Fall 2012 Semester
DIGITAL ART & NEW MEDIA: ARTS-UG 1635

Course Dates:
September 6th – December 14th
Thursday: 3:30 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.

Classroom Location: Room 374
238 Thompson Street
GCSS (Global Center for Spiritual Studies)

Office # and Hours: Room 416
715 Broadway
Thursday 12:00 – 3:00

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Course Description:
This workshop seeks to bring students from varying backgrounds together to engage in evaluating and developing digital new media for the Internet and other new media art installations. The Web makes possible a powerful new kind of student-centered, constructivist learning by collecting at a single site a phenomenal array of learning and creative resources that can be explored with simple point-and-click skills: photos, text, animation, audio and film materials. Emerging new media technologies allow cross-development and implementation to the Web. Each student brings to the class a set of experiences and skills, such as research, writing, design, film, music, photography, computer gaming, performance, illustration, computer literacy, software knowledge or Internet experience. Through lectures, including a survey of digital new media currently on the Internet, group discussions, field trips and workshops focusing on their personal skills, students will develop individual projects. The workshop will deconstruct innovative Web sites, computer and video games, film, using digital new media, as well as discuss concepts, content strategies, and frameworks that bridge theory and practice. Class projects, readings, writings, and Blog journal-keeping are essential components of this course. Students are encouraged to supply their own media.
Weekly Assignments: Since this class will vary each week, depending on speakers, field trips and updates on new media, at the beginning of each class, I will pass out hard copies of the assignments for the following week. I will also send an e-mail to each student of these assignments.

Readings: There will be selected readings from *The New Media Reader* by Noah Wardrip-Fruin and Nick Montfort that are online:

http://www.newmediareader.com/about.html

http://games.soe.ucsc.edu/people/noah-wardrip-ruin

Additional Readings: Students will be given online articles or website links of assigned readings on aspects of digital new media at the start of each new class. Since Digital New Media is constantly evolving and new technologies are profiled weekly, online articles or website links assigned will relate to topics in the news, as well as history of the topics discussed.

Lab Assignments: Students will be assigned Web sites and online tutorials to look up outside of class. These Web sites and online tutorials will reflect the books and the articles assigned, as well as the videotape, DVD and website demonstrations. In addition, blogs and/or DELICIOUS links account (http://delicious.com/) will be used to encourage the class to share information on particular topics. In addition, students may be assigned other new media websites as experiments, such as Google docs.
Deliverables:

There will be a weekly BLOG report and a final new media project. The BLOG can be set up, where, on a weekly basis the student can submit a summary of the article or chapter read, ideas and reflections concerning the class material covered.

- The final project is a digital new media project (to be approved by November 1st). I will meet with each student at least twice before November 1st to review potential final projects. The digital new media project should involve a Web site construction (supply Web site links) or an interactive piece delivered on a CD or DVD.

- The final project is due the last day of class on Thursday, December 13th. BLOG reports are due on the before 1:00 p.m. each Thursday. If any of the BLOG reports are late, without a verifiable and good excuse, it may result in a reduced grade. Your grade is based on 13 BLOG reports: (25% of your grade), class attendance and participation (25% of your grade) and final project (50% of your grade).

- BLOG reports should include a one-page summary of the article, lecture, DVD or pages from assigned readings. The reports should be used as a departure point for the student to express his or her own views of the subject matter. The student is expected to incorporate ideas mentioned in the classroom discussions.

- BLOG reports will be based on assigned readings, lab assignments, field trips and DVDs/videos for the course. The final project will be discussed and agreed upon during an Office Hour or other outside of class meeting with the instructor; a verification of the scope of the project will be sent via e-mail to instructor.

- There will be guest speakers relating to the state-of-the-art of digital new media. Some of the guests may include Professor Ken Perlin, Noah Wardrip-Fruin, Eric Rosenthal (former VP of Walt Disney R & D), gaming experts, and others.
• Attendance is taken and is an integral part of your grade. More than one missed class without a written excuse by a doctor or some other professional may result in a reduced grade.

• Incompletes: asking for an incomplete needs to be based on a “good reason.” The student must request the incomplete in writing (or e-mail) before December 13th.

NYU Plagiarism Policy:

“As a Gallatin student you belong to an interdisciplinary community of artists and scholars who value honest and open intellectual inquiry. This relationship depends on mutual respect, responsibility, and integrity. Failure to uphold these values will be subject to severe sanction, which may include dismissal from the University. Examples of behaviors that compromise the academic integrity of the Gallatin School include plagiarism, illicit collaboration, doubling or recycling coursework, and cheating. Please consult the Gallatin Bulletin or Gallatin website http://www.gallatin.nyu.edu/academics/policies/policy/integrity.html for a full description of the academic integrity policy.”

Policy on Electronic Devices (laptops, tablets, cell phones, etc.):

There will be no use of computer laptops, tablets or cell phones during the class. Students will be given breaks during the course. If a student is seen using a electronic device without permission, then that student will be given a warning about not using the device. If the student persists in using the electronic device during class, then the student may be asked to leave. This may result in a lower grade.