

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
DEPARTMENT OF ART

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Art (ART) 311 - 01**  
**Topics in Art**

**"History of Video Games"**  
**Spring 2015 (May 14 - June 4)**  
**MWF, 12:30-4:20, CHC 119**

**Instructor:** Rob Furr  
**Office Location:** AB 661  
**Office Phone:** T.B.A.  
**E-Mail:** [rsfurr@gmail.com](mailto:rsfurr@gmail.com)  
**Office Hours:** 10-12, MWF

**Course Description**

Topics in art may include art appreciation, art and everyday life, themes in art history.

**Prerequisites &/or Co-requisites**

N.A.

**Objectives of the Course**

This class has two primary objectives:

To acquaint students with the history and origins of video games, as shown through examination of particular examples of the form.

To introduce students to critical examinations of games and gaming, and to enable them to evaluate and place traits, themes, and developments in gaming in a historical context.

**Textbooks and Readings**

**Replay: The History of Video Games** by Tristan Donovan

Other texts as provided via the class D2L site.

**Assignments and Evaluation**

In-Class Tests (Test 1-50%; Test 2- 20%)	70%
Final Examination (via Desire2Learn)	30%
Total	100%

Note that extra credit is available under the policies discussed in the first day of class.

A passing grade on a specific component of the course is not required to get a passing grade in the class.

**Note: It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of or any relevant documentation regarding each submitted assignment.**

Please hand in your assignments directly to your instructor. If this is not possible, you can use the drop box outside of AB 608. Assignments that are put into the drop box will be date-stamped and placed in the instructor's mailbox.

### Registrar-Scheduled Final Exam – No

Day	Subject	Examination	Readings
Friday, May 15	Terminology, Pinball, History of Computers		
Wednesday, May 20	SF/Electronics, Spacewar!, Pong!, Odyssey,		
Friday, May 22	Space Invaders, Pac-Man, I, Robot.		
Monday, May 25	Startrek.bas, Rogue, Ultima 4, Pitfall, Super Mario Bros		
Wednesday, May 27	Tetris, Lemmings, Cannon Fodder, Civilization	Test 1	Replay, Chapters 1-8
Friday, May 29	Myst, Tomb Raider, Metroid		
Monday, June 1	Doom, Daikatana, Counter-Strike, Grand Theft Auto III		
Wednesday, June 3	Ultima Online, Everquest, The Beast/Cloudmaker	Test 2	Replay, Chapters 13-19
June 3-June 5		Final Exam (via D2L)	Comprehensive, including Replay Ch. 20-23

### Late Policy

Students are required to be present in class for the tests as listed in the schedule. Only medical or family emergencies, with documentation, will be accepted as valid reasons for a makeup test to be given. Makeup tests will be essay-based, so it is in the student's best interest to try to avoid requiring one."

## Grading Method/Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade	G.P.A.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

## Internet and Electronic Communication Device Information

Laptops and other electronic note taking devices are permitted in class, but **not recommended**.

**The use of cell phones in class is *not permitted*. Students who use cell phones in class will have their devices taken away and returned at the end of the class.**

**It is important to note that taking notes by hand has been found to result in higher retention of course material. As a result, course presentations will *NOT BE DISTRIBUTED*.**

## Academic Accommodation

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>

## Academic Standing

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html>

## Deferral of Exams/Term work

It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examination(s) for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with Enrolment Services if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.

For more information go to [http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred\\_final](http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/deferred_final)

## F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

## Writing/Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or Writing Support Services (at the Student Success Centre) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support> or <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

## Student Misconduct

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

## Student Union and Student Ombudsman

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

## Lockers

The Art Building lockers are administered through the Student's Union's used bookstore, Bound and Copied. Lockers are rented on a first come, first served basis. Due to the shortage of lockers, and the high demand, students cannot hold more than one locker at a time. All of the details on renting a locker and your responsibilities can be found on the [Locker Rental Agreement](#).

**Lockers for all sessions** can be rented through [my.ucalgary.ca](http://my.ucalgary.ca). Once you're in the Student Centre, click on **Other Academic Services** and choose **Locker Reservation**.

**Lockers must be vacated by the end of term.**

For more information go to <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>

## Models

In this class students may be expected to draw from nude models. A student electing not to do so must notify the instructors IN WRITING of his/her concerns.

## Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading, or for work posted on bulletin boards in the art building.

**Note - All unclaimed work will be disposed of.**

**Note - Studio spaces need to be cleared 2 weeks after the last day of classes.**

## Ethics

Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics

guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/cfreb>

### **Campus Security/Safewalk**

Call 220-5333 anytime. Help phones are located throughout campus, parking lots and elevators; they connect directly to Campus Security - in case of emergency, press the red button.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

### **Emergency Evacuation**

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts. Stop by SS110, call us at 220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at 220-5881 or visit them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.