the syllabus *(because knowledge is power.)*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Students learn planning, research, and production methods specific to the discipline of interaction design. Principles covered relate to information hierarchy, user/information interactions, user-experience, and usability. Students receive exposure to relevant interaction design trends as means to analyze the use of technology in solving complex problems.

**CREDITS & PREREQUISITES**

ADES 3510 is a 3 unit course. Student must have successfully completed ADES 2520 & 2530. Student must have been selected to continue in the program in the mid-point portfolio review.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Understand delineation of interaction design (IxD), user-interface design (UI), user-experience design (UX), and information architecture.
- Understand methods, skills, and knowledge needed to design for interactive communications.
- Understand various roles a designer can play in IxD as well as which areas fit your desires, experience, and knowledge.
- Become familiar with Content Management Systems (CMS) and their role in IxD.
- Master the use of prototyping software.
- Demonstrate ability to apply interaction design theory and best practices within your work.
- Demonstrate ability to concept and develop digital solutions to improve the human experience.
- Demonstrate the ability to work efficiently within a group, and to fairly assess peers’ work.
- Gain confidence in your strengths as a designer.

**COURSE STRUCTURE**

Classes consist of lectures, critiques, discussions, demonstrations, student presentations, and workshops. On many occasions only a portion of our class will meet in-person. When this occurs, required lectures/demos will be uploaded online. Students are expected to use the full class period for this course. Do not schedule other events during course time, even if we are meeting in split groups.

This semester students will work on one individual design project and one group design project, which overlap with one semester-long reading response journal.

A tentative schedule is provided at the end of this document. Your instructor reserves the right to adjust the schedule as needed.

Come prepared each class with work complete and ready for feedback. The course will demand substantial work outside of class to progress and effectively use class time.

Course documents and project requirements post to Canvas, which is also where final projects are due and will be graded. Announcements will be sent via Canvas and/or email. It is not possible for faculty to communicate to students via personal email accounts; regularly monitor your UNT email or forward it to an alternative account.
the syllabus (cont.)

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Good attendance and punctuality are expected for this class and will strongly affect your grades. Roll will be taken at the beginning of every class. You’ll be considered late if you arrive after roll has been taken. If you are late, it is your responsibility during that class period to make sure the instructor knows that you are present by leaving a note with your name, date and time of arrival with the instructor. If not received, you will be marked as absent. Every four tardies will equal one unexcused absence. Only three unexcused absences will be accepted. The fourth unexcused absence will lower your final semester grade by one letter grade. The fifth unexcused absence will lower your grade by two letter grades. The professor has a right to fail the student who accrues a total of six absences, excused or unexcused. There are no excused absences for anything but a verifiable death in the immediate family or with a doctor’s note on his/her stationary with a telephone number. The doctor’s note must be presented at the next class. A receipt is unacceptable. If you are more than thirty minutes late, it will be counted as an unexcused absence. If you are absent, you are responsible for contacting a class member in order to get any information or assignments that were given in class. The instructor will not use any class time to repeat missed lectures or assignments. Do not call the main office to leave the instructor a note that you are missing class for any reason. Under no circumstances should you leave a project with anyone in the main or design office. The office will not accept any projects. Incomplete daily work may result in additional unexcused absences at the discretion of the professor.

GRADING & EVALUATION
Your final grade is the cumulation of four project scores accumulated throughout the semester. Final grades are rounded to the nearest 10th of a point. Rubrics and specifications are provided for each assignment, but assessment is primarily based on:

PARTICIPATION Respect classmates by listening and participating, especially in critiques. Your opinion is valuable! Points are docked for sleeping, disrespectful comments, or other disruptive behavior in class. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom may result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

PROFESSIONALISM Meet all specifications, including size, format, etc. as outlined for each assignment. Closely follow instructions! Keep files organized and clearly labeled. Avoid grammatical and spelling errors at all costs!

PROCESS Apply research and push yourself to a unique, concept-driven approach. Refine work throughout the project. Use demos/feedback to revise projects as needed. Include thorough process documentation as requested. Work iteratively and keep everything!

DESIGN Balance concept with equally compelling visuals. Visual decisions should address the problem posed in the assignment prompt. Strong designs are original, avoiding tropes or cliché. For full marks, designs need to push boundaries of modern design and make even your professor jealous.

A 90%+ EXCELLENT WORK! Surpasses goals of the assignment/course.
B 80%–89.9% GREAT WORK. Few opportunities for improvement.
C 70%–79% GOOD WORK. Clear effort, achieved all outlined goals.
D 60%–69% BELOW AVERAGE WORK. Undeveloped ideas and/or execution.
F 0%–59.9% UNACCEPTABLE WORK. I know you can do better!
the syllabus (cont.)

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- MacBook Pro (or similar PC) w/ Adobe CC
- UNT Email & Canvas accounts
- One Drive/Dropbox, etc account
- No more than $60 in website fees
- Funds for occasional prints
- Index cards (one set per group)

ADOBE CREATIVE CLOUD

- UNT Students may subscribe for a discount to buy Adobe® Creative Cloud™. All the apps. All the time. 100GB of free storage! $55.55 with your UNT.student discount
- Access: Aug. 15, 2022 or from date of purchase through Aug. 31, 2023
- Details: https://news.cvad.unt.edu/adobe-news
- Purchase: https://unt.edu/adobe

RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

UNT values diversity and individuality as part of advancing ideals of human worth, dignity and academic excellence. Diverse viewpoints enrich open discussion, foster the examination of values and exposure of biases, help educate people in rational conflict resolution and responsive leadership, and prepare us for the complexities of a pluralistic society. As such, UNT is committed to maintaining an open, welcoming atmosphere that attracts qualified students, staff, and faculty from all groups to support their success. UNT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in its application and admission process, educational programs and activities, employment policies and use of university facilities.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking 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 an accommodation letter. You can now request your Letters of Accommodation ONLINE and ODA will mail your Letters of Accommodation to your instructors. You may wish to begin a private discussion with your professors regarding your specific needs in a course. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access. disability.unt.edu. (Phone: (940) 565-4323)

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Students can access information about health and safety at: https://music.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness

REGISTRATION INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Registration Information can be found at https://registrar.unt.edu/students
the syllabus (cont.)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
This semester’s academic calendar and registration guide can be found at https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide

EMAIL
You must use your UNT email address to communicate with professors. You may forward your UNT email to a private email address via your My UNT settings.

EMERGENCIES
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 Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials. Some helpful emergency preparedness actions include: 1) know the evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas in the buildings where your classes are held, 2) determine how you will contact family and friends if phones are temporarily unavailable, and 3) identify where you will go if you need to evacuate the Denton area suddenly. If the university is closed for more than one day, you should check the UNT website at www.unt.edu, the UNT Facebook page and @untEagleAlert for the latest information.

FINANCIAL AID
A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to continue to receive financial aid. Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in addition to successfully completing a required number of credit hours based on total hours registered. Students cannot exceed attempted credit hours above 150% of their required degree plan. If a student does not maintain the required standards, the student may lose their financial aid eligibility.

If at any point you consider dropping this or any other course, please be advised that the decision to do so may have the potential to affect your current and future financial aid eligibility. It is recommended that you to schedule a meeting with an academic advisor in your college or visit the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships office to discuss dropping a course before doing so.

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 Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. You have a right to view your individual record; however, information about your records will not be divulged to other individuals without the proper written consent. You are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the university’s policy in accordance with those mandates.
the syllabus (cont.)

COUNSELING AND TESTING
UNT’s Center for Counseling and Testing has an available counselor whose position includes 16 hours per week of dedicated service to students in the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design. Please visit the Center’s website for further information: http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services

ADD/DROP POLICY
Please be reminded that dropping classes or failing to complete and pass registered hours may make you ineligible for financial aid. In addition, if you drop below half-time enrollment you may be required to begin paying back your student loans. After the 12th class day, students must first submit a completed “Request to Drop” form to the Registrar’s Office. Information about add/drop may be found at: See Academic Calendar (listed above)

STUDENT RESOURCES
The University of North Texas has many resources available to students. For a complete list, go to: https://success.unt.edu/aa-sa-resources

CARE TEAM
The Care Team is a collaborative interdisciplinary committee of university officials that meets regularly to provide a response to student, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others. https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care-team

GRADING POLICY
All projects are due on the day and time given at the beginning of class. No late projects will be accepted for grading. You are responsible for turning in work on time regardless of attendance.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam [or specify alternative sanction, such as course failure]. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students (Office of Academic Integrity), who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term “cheating” includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. The term “plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. LINK: https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003
SEXUAL HARASSMENT

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as 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. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648.

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 classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct

ACCESS TO INFORMATION – EAGLE CONNECT

Your access point for business and academic services at UNT occurs at my.unt.edu. All official communication from the university will be delivered to your Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect. (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

STUDENT FEEDBACK

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 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.

SUCCEED AT UNT

UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grown. And, as a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. Here’s how to succeed at UNT: Show up. Find Support. Get advised. Be prepared. Get involved. Stay focused. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go to success.unt.edu.

TECH REQUIREMENTS

You will need a laptop computer and Adobe Creative Suite software. Students will need to purchase individual licenses for Adobe Creative Suite software to work remotely on personal computers. If you need financial assistance for this purchase, you may apply for emergency funds via the CARE act funding link at UNT.

UPDATES & CHANGES

Instructor reserves the right to make adjustments/changes/updates to the course syllabus with or without notice.
the syllabus (cont.)

COMPUTER ETIQUETTE

Computers crash, drives become corrupt...more than once you may lose your work. Unfortunately this can occur more often as computers age and become overloaded with classwork. Crashes, loss of data, theft of machine, etc. are not acceptable reasons for turning work in late. Develop good backup habits!

- Save often. Train your hand to rest on Command+S!
- Save incrementally (aka versioning). For instance, save your files as: myProject_V1, myProject_V2, etc. If a file corrupts or vanishes, the previously saved file minimizes your loss. This is vital for documenting process as well.
- Back up files in more than one place. Besides your hard drive, also save onto Google Drive, Dropbox, Box or another Cloud based service. This includes your raw data, research, images, text, etc. UNT provides access to OneDrive storage.
- Phones and tablets may be used as supplementary devices, but not for online office hours, as screen sharing capabilities become limited.

GUIDELINES

Your perspective, voice and opinion are important and valued. Respect one another, and be prepared to help your classmates regularly. We can all learn from each other, so listen well and speak up often!

It will help everyone if you will:

- Turn off your phone, or set it to vibrate if you're expecting urgent news. Leave quietly to take the call; but don't answer it in class.
- Resist the urge to text, check social media, or work on outside course work during class. With a screen-based course it is easier than ever to become distracted and miss vital lessons. It is ultimately your decision to be diligent or not—so use technology wisely.
- Get on good terms with each program's spell-check feature. Misspelled words in final projects drop your score 5%!
- This semester, please don't eat in the classroom. If you need to eat, take a quick break and step out of class to do so.
- Be considerate of others. Your classmates and instructor are humans, with flaws and anxieties but also with unique backgrounds and experiences that are vital to a healthy class ecosystem! As a courtesy to others, I ask that you wear a mask while in the classroom, until notified otherwise.

COVID PROTOCOLS

I strongly request a face covering be worn in class, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines.

Read up-to-date University pandemic policies and procedures at https://vpaa.unt.edu/return and https://healthalerts.unt.edu.

Try not! Do or do not. There is no try.
OLD YODA
This course consists of 1 portfolio project, 1 individual design project, and one large group project. The group project is further divided into 2 parts.

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| 15%    | **P1: THE MICROSITE**  
Gain an understanding of essential interface design and prototyping through the creation of a type specimen microsite. |     | LAUNCH |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 20%    | **P2: THE MICROSITE**  
Gain an understanding of essential interface design and prototyping through the creation of a type specimen microsite. |     | PLAN + SKETCH |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 20%    | **P3: THE REDESIGN PART 1: USER EXPERIENCE**  
Work in groups to research and assess an existing site. Set goals for the redesign and practice UX research methodologies. |     | LAUNCH |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 45%    | **P3: THE REDESIGN PART 2: CONTENT & INTERFACE DESIGN**  
Work in groups to wireframe, design and prototype a website in three scales. |     | IDENTIFY |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |

Schedule is tentative and subject to change. Check the Canvas assignment pages for updates.
model release (a star is born!)

WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT
In consideration for the expectation of publicity and acknowledgment for __________________ (property) and any valuable consideration, I hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue the University of North Texas, the Board of Regents of the State of Texas, their officers, servants, agents, or employees of UNT from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss damage, injury including death that may be sustained by me, or to any property belonging to me, whether caused by the negligence of UNT, or otherwise for the use of images of property which I own and or have full authority to license for such uses, regardless of whether said use is made in conjunction with my own name, company name, or with a fictitious name, or whether said use is made in color, black and white, video, or otherwise, or other derivative works made thought any medium. I waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve the photos or finished versions incorporating the photos, including written copy that may be used in connection therewith.

VOLUNTARY ASSUMPTION OF RISK OF LOSS
To the best of my knowledge, I can fully participate in any publicity. I am fully aware of the risks and hazards connected with the activity including, but not limited to, the risks as noted herein, and I hereby elect to voluntarily participate in publicity and to engage in publicity may be hazardous to me and property. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of loss, property damage, illness or personal injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or any loss or damage to my property, as a result of being engaged in publicity.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless UNT from any loss, liability, damage, or costs, including court costs, and attorney’s fees that may be incurred due to my participation in publicity.

I understand that UNT will not be responsible for any medical costs associated with any injury that I may sustain while participating in publicity.

I understand that I should and am urged by UNT to obtain adequate health and accident insurance to cover any personal injury or property loss to myself or property that may be sustained during publicity.

It is my express intent that this agreement shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns, and personal representative, if I am not alive, shall be deemed as a release, waiver, discharge, and covenant not to sue UNT and that this agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas.

In signing this release as a participant in publicity, I certify that I have read the foregoing waiver of liability and hold harmless agreement, I understand it, and I sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made.

I am at least 18 years of age, and fully competent; or if under 18 years of age, my parent or legal guardian’s approval and signature has been obtained; and I execute this release for full, adequate, and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by the same.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this __________________________ day of __________________, 20 ________

Participant’s signature (required)

______________________________
SIGNATURE

______________________________
WITNESS
student work (permission to brag about you)

PERMISSION TO USE STUDENT WORK

1. Grant of Permission. I, the undersigned, am a student at the University of North Texas (UNT) and I am enrolled in ___________ (name of course). By my signature below I hereby grant permission to UNT to use, copy, reproduce, publish, distribute or display any and all works created to comply with the requirements of this course in accordance with the terms set forth below. Additionally I consent to the disclosure of the work created in this class as may be accompanied by my name and other personally identifiable information for purposes as set forth below.

2. Scope of Permission. This permission extends to the use of the described work and images of such work: (1) for academic purposes in order to demonstrate examples of student work to current and future UNT students; (2) for public display in the galleries or on the campus of the UNT or on the UNT website; (3) for promotional materials created by UNT in all forms of media now known or later developed, including but not limited to exhibition catalogues, direct mail, websites, advertising and classroom presentations. My permission is on-going and will continue until such time as I revoke it by giving UNT three months written notice of revocation to the professor of record for this course. UNT will have three months from the date of my notice to stop all use in accordance with this permission.

3. Certificate of Ownership. I am the owner of all work submitted in accordance with the requirements of the named course and the work is not subject to any grant or restriction that would prevent its use consistent with this permission. All aspects of the work are original to me and have not been copied. I understand that as owner of the work I have the right to control all reproduction, copying and use of the work in accordance with U.S. copyright laws.

4. Privacy Release. I hereby authorize and consent to the release, maintenance and display of my name if necessary and any other personally identifiable information that I have provided in connection with the work and its use in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

SIGNATURE ____________________________ DATE ____________________________

By signing the contract for this course I hereby grant the permissions indicated above. I understand that this grant of permission relates only to the use of the described work. This is not an exclusive right and I may sell, give or otherwise transfer the rights to such work to others on a non-exclusive or exclusive basis. However, in the event that I do sell, give or otherwise transfer ownership or the exclusive right to use my work to another party, I will notify UNT immediately in writing through the professor of record for this course. UNT will have three months from the date of my notice to stop all use in accordance with this permission.
The Contract *(we need your autograph, please.)*

I acknowledge that I have read the course syllabus. I understand the course structure, grading, attendance policies, as well as the risk factor rating. I hereby agree to the syllabus and its provisions. Additionally “I agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the *Permission to Use Student Work* contract.”

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“*I agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the Permission to Use Student Work contract.*”

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And:

“*I agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the UNT Legal Model Release Form contract.*”

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