preparation**. Students will work on developing technical skills, materials and processes appropriate to their concepts as well as aesthetic sensibilities.*

Course Structure

This is a studio art class that meets once per week in-person (for 3 hours) with an additional weekly asynchronous assignment (equal to 3 hours). You will be expected

to plan ahead and work during class time and complete all asynchronous material via our course Canvas. Often, class time will be split between discussions, citiques, and studio time. All students will participate in two critiques, complete three case studies, plan and execute two capstone events (virtual and IRL), submit a final portfolio, and compile professional materials (CV, statement, bio).

Course Outcomes & Objectives

- ★ Individual project development - *for both a virtual and in-person event*
- ★ Engagement with contemporary theories and ideas in New Media Art
- ★ Development of professional writing skills - case studies, artist statement(s), bio, cv
- ★ Exhibition development - case studies, planning two capstone events
- ★ Execution of two group exhibitions - practices for both online and in-person
- ★ Individual portfolio development
- ★ Experimentation with new tools and processes relevant to your practice

Grading

An "A" in this class represents outstanding work, where the work and the process **exceed** the expectation and requirements of the course. A "B" is earned through meeting these expectations in a strong and sustained way. A "C" is given to those who meet these expectations with no particular flare. A "D" is the result of a missed assignment or attendance problems. A "F" is the result of two missed assignments or a critique session. Please note that the amount of effort does not equal the quality of effort.

BREAK - it - DOWN	Worth / %
1. Critiques x 2	20
2: Case Studies + discussions x 3	30
3: Public Event/ URL & IRL Exhibitions	30
4. Professional Development (CV/ Bio/ State)	10
5. Final Portfolio (hyperlinked PDF)	10
Total	*100 points / 100%*

<mark>Assignments</mark>

Critiques
Each student will present their work for critique two times during the semester, based on the schedule below and their assigned critique group. Each critique will be slotted for a 15 minute window. Students must show up to class prepared to critique on their critique day - this means pre-loading and testing materials in the CAVE, hanging up and 2D works in advance of class, etc.

For each critique, students will present the work they plan to contribute to the group exhibitions (in-person and online) along with a 100-300 word project statement. The work should be **technically** and **conceptually** accomplished - with the understanding that you will receive critical feedback, make edits, and then install. The project statement should concisely describe the subject matter, working methods (how and why did you pursue this work? Why are you using the techniques you employed?) The statement will be graded as part of your total critique grade. If the statement is not submitted at the time of your critique, you will receive a zero for this part of your critique grade.

> *For critique #1:* Development of an artwork for an in-person exhibition/ event in the New Media CAVE. This should be time-based, for example: a multi-channel or single channel video artwork, an art game, a performance, a looping film, etc. Your work should demonstrate a substantial amount of time toward developing your end goals/ final product. For example, if your goal is to make a 15 minute single channel video artwork, you should have all of your video recordings completed/ compiled, and share your edited video with the class to watch independently **before** the critique. You would then bring the video along with ideas (sketches, examples, etc) of how this work will be installed to this critique.

> *For critique #2:* Development of an artwork (or sub-series of works) for a virtual exhibition. This should progress from the first critique. Using the previous example, maybe you'd like to create a 3d viewing space for your video within the virtual world. For this critique you would bring all digital assets/ walk us through your final designs in the virtual space. Maybe you've also created some gifs for social media, and decided to print some stills from this artwork as well and bring them with you to this critique.

*** Students cannot use work which has been made for another course in this class. Breaking this rule will result in a failing grade for that critique.

Case Studies
Since professional development, and engagement with current New Media trends, plays a critical role in this course - you will be required to complete three case studies this semester. These case studies will be posted to your Canvas blog for written feedback, and will include artworks from: New Art City, an in person visit to Meow Wolf Grapevine, and a professional New Media exhibition/ installation of your choosing (ex: DMA, Midnight Moment, Warehouse, etc). You may work independently or in small groups (~ less than 4) to complete each case study. You are also expected to attend as many of the openings of exhibitions in the Alcove space as you are able (with the New Media Coop).

Exhibition
Students in this course will participate in **two** exhibitions - one online and one in person. These events are in place of a third critique, will be peer-to-peer developed and graded, and will open to the public. We will spend a significant time developing the idea(s) and structure of both exhibitions, and will assign working groups for: social media/ press, curating/ design, and documentation. The quality and presentation of each event should be professionally executed and conceptually based.

Professional Development
As a graduating art student, you will need relevant tools to promote your work and apply to external positions. Each student will workshop and develop the following:

1. Resume or CV with hyperlinks
2. Biography (short)
3. Headshot (self portrait)

We will look at examples, review each other's documents, and talk about where and when to use each item. If this is your second senior studio, you are required to send at least one application for a show/job/internship this semester.

Portfolio
For your final portfolio, you should prepare a single document that outlines all of your strongest work as a New Media Art student. This should be 20 pages or less, including titles and medium/ general information, brief project descriptions, still

images, links to excerpts of works, and any other supporting materials you deem necessary. The last page of your portfolio should include your brief bio and an image of yourself. Professional documentation will play a pivotal role in the success of your portfolio. You will submit your portfolio on Canvas as a hyperlinked PDF.

Reservations

CVAD has switched to a new reservation system, Booked Scheduler. It is being used to reserve all physically accessible spaces and equipment within CVAD.

The reservation system will go live on the f*irst day of classes, August 21 at 8 a.m.* For reference, the URL to Booked Scheduler is **https://booked.cvad.unt.edu/Web/**

For help on how to make an appointment using Booked Scheduler, see **HOW-TO: Using CVAD Booked Scheduler**.

The CVAD Student Computer Lab and CVAD Fabrication Labs, as well as many other spaces in CVAD, will require reservations this semester. This is being done for health and safety reasons to protect our students. Reservations allow us to ensure a student does not remain on campus unnecessarily in order to wait for a piece of equipment to become available. Reservations in these spaces, like others, will all be done through Booked Scheduler.

Adobe Creative Cloud

Adobe Creative Cloud is available to all students in the onsite CVAD Student Computer Lab, the New Media classroom, and the remote access MAC computers. However, the Adobe campus license does not cover off-campus use for students. In order to use the Adobe apps (except Adobe Acrobat Reader DC) while off-campus (even on a university-owned laptop or while using a lab or classroom computer remotely – students will need to purchase a personal license directly from Adobe).

Studio Hours

CVAD + Classroom
Monday – Friday 8 – 5 pm

Fab Lab
Check:
https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/service-fablab.html

Lighting Studio
Monday – Friday 8 – 5 pm
By appointment only

Photo Documentation
Check:https://itservices.cvad.unt.edu/service-photo-documentation.html

NOTE: The use of New Media equipment and spaces is a privilege. If you are disrespectful, harmful, or selfish, if you damage any equipment, or do not follow safety protocols your privilege may be revoked.

General Expectations

Take advantage of this time to invest yourself and the issues that really move you. Make full use of this opportunity to expand and reflect upon your work. This class is first and foremost about your sustained development as an artist. It is necessary that you take yourself and your work seriously, or else no one else will. <u>You are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning for all.</u>

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 <u>deanofstudents.unt.edu.</u>

Discussion & Critique

This course will have built in discussions, brainstorming, one on one time, and written feedback online. Discussions are an essential part of developing your abilities as an artist. You will not only be graded for your own contributions, but also on how well you engage with your peers in class as an active listener.

With regard to discussions and critiques...

STRIVE FOR	AVOID
Challenging questions	Tangents
Brevity	Condescending remarks
Being specific	Subjectivity
Being constructive	Personal attacks of any kind
Technical suggestions	Defensiveness
Other resources that come to mind	Words like "nice, interesting"

Focusing on the work	Tip toeing (say what you mean)
Respecting artist's intent	Silence
Thoughtful consideration	Redundancy
Mutual respect	Over sharing
Defining what's working or not	
Taking notes	

Required Supplies

Texts as assigned. Any supplies needed for completion of your work. A journal, or some way to keep notes for discussions and critiques. A minimum of one (but preferably two) external harddrives, and 3 - 5 thumb drives. You will need at least 1 TB of space, and it should be USB 3.0 and 2.0 compatible. Since we work on MACs in the studio, the LaCie Rugged mini is recommended. Do not save work to the desktop. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BACKING UP ALL OF YOUR WORK!

Organization & Documentation

Learning how to maintain your external harddrive is an essential part of your studio practice as an artist. You should never save project files, images, or documents on public computers, you should always save your work to your own personal drive, and you should back up your drive with a second harddrive. Your external drive should include documentation of all of your work upon completion, as well as in progress information, project statements, and images. You should continue to document all of your work for your portfolio, archive, and website. We will discuss what types of documentation might be appropriate to your specific work in this class.

Evaluation

Being engaged in class events and discussions is extremely important. Your performance will be evaluated using the following criteria: substantial and evolving new work prepared for critique; material and conceptual innovation; sustained and thoughtful response to criticism; ability to develop an idea from a beginning phase and move it forward in a coherent and inspired way; constructive class participation; attendance and promptness, and significant progress over the semester within your own frame of reference.

Attendance

- Regular and punctual attendance is mandatory.
- One unexcused absence will be tolerated without penalty.
- More than one absence will require a note from a doctor or a note from the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences) in order to be counted as excused.
- More than one absence will lower your final grade by one letter grade per additional absence
- Most lectures, demonstrations, and assignments will occur at the beginning of class periods and will not be repeated for those who come in late. If you are late to class, you will need to notify me at the end of the class period to replace an absence with a tardy.
- Three tardies will constitute an absence.
- A tardy arrival is considered to be 5 minutes after the beginning of class.
- Assignments that are turned in late (in person and on Canvas) will receive one letter grade lower per day for each day they are late.
- Examinations, quizzes, and in-class assignments missed may only be made up with an official doctor's excuse or note from the art office excusing the absence for a reason covered under UNT policy 06.039 (Student Attendance and Authorized Absences).
- Critiques missed may not be made up in any way, and grades will reflect the student's failure to participate in the critique discussions. If you must miss a critique I recommend trying to find a peer to trade days with (crit groups).

Email

My email: liss.lafleur@unt.edu
You are expected to read all emails from the class instructor because you are responsible to know the information they contain. Messages might be sent through your my.unt email address or via Canvas. Please check your email and Canvas at least once every 48 hours.

I will answer emails in the order in which I receive them within three business days (M-F). I will respond to urgent or time-sensitive emails first. I will not be available to reply to emails during weekends. I will only correspond with students via your UNT email address. If an email is sent to you it is assumed that you have received it and you are responsible for any specified course requirements therein.

Date	In Class	Asynchronous (canvas + outside of class)
Week 1, 8.24	- Welcome + Introductions - Set crit groups - Exhibition groups/ brainstorm - Intro to case studies (structure/ example)	- read: https://www.linearity.io/blog/digital-art/ - Set-up blog on Canvas - blog response (ch 1) - **Complete first case study** - New Art City and upload to blog - Leave feedback on 2 other case studies
Week 2, 8.31	- Case study discussion (NAC) ~ *Virtual Exhibitions* - Goal setting (individual) - Intro to bio and project statements - Exhibition planning workshop + group work	- go see the Ja'Tovia Gary Exhibition at the DMA (free) - also watch Rashid Johnson New Black Yoga at the DMA (and online) - Read Conversation with Rashid Johnson - Read: The Artist and Filmmaker Envisions a Safer World from Black Women
Week 3, 9.7	- Visit the Warehouse (Dallas) - (**meet at 8:45 AM** at 14105 Inwood Rd, Dallas, TX 75244) *if you do not arrive by 9 you will not be allowed in*	- **Complete second case study** - DMA or Warehouse and upload to course blog - Leave feedback on 2 other case studies - blog response (ch 2) - work on individual projects for Crit 1 - work with exhibition group/ sub group
Week 4, 9.14	- Event planning presentations - Case study discussion ~ *Physical New Media Exhibitions* - studio work time	- work on projects for Crit 1 - connect with exhibition group - find 3 artist websites you like + post them to your blog
Week 5, 9.21	- Visit MEOW WOLF **(meet at MW at 8:15 AM)**	- **Complete third case study** - MeowWolf and upload to course blog - Leave feedback on 2 other case studies - work on projects for Crit 1 - connect with exhibition group
Week 6, 9.28	CRITIQUE #1 (Group A) - In person event planning	- Read How to Write a Good Artist Bio - Read: Artist Statement Guidelines - Read: Documentation
Week 7, 10.5	CRITIQUE #1 (Group B) - In person event planning	- upload bio, artist statement, and photo to blog - leave feedback on peers' posts
Week 8, 10.12*	*- studio work day* *- sub- group share back (& schedule)*	- work on projects for Crit 1 - connect with exhibition group

	- Exhibition planning sub-meetings - One on one meetings	- New Art City tutorials - Alt text as poetry exercise - Read: All For Art And Art For All: Art Accessibility In The Digital Age - press release and press images to Professor LaFleur for in person events
Week 9, 10.19	<mark>**\<Test run in class\>**</mark>	- Access New Art City/ begin virtual exhibition work - blog response (ch 4) - Prepare for in-person event - test artworks for in person event
Week 10, 10.26	<mark>**IN-PERSON EVENTS:** Thursday 10.26 from 3:00 - 5:00 Friday 10.27 from 3:00 - 5:00</mark>	- work on tool-kit materials + project - document work at event(s) - social media posts
10.28	<mark>**Saturday opportunity – CVAD Celebrates 1 – 3:30**</mark>	n/a
Week 11, 11.2	- Virtual exhibition planning - Virtual exhibition planning - Case study discussion (MeowWolf) - studio work time - Discussion ~ *New Media & Accessibility*	- work on virtual exhibition - work on projects for Crit 2 - connect with exhibition group
Week 12, 11.9	Work in Progress Critique	- start compiling portfolio pdf - blog response (ch 5) - press release and press images to Professor LaFleur for virtual exhibition
Week 13, 11.16	Group Work Day - *will send virtual feedback*	- work on virtual exhibition - look at Midnight Moment artworks & write optional fourth case study (extra credit)
Week 14, 11.23	**NO CLASS (fall break)**	**NO CLASS (fall break)**
Week 15, 11.30	<mark>- Final Critique - virtual exhibitions</mark>	- finalize virtual exhibition - social media posts
Week 16, 12.7	<mark>**LAUNCH VIRTUAL EXHIBITION**</mark> - document virtual exhibition - discuss successes and difficulties	- finalize portfolio pdf - blog discussion (ch 6)
Week 17, 12.14	Submit final portfolio PDF	- leave spot review for course (!!)

Course Schedule

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

http://www.ubu.com/film/
An incredible resource hosting hundreds of experimental and avant-garde films, videos and sound works from the past 50 years. It is one of the most comprehensive sites online.

https://unt.kanopystreaming.com/
This streaming service provides access to 26,000 titles covering various educational topics and feature films for some 800 producers including Criterion, Documentary Educational Resources, New Day Films, Media Education, California Newsreel, PBS and others.

http://www.vdb.org/
Founded in 1976 at the inception of the media arts movement, the Video Data Bank is an important resource in the United States for videotapes by and about contemporary artists. The VDB collections feature innovative video work made by artists from an aesthetic, political or personal point of view. The collections include seminal works that, seen as a whole, describe the development of video as an art form originating in the late 1960's and continuing to the present.

http://newmedia-art.org/sommaire/english/sommaire.htm
The New Media Encyclopedia is the first trilingual English-French-German catalogue of its kind freely available on-line. It is intended as a source of information, a tool for documentary research, and a scholarly work, but also a locus of debate on artistic practices related to the new media.

https://www.newmediacaucus.org/
The New Media Caucus posts jobs, open calls, and exhibitions and is affiliated with the College Art Association.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

According to UNT Policy 18.1.16, 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. You can also plagiarize yourself by submitting

the same projects in multiple courses. This is unacceptable without professor approval beforehand.

ODA ACCOMMODATION

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of 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 accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

Students are required to follow the Department of Studio Art Health and Safety guidelines and are required to complete training for each studio course. The goal of the Studio Art Health and Safety Program is to protect the health and welfare of all faculty, staff, and students and to cooperate with the University of North Texas' Office of Risk Management. Please visit the website for details and the departmental handbook: https://art.unt.edu/healthandsafety.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT Emergency Guide: http://guidebook.com/app/emergency/guide/unteitmerge... UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to the course management system for contingency plans for covering course materials.

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 and 14 [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 www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

An Incomplete Grade ("I") is a non-punitive grade given only during the last one-fourth of a term/semester and only if a student (1) is passing the course and (2) has a justifiable and documented reason, beyond the control of the student (such as serious illness or military service), for not completing the work on schedule. In consultation with the instructor, it is the student's responsibility to complete a request for an Incomplete Grade. This form can be found on the department website and must be turned into the department chair prior to the last day of classes (not the exam date). Note: A grade of Incomplete is not automatically assigned to students

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT & ASSAULT

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0.