COURSE OVERVIEW

DESCRIPTION
ASTU 2450 provides an introduction to a studio practice focused on the intersection of art and technology with a specific focus on time based image, experimental and documentary sound, interactive artwork and multi-channel installation. This course is structured around three components: studio work, the development of technical skills, and an introduction to the broad field of new media/art and technology/electronic and time-based arts. Artistic voice will be emphasized over technical skill.

ASTU 2450 is a learning laboratory for media art making from brainstorming through to finished work. Students are encouraged to mix media, taking clues from a rich tradition of avant-garde experiments and hybrid forms. All projects must incorporate digital or other electronic techné in some or all stages of process, though final works may incorporate traditional materials as well. The studio establishes a collaborative learning environment, wherein all participants take turns sharing their expertise and discoveries in a laboratory of emerging technologies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES
Students who successfully complete this course
- Will have acquired digital and electronic art-making skills across the realms of digital filmmaking, sound production/manipulation, multichannel installation and 3D projection mapping.
- Will be conversant in the history of media art works, which lie at the intersection of art and technology and will have the requisite aesthetic foundation to instigate critically aware and rigorous artworks in their own studio practice.
-Will have developed a strong vocabulary for the interrogation of art and theory regarding art and technology.
-Will have completed several original works of art either as solo artists or in collaboration with others.

EXPECTATIONS
- Come to class prepared and on time with all materials you need to work.
- Turn in assignments according to deadline. Late assignments are not accepted.
- Participate consistently and thoughtfully in all class discussions and critiques (particularly those critiques involving art that is not your own).
- Respect your peers’ opinions, beliefs, orientations, and histories.
- Comport yourself with civility and respect during all critiques and discussions.
- Think about what you are doing and why you are doing it.
- Research everything ALL THE TIME
- Make art ALL THE TIME
- Attempt to explore difficult themes and/or concepts in your work; this will be reflected in your grades.
- Use both the Internet AND the library as resources when researching art and artists.
- Gain the support and camaraderie of your fellow students and engage in collaboration when it is warranted.

GOALS
- Recognize the relationships between media art, culture, and technology.
- Make educated technological and conceptual decisions based on exploration and utilization of analog and digital tools.
- Demonstrate proper procedure, maintenance, and competency with all New Media equipment and facilities.
- Identify patterns in historical and contemporary media art practices, and be conversant in art theory terminology regarding the same.
- Critically analyze your own work and the work of your peers.

PROJECTS
1. Photo Roman
2. Multi Channel Video Installation
3. 3D Projection Mapping or Performance
4. Group Manifesto (we will ‘perform’ these at the end of the semester)

*as needed we will complete miniature projects and exercises during class times

THEMES

MATERIALS
- *Manifestos for the Internet Age*—This will be our textbook.
- External hard drive: minimum 500GB, 7200rpm
- USB thumb drive (to be turned in at end of semester)
- Journal or Sketchbook
- Headphones (not ear-buds)
- UNT email—this is how we will communicate
- Access to Blackboard
GRADING
Students will be evaluated on the basis of completed projects (60%), attendance (10%) and participation (30%).

Photo-Roman: 20 pts
Multi-Channel Installation: 20 pts
3D Projection Mapping: 20 pts.
Attendance: 10 pts.
Participation: 20 pts. 100 Points Possible

A= Superior. The grade of A indicates that work is superlative and surpasses expectations for the assignment, attendance is exemplary and the student participates in discussions in a manner that is respectful toward fellow students and which contributes to productive class discussions.

B= Above Average. The grade of B indicates that work is extraordinary and goes beyond the minimal requirements of an assignment. Attendance and participation are exemplary.

C= Average. The grade of C indicates that work is completed as assigned and submitted by deadline. Attendance and participation are lackluster.

D= Below Average. The grade of D indicates that work is completed, but is not completed as assigned. Attendance and participation are poor.

F= Fail. The grade F indicates that work is not completed as assigned according to deadline and that attendance and participation are minimal.

NEW MEDIA ART MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the New Media Art program at the University of North Texas is to cultivate new methods of performance and media art practices in contemporary art. Through creative and critical inquiry, we emphasize artistic excellence, interdisciplinary learning, socially engaged practices, and welcome collaboration.

We see our mission as the study and practice of visual culture, past and present, in order to understand how the convergence of performance, storytelling, and media can illuminate and expand, or conceal and limit the worlds they represent. Finally, we recognize that example is the best teacher and strive through our own creative research to embody the values we wish to impart. Pursuing research and creative opportunities, both locally and internationally, we draw upon and engage with the current critical discourse around Media and Performance Art.

This mission is fulfilled:

- Through innovative active learning curricula that contributes toward and engages with current practices and theoretical structures
- By continually investigating emerging media and technologies, as well as traditional approaches, as a way to open new channels of research and practice
- Through a belief that diversity—in background, status, culture, and viewpoint—is essential to a vital and creative community
- By expecting academic excellence as a fundamental part of a professional education in the visual arts
• Through a commitment toward rich engagement within our communities through community based learning experiences and service related activities
• By fostering an intellectual community within which experimentation is key

ATTENDANCE
You are allowed only THREE unexcused absences. After the FOURTH absence your grade will drop a full letter for each subsequent absence. If you miss class it is your responsibility to acquire the information you missed on the day you were absent. If you are aware that you will be absent prior to the date of an absence you must notify me. Excused absences are granted in the case of illness accompanied by a doctor’s note and documented personal and/or family emergency. Two tardies (10 min. after class begins) will result in one absence.

EXPECTATIONS
- Come to class on time and prepared with all materials you need to work.
- Turn in assignments on time. Late assignments will be graded, but not critiqued. Late assignments will be docked a full letter grade for each day they are late.
- Participate consistently and thoughtfully in all class discussions and critiques, especially for those of which are not your own.
- Respect your peers’ opinions, orientations, histories, beliefs, and experiences.
- Pay attention, ask questions and work hard.

GENERAL RULES FOR INTERACTING WITH YOUR FACULTY
- Do not attempt to add me as a friend on Facebook.
- Do not message me on Facebook.
- Do not text me.
- When you write me an email compose it in a professional manner with a salutation and a sign off.
- Until the time comes when I give indication otherwise, please address me as Mr. or Professor Back.

UNT PLAGIARISM POLICY
Plagiarism is a serious violation of UNT’s code of academic conduct. The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline, Policy Manual, Graduate Catalog, and Undergraduate Catalog explain specific policies, penalties, and the appeals process. The UNT Policy on Academic Misconduct provides definitions of plagiarism and states that the instructor can assign penalties for violations of the policy.

The term plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

The UNT policy further states that all students:

are responsible for making themselves aware of the definitions and implications of academic misconduct. For further information on academic misconduct, penalties and appeal procedures, the student should refer to the "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline."
Penalties are assigned by instructors and can range from reducing the grade for a test or assignment to revoking an academic degree already granted.

DISABILITY STATEMENT
The College of Visual Art and Design is committed to full academic access for all qualified students, including those with disabilities. In keeping with this commitment and in order to facilitate equality of educational access, faculty members in the College will make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disability, such as appropriate adjustments to the classroom environment and the teaching, testing, or learning methodologies when doing so does not fundamentally alter the course.

If you have a disability it is your responsibility to obtain verifying information from the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) and to inform me of your need for an accommodation. Requests for accommodation must be given to me no later than the first week of classes. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed. Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You may also call the ODA at 940.565.4323.

COURSE RISK FACTOR
This course recognizes that there are certain risks inextricably associated with certain activities within the lab, and categories are assigned to those risk factors. Working with computers in a lab environment such as this class is considered a category 2 risk. I ask every student to be especially mindful of these risks. Be concerned for your safety and the safety of those around you, specifically as it relates to how you use your computer equipment.

BUILDING EMERGENCY PROCEDURES
In case of an emergency (alarm will sound), please follow the building evacuation plans posted on each floor of your building and proceed to the nearest parking lot. In case of a tornado (campus sirens will sound) or other weather related severity, please go to the nearest hallway or room on your floor without exterior windows and remain there until an all clear signal is sounded. Follow the instructions of your faculty and act accordingly.

CENTER FOR STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Each University of North Texas student is entitled to certain rights associated with higher education institutions. See www.unt.edu/csrr for further information. The faculty retains the right to change the syllabus with or without notice.
SCHEDULE
Week 1: Course Overview, Introductions/Historical Context for New Media Art
Week 2: Elements of Image Production
Week 3: Elements of Sound Design/Adobe Audition
Week 4: Editing in Adobe Premier
Week 5: Group 1 Critique/Group 2 Critique
Week 6: Multi-channel video installation—Historical Contexts/Video Tools
Week 7: Projectors, Monitors, Video Players/Video as Space, Video as Architecture.
Week 8: Shooting and Processing Video/Preparing Video for Playback
Week 9: Planning for multi-channel installation
Week 10: Group 1 Critique/Group 2 Critique
Week 12: MadMapper/Video as Sculpture, Sculpture as Video, Video Performance.
Week 13: Experimental Surfaces: Found objects vs. Fabrication, Performance Exercises
Week 14: Making, Fabricating, Editing, Fine Tuning
Week 15: Group 1 Critique/Group 2 Critique
Week 16: Final Wrap Up, Clean Up/USB Drives Due

PROJECT DEADLINES
September 26—Photo-Roman
October 31—Multi Channel Installations Due
November 30—3D Projections or Performance Due
December 7—USB Drive of Comprehensive Semester Documentation Due

PRESENTATION DATES
*The criteria for each presentation is as follows: approximately 15-20 minutes in duration, be accompanied by a slideshow, and examine how each artist, art event or art movement relates to the development of media and new media art. Do not reference Wikipedia.

September 12—Dada
September 26—E.A.T. (Experiments in Art and Technology) 9 Evenings
October 3—Charlotte Moorman and Nam June Paik
October 10—Steina and Woody Vasulka
October 17—Gary Hill
October 24—Paula Gaetano Adi
October 31—Laurie Anderson
November 7—Stelarc
November 14—Eduardo Kac
November 21—Claudia Hart
November 28—John Cage

SCHEDULE OF READING DISCUSSIONS
Come to class prepared and with notes in order to participate in a meaningful discussion of the manifestos assigned for reading with regards to art practice, history and current socio-political events.

August 31—Defining New Media Art Why is it so Difficult to Define New Media Art?
September 14—The Hacker’s Manifesto
September 21—Manifesto for the Unstable Media
September 28—Cyberfeminist Manifesto for the 21st Century
October 5—A Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace
October 12—Lowtech Manifesto
October 19—The Uppsala Declaration
October 26—Powr, broccoli, kopimi
November 2—The Bitcoin Manifesto
November 9—A Cryptoparty Manifesto
November 16—New Clues
November 30—3D Additivist Manifesto
December 7—Xenofeminism