



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ART

ART 421.01
Advanced Topics in Digital Arts
Winter 2021
Mon/Wed 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm
Online / Synchronous

Instructor: Rob Furr
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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

Advanced studio inquiry into digital art forms developing students' technical and conceptual skills. Advanced exploration of digital media topics such as 2D graphics, 3D graphics, animation, motion capture, and modelling will enable research creation directed toward self-generated practice.

Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites

15 units of courses labelled Art at the 300-level including 3 units from Art 313, 331, 319, 323, 334.

Objectives of the Course

This implementation of this course will be focusing on nontraditional, insofar as that is possible, video art practice using technology and resources available in a quarantine or lockdown situation. These may include presentation software, consumer-grade video editing programs, cameraless animation, circuit bending, or machinima, but are not necessarily limited to these. Students will be expected to produce two pieces of video art during the term, one in a format specified by the instructor, and one of their choosing, as well as preparing and presenting the supporting material, including artist's statements, documentation, and a literature review, for that work.

Textbooks and Readings

Readings will be assigned throughout the term, and will be made available on D2L.

Assignments and Evaluation

General artist's statement	Jan 25	5%
First work's artist's statement	Feb 1	5%
First work (In-class presentations)	Feb 17- Feb 22	20%
Critical reaction	March 8	5%
Postmortem document	March 10	5%
Second work's artist's statement	March 15	5%

Annotated literature survey	March 22	10%
Second work (In-class presentations)	March 29-April 7	30%
Critical reaction	April 12	5%
Documentation	April 14	5%
Postmortem document	April 14	5%

Writing

Half of the grade for this class is derived from writing. Students will be expected to write at a university level, including proper spelling, grammar, as well as following specified layout and citation methods. Failure on any of these aspects will result in the assignment being returned to the student for correction, as well as penalties being assessed for late work.

Passing grades on the two works as well as the literature review are required to pass the course as a whole. Students who miss these works will be expected to speak with the instructor to discuss when or if the assignment may be made up. Penalties for late work will be assessed as a result at the discretion of the instructor.

Registrar Scheduled Final Exam – NO

Late Assignment Policy

*Late assignments aside from the two student art pieces and the literature review will be accepted at a penalty of one letter grade per class meeting late. If the art pieces and literature review are late, the student **must** speak with the instructor prior to submission, otherwise they will not be accepted at all.*

Additional Information

*This course is intended to have flexible equipment and software requirements. However, students **must** have access to, at a minimum, presentation software (PowerPoint, Keynote, Google Slides, Prezi, or equivalent). Other software and equipment may be used in the production of their artwork, but are not mandatory.*

Students are also required to have a Dropbox.com account for submission of files. The art works may be submitted via other methods as described in class, depending on format and technical limitations, but written assignments must be submitted as .PDF files to the class Dropbox folder.

Grading Method and Grading Scale

Percentage	Grad	G.P.V.	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
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

<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf>

Enter rules/guidelines about the use of internet and electronic devices during class – this may not be applicable.

Models (if applicable)

Portfolios and Assignments

The Department of Art will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading.

Studio Procedures

N/A

Academic Accommodations

The student accommodation policy can be found at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities <https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Academic Standing

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

Deferral of Exams and 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 about deferring a final exam go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>

For more information about deferral of term work go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>
https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred_termwork-feb-2020_revised.pdf

F.O.I.P.

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy>

Writing and Plagiarism

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

For more information go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>

or

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

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. Visual art projects submitted for course credit must be produced by the student specifically for this class. Students must not submit projects if credit has or will be provided for it in another class. This includes re-worked assignments from previous or concurrent courses, unless permission is provided in writing by the instructor. Additionally, the student is asked to be mindful of using visual sources from the internet, ensuring that that material is not derived from any on-line or other available source, and that appropriate copyright permission is granted, when required.

Campus Mental Health Resources

[SU Wellness Centre](#) and the [Campus Mental Health Strategy](#)

Campus Security and 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 <https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/campus-security/your-safety/safewalk>

Emergency Evacuation

For more information go to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

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/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>

or

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb>

Instructor Intellectual Property and Copyright Legislation

Course materials created by the instructor (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the same course section and term may be allowed under fair dealing. Check with the instructor if you have any questions about sharing materials with classmates.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Lockers

N.A.

Student Misconduct

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

Student Ombudsman

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

Student Union

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

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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 403-220-5881

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 210-ROCK [7625]