

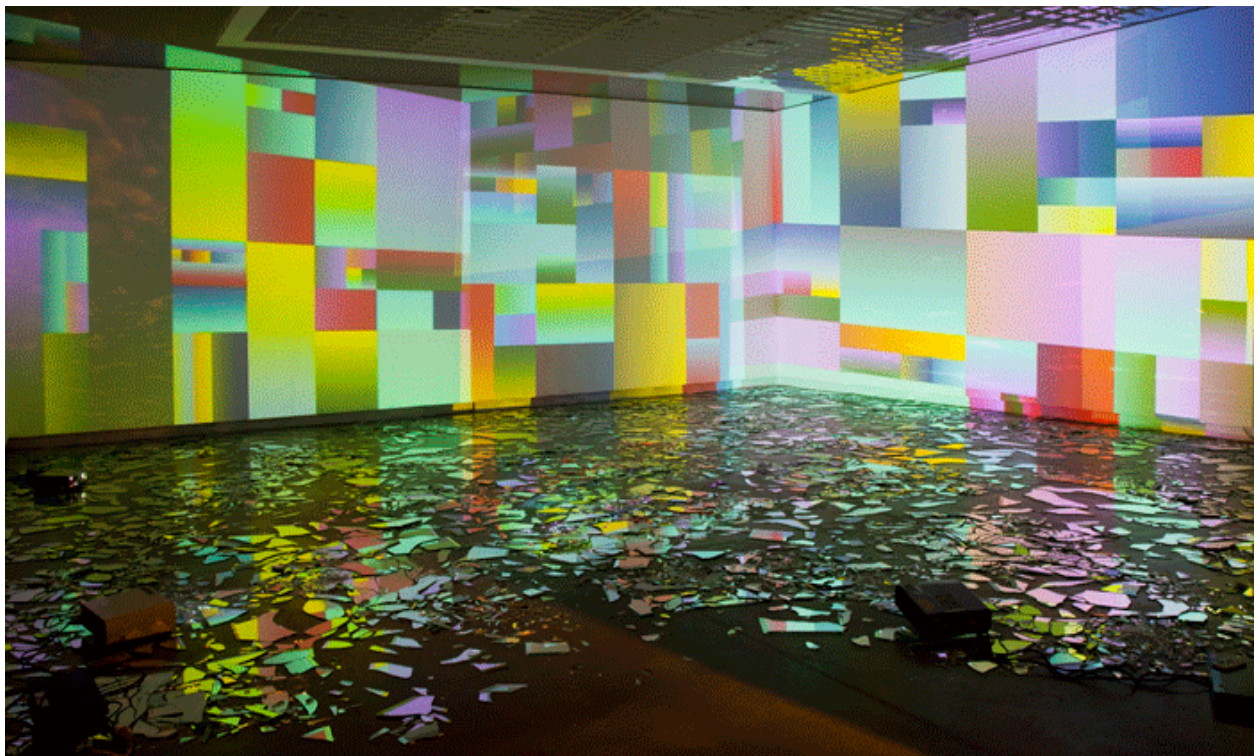
# Senior New Media Studio

ASTU 4700 // Thursdays 8 - 10:55 AM

Professor LaFleur, [Liss.LaFleur@unt.edu](mailto:Liss.LaFleur@unt.edu) (she/hir/hirs)

Office hours: Thursday 11 AM - 12PM //

<https://unt.zoom.us/j/4355820940> or by appointment



## 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 their technical skills, materials, and processes appropriate to their concepts and aesthetic sensibilities.

### ASTU 4700 - semester 1

Students enrolled in ASTU 4700 for the first time will produce an artist's statement, research proposal, annotated bibliography, and begin developing their senior project.

### ASTU 4700 - semester 2

In the second enrollment of ASTU 4700, students are expected to fully produce their projects, complete their senior project paper, and participate fully in an exhibit - in collaboration with other advanced students.

Full guidelines for the Senior Studio project in New Media Art [can be found here.](#)

## **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 work an additional 4 - 6 hours per week on your independent creative project for this class. In-class time will be split between discussions, critiques, and studio time. All students will participate in three critiques, complete one case study, plan and execute a capstone event, and compile professional materials (CV, statement, bio, portfolio).

## **Course Outcomes & Objectives**

- Individual project development - focus on *art-based research*
- Engagement with contemporary theories and ideas in *New Media Art*
- Development of professional writing skills
- Exhibition development - *case studies, exhibitions/ events*
- 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 expectations 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 flair. Note: "C" is the lowest grade you can receive to count towards your degree progression. A "D" is the result of a missed assignment or attendance problem. An "F" is the result of absences, two missed assignments or a critique session. Please note that the amount of effort does not equal the quality of effort.

## Evaluation and Grading

### **30% – Research Project**

10%: Proposal presentation and Senior Project Paper (draft)

5%: Annotated bibliography

5%: Portfolio (via Canvas)

10%: Exhibition support (semester 1) and/or execution (semester 2)

### **20% – AV Documentation**

10%: professional images/ excerpts and documentation of your work as it develops

10%: 1 - 2 minute video documentary about research project

### **30% – Critique**

10% – each/ 3 critiques

### **10% – Blog & Discussion** *via padlet*

### **10% – Case Study**

## **Assignments**

### *Research Project*

Students enrolled in Senior Studio are expected to create a body of work around a central idea or theme and present their work professionally in an exhibition or event.

Independently conceived, motivated, and sustained, senior projects offer majors an opportunity to create significant works of art, to write and speak meaningfully about ideas and processes that inform the creation of their art, and to exhibit and document their projects professionally. Senior projects encourage students to perform on a high level of artistic achievement and demonstrate conceptual sophistication, knowledgeable use of formal principles, experimental craftsmanship, and appropriate technique. To help support your development, we will be reading and discussing chapters from “Method Meets Art: Arts-Based Research Practice” Third Edition by Patricia Leavy - this can be purchased as a digital textbook via Amazon.

### *Documentation & Video Interview*

In addition to documenting your work following each critique, you will work in pairs to

develop, record, and edit a documentary-style short video this semester. This will ideally include a combination of still imagery, video excerpts, voiceover, and b-roll. I recommend you watch [various Art21](#) videos for inspiration on how artists share and talk about their works-in-progress. Final videos should be edited between 1 - 2 minutes in length and take us "behind the scenes" sharing your inspiration, process, and outputs. [Previous b-roll Example 1](#)- Senior (Eduardo Miranda)

### *Critiques*

Each student will present their work in critique 3 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 2D works in advance of class, etc.

For each critique, students will present their work along with a 100-300 word project statement (students must bring printed copies to class). These are in-class presentations on your research, planning, making, and/or processes - using images, drawings, visualizations, videos, installation, writing, and well-considered explanations. The work should be **technically** and **conceptually** accomplished - with the understanding that you will receive critical feedback and make further edits/ developments. The project statement should concisely describe the subject matter, and 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. If you do not attend your own critique, you will receive a zero for that assignment.

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

### [Case Study](#)

Since professional development, and engagement with current New Media trends, plays a critical role in this course - you will be required to complete one case study this semester. This case study will be submitted via Canvas as a single PDF. 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). A list of possible exhibitions/ events is provided below, if you select an exhibition outside of that list please speak with Professor LaFleur beforehand. Approved case studies for S24:

1. chloe chiasson exhibition @ Dallas Contemporary  
<https://www.dallascontemporary.org/on-view>
2. Sarah Sze at the Nasher  
<https://www.nashersculpturecenter.org/art/exhibitions/exhibition/id/2039?sarah-sze> \*\*\* (Extra credit for attending her artist talk Feb. 3 @ 2 pm) \*\*\*
3. An installation from the National VideoGame Museum (1/31 @ 11am)
4. An installation from MeowWolf (2.29 @ 8am)
5. Zak Loyd & Mel Clemmons at Lilianna Bloch (thru 2.17)  
<https://www.lilianablochgalleries.com/melanie-zak-2024>
6. Any exhibition at the Fort Worth Modern
7. Any event/ exhibition at Sweet Pass Sculpture Park

*Even though you only have to write about one of these, I recommend you attend as many as possible!*

### *Exhibition*

Students enrolled in this course for the second time will participate in a group exhibition at the end of the semester in the Environmental Sciences Building gallery. This event will be done in collaboration with the other section of Senior Studio, will be peer-to-peer developed and graded, and will be open to the public. The quality and presentation of each event should be professionally executed and conceptually based. Students who are enrolled in this course for the first time will support this exhibition during installation/uninstall, marketing, and social media.

### *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. We will look at examples together in class. You will submit your portfolio on Canvas to the department 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 *first day of classes, August 21 at 8 a.m.* For reference, the URL to Booked Scheduler is [\*\*https://booked.cvad.unt.edu/Web/\*\*](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 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. 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**

#### **CAVE + 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 in yourself and the issues that 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. You are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning for all.

The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [deanofstudents.unt.edu](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu).

### **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 contributions, but also on how well you engage with your peers in class as an active listener.

### **Required Supplies**

Texts as assigned. This semester we will be reading chapters from [Patricia Leavy's "Methods Meet Art" \(third edition\)](#) - which can be downloaded as a virtual textbook on Amazon. There may be additional articles or texts provided as PDFs on Canvas. 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 hard drives, and 3 - 5 thumb drives. You will need at least 1 TB of space, which 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 hard drive 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 drive, and you should back up your drive with a second hard drive. 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 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) 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](mailto:liss.lafleur@unt.edu)

You are expected to read all emails from the class instructor because you are responsible for knowing 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.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

Note:

IC = in class

A = asynchronous

Week 1 January 18	IC: Welcome + Overview of class A: Prepare research proposal, set up Padlet, pick a video project partner
Week 2 January 25	IC: <b>Research Proposal Presentations</b> A: watch an Art21 video , Draft 1 Proposal and annotated bibliography Due via Canvas, read ch. 1, post 2-4 sentence proposal summary to Padlet
Week 3 February 1	IC: Professional Documentation, partner planning meetings, discuss ch.1 A: Revise Proposal draft + continue work on projects, post 3 inspirational artists/ works/ texts to your padlet, read ch. 7  <i>VISIT TO: National Videogame Museum, Frisco w/ Professor Fan (1/31 @ 11)</i>
Week 4 February 8	IC: studio work time, work with partner on video, discuss ch. 7 A: prep for critique, write 100 - 300 word project statement + print
Week 5 February 15	<b>Crit #1 Group A</b> (bring project statement to crit) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog
Week 6 February 22	<b>Crit #2 Group B</b> (bring project statement to crit) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog
Week 7 February 29	IC: <i>Class visit to MeowWolf, Grapevine w/ Professor LaFleur (2/29 @ 8am)</i> A: work on case study, work with partner (video), read ch. 8, revise bibliography and work on research paper
Week 8 March 7	<b>MIDPOINT</b> IC: Discuss ch.8, One on one meetings / event prep for ESC exhibition (MANDATORY TECH MEETING/ site visit) A: Case Study Due, updated research proposal/ bib (semester 1) or paper draft (semester 2) Due
Week 9 March 14	<i>Spring Break (ENJOY :)</i>
Week 10 March 21	<b>Crit #2 Group A</b> (bring project statement to crit) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog

Week 11 March 28	<b>Crit #2 Group B</b> ( <i>bring project statement to crit</i> ) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog
Week 12 April 4	IC: Guest artist visit A: prepare professional documents, post to padlet, finalize projects, plan exhibition and marketing/ media
Week 13 April 11	IC: Professional practices (document workshop) & documentation video screening (in progress) A: finalize video project with partner, post to Padlet
Week 14 April 18	IC: studio work day (finalize projects) + install exhibition A: finalize project + video documentation, plan for reception  <b><u>Required attendance:</u></b> <i>ESC exhibition opening reception</i> <i>Friday April 19 @ 5:00 pm - 6:00, Environmental Sciences Building</i>
Week 15 April 25	<b>Crit #3 Group A</b> ( <i>bring project statement to crit</i> ) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog
Week 16 May 2 <i>Last class day</i>	<b>Crit #3 Group B</b> ( <i>bring project statement to crit</i> ) Post 3 - 5 documentation images, links, or excerpts to your blog  A: complete all assignments and documentation
By My 10th	<i>Leave SPOT review for course</i> Submit all remaining assignments via Canvas

## **ADDITIONAL SYLLABUS INFORMATION**

### **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 catalog of its kind freely available on-line.

<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's 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 before implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at [disability.unt.edu](http://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 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](http://www.spot.unt.edu) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto: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 before 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) have experienced or experienced 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](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources_0).