Syllabus / Section 2

DES 602 - Design Technology

Pratt Institute, Manhattan Center, Room 517

Instructor

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Course Description

DES 602 - Design Technology, This course focuses on the advanced planning, conceptualizing, and designing for and with current technologies. Students review contemporary designers' solutions to complex media projects, and using this knowledge as a foundation, develop their own innovative solutions. The emphasis is on developing an individualized approach to new media. Examples of potential projects include interfaces for mobile devices, electronic books, and interactive branding.

This course will be conducted primarily as a vehicle toward individual design research and application. The secondary goal of this course it to critically examine the purposes and results of the research and to help classmates work through these design problems conceptually and technically through critique and class interaction. There will be 4 projects in this course. Likewise a writing component in this course will manifest itself as a statement and title for each project and all work is to be submitted to the course website at http://courses/ericbintner.com/upload/

Along with completing assignments, class members are encouraged to communicate with each other outside of class via electronic means, email, IM, FB... This can include, but not be exclusive to problems, solutions, information, etc. The benefits of developing a network within your area of design cannot be over done.

Course Goals

• Become familiar with definitions of interaction design
• Become familiar with principles of interaction design
• Become familiar with approaches to user-centered design
• Acquire skills to research and define an interaction design problem
• Develop the presentation and communication skills necessary to discuss and portray interaction design problems and solutions in a team environment

Critique

Each of the projects will conclude with a discussion and viewing of the finished work. Students are expected to present their completed projects to the whole class. Students are expected to vocally participate in the discussions of each project presented. It is understood in the critique environment that the author of the work listen to other's interpretation's and feedback prior to explaining their intentions. This is to promote an unguided and more accurate interpretation from your peers and encourage a heightened awareness of intentionality from the author.

Prerequisites

None.

Required Supplies

- You will need access to a web server, FTP and proper web hosting is best but other options will be discussed
- Access to an html text editor - Fraise for Mac is recommended and free, Dreamweaver is good, Sublime Text is popular

Recommended Supplies

- Cloud based backup or 4GB USB drive
- FTP client & your own website
- Adobe Creative Suite
- Some projects may require the purchase of additional supplies as needed on an individual basis.

Grading

This is a studio course and WILL require work beyond the scheduled class period. Computer lab hours will be posted.

Grading Formula:

    80% Projects - 100pts per project, 400 points total

    20% Writing (statement.txt) - 25pts per project, 100 points total

Individual Grade Expectations:

A (4.00): Outstanding work. Outstanding achievement relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. Performance was of the highest level. Excellence while meeting course objectives was sustained throughout the course. Not only was the student's performance clearly and significantly above satisfactory, it was also of an independent and creative nature.

A- (3.70): Excellent work. Excellent achievement relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. Performance was clearly and significantly above satisfactory, and was creative and independent.

B+ (3.30): Very good work. Achievement above the level necessary to meet course requirements. Performance was very good, although not of the highest level. Performance was clearly and significantly above satisfactory fulfillment of course requirements.

B (3.00): Satisfactory work. Achievement that meets the course requirements. Performance was adequate, although marginal in quality.

B- (2.70): Good work. Achievement at a level just above that necessary to meet course requirements. Performance was notable.

C (2.00): Minimum passing work. Achievement barely worthy of credit. Student demonstrated unsatisfactory achievement in meeting course objectives, yet fulfilled a sufficient enough portion of the course objectives that repeating the course is not necessary unless required by the academic unit.

F (0.00): Failed – no credit. A failure to meet course requirements. The work of course objectives were either: 1) completed but not at a level of achievement that is worthy of credit, or 2) have not been completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an "I" (incomplete).

Failure to meet assignment and project deadlines will result in lowered grades. For each class day the assignment is overdue, its grade will be lowered one full letter. Documentation of your progress MUST be reflected in your submission pages or it will not count as finished!

Special considerations will NOT be given to students on the basis of technical difficulties, if alternative solutions were not actively pursued. Students are expected to use their time and energies wisely.

Attendance

Attendance at ALL class sessions is mandatory for successful completion of this course. You are responsible for all material presented in class and it is important that you do not miss any classes! Students are expected to come to class on time, ready to work with all necessary supplies and materials. **Pratt policy states three or more unexcused absences will result in the failing of the course.** Only the following would be considered an excused absence:

- Participation in University-sanctioned activities and programs
- Personal illness with a doctor's note indicating that the student needed to stay home on that particular class day
- Family and/or other compelling circumstances

Instructors have the right to request documentation verifying the basis of any absences resulting from the above factors. Do not ask the instructor if it is all right to miss a class for any other reason. An excused absence does not excuse the student from making up class time missed in a timely manner. Attendance will be taken daily and arriving to Lecture/Lab component 30 minutes late and/or leaving more that 30 minutes early will be recorded and counts as one-half of an unexcused absence. Signing in for any other student will result in a failing grade.