Site Graphics

EVDS 697.03   Q(3-0)   Winter 2020

Instructor

Matt Knapik   mknapik@ucalgary.ca

Days & Times

Monday - Friday

09:00 - 12:50

Room: TBD

Course Description

A thoughtful practice in site design and representation is a foundational component of good urban design. Contemporary cities and landscapes are heavily articulated, regulated, and interdependent; to this challenge designers must bring strategies that are specific, critical, and coherent.

Projects that ignore (or perhaps worse, under-think) their sites fundamentally fail to capture value from their most immediate and tangible touchpoints. When many such projects are found grouped in an area, we might call that a *bad city*.

Site graphics are the tools that enable designers to 'read and write' site considerations into their work. They tell stories about a site that impact decisions at all phases of the design process. Sometimes the stories are analytical, other times emotive, and other times technical and prescriptive. Designers must equip themselves with a strong graphic practice in all of these domains.

EVDS 697.03: Site Graphics is an intensive workshop in which students hone their skills and instincts in the design and representation of site. It takes place over five days and culminates in an exhibition.

2020 Thematic

2020 thematic to follow.

Course Objectives

In this course, students will:

1. Explore a range of precedents in site design and representation.

2. Gather site information from various sources and file-types, and explore ways of managing and manipulating this information in design workflowss

3. Expand their software practices in support of clear, compelling, and defensible representations of site in their projects.

4. Produce a graphic project that demonstrates technical capacity and thoughtful application of design precedent.

5. Exhibit their work.

Teaching Approach

The class will meet every morning from 0900 to 1200. Each session will be comprised of tutorial and review, with incremental deliverables set for the following session. The class will work toward an exhibition of graphic explorations of site for Friday afternoon, where guests will join us to review the final submissions and help celebrate the week's work.

Schedule

The class will meet in the mornings, but students are expected to complete work throughout the week and meet all deliverable deadlines.

Monday	0900 – 1200	Class intro & course outline review
		Assignment overview, all sites distributed
		Tutorial 1: Gathering and parsing site data
Tuesday	0900 – 1200	Tutorial 2: 2D methods in site graphics
		Exercise 1 & 2 Due
		Exhibition planning
Wednesday	0900 – 1200	Tutorial 3: 3D methods in site graphics
		Lecture: Methods and precedents in site graphics
		Interim Pinup A
Thursday	0900 – 1200	Tutorial 4: Production techniques in site graphics
		Interim Pinup B
Friday	0900 – 1600	Exhibition setup
		Final assignment review
		Exhibition party

Textbooks, Equipment, and Software

No textbooks are required for this class. Brief readings may be assigned and PDFs will be made available. Students are expected to have their own laptop computers and bring them to class. Print availability at the CBDLab will be limited; print deliverables will be limited and there are a range of print shops within walking distance of the studio, all of which open at 8am or earlier. We will be one of the first courses hosted entirely at the new CBDLab, so we'll have to be flexible and open to the constraints and opportunities of the location. I will be there to support you in this regard; please keep the lines of communication open.

Required software is listed below (additional plugins, as necessary, may be integrated into some exercises):

- Digital Camera (mobile phone cameras OK)
- Creative Suite
- Rhino 3D (v6, PC preferred)
- Google Earth Pro
- Sketchup 2018 or 2019

Assignment Weighting

Participation - 25%

Attendance - /5

Exercise 1 - /5

Exercise 2 - /5

Interim Pinup A - /5

Interim Pinup B - /5

Final Assignment - 75%

Technique - /25%

Info & Precision- /25%

Communication - /25%

Craft & Completeness - /25%

Means of Evaluation

The final assignment will be assessed according to the following categories.

Technique

(project demonstrates proficiency in the tools; correct tools are used to solve problems)

Information & Precision

(project demonstrates rigour, clarity, accuracy and shows an appropriate amount of detail)

Communication

(project is sensitive to story-telling, hierarchy, tone, and overall coherence)

Craft & Completeness

(project deliverables are present, outputs are well-crafted, overall care is evident)

Grading Scale

Grade	Grade Point	Percent Grade Range
A+	4.0	95-100
A	4.0	90-94.99
A-	3.7	85-89.99
B+	3.3	80-84.99
B	3.0	75-79.99
B-	2.7	70-74.99
C+	2.3	65-69.99
C	2.0	60-64.99
C-	1.7	55-59.99
D+	1.3	50-54.99
D	1.0	45-49.99
F	0.0	0-44.99

Note

A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

Answering Questions

To make it easier for you to get answers to your questions, and to help us all manage the curve balls that life throws our way over the term, we have created a series of quick resolution guides. These should be pursued in order, from left to right, to make sure all avenues are adequately explored.

A. Software Tool Questions – i.e. how do I create a group in Illustrator?

Help files > Classmates > Google > Find another way

B. Course Organization & Evaluation Questions – i.e. how will this assignment be evaluated?

Course outline & assignment briefs > Matt

C. Theory / Concept Questions – i.e. what do you mean by contour lines?

Classmates > Matt

Extensions and Other Issues

To notify the instructor of an issue impacting your ability to complete coursework on time, or to request an extension, please send an e-mail containing the information in the bullets below. Submission of an e-mail does not guarantee an extension. The instructor commits to responding to e-mail within 24 hours. In your message, please include:

- Your full name & student number.

- A brief explanation of the issue.

- Your proposed solution to the issue (i.e. if requesting an extension, suggest a suitable replacement deadline).

Media and Recording in Learning Environments

PART 1

University Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html

Recording of lectures (other than audio recordings that are pre-arranged as part of an authorized accommodation) is not permitted.

Students may not record any portion of a lecture, class discussion or course-related learning activity without the prior and explicit written permission of the course instructor or authorization from Student Accessibility Services. For any other use, whether by duplication, transcription, publication, sale or transfer of recordings, written approval must be obtained from the instructor for the specific use proposed. Any use other than that described above constitutes academic misconduct and may result in suspension or expulsion.

PART 2

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture.

The instructor will notify all students and guests in the class that the event is being recorded. If a student or guest wants to take steps to protect privacy, and does not want to be recorded, the instructor will provide the individual (s) with an alternative means of participating and asking questions (e.g., passing written notes with questions). Students cannot be penalized for choosing not to be recorded in situations where participation is part of the course. Students must be offered other ways of earning participation credit that do not involve recording.

Any video-recording would be intended to only capture the instructor and the front of the classroom. Students/ other participants would not necessarily be visible on video recordings.

Special Budgetary Requirements

Special budgetary requirements are limited to the optional purchase of course readings and, in specific courses, mandatory supplementary fees to cover certain expenditures, such as field trips. Mandatory supplementary fees must be approved by the University prior to implementation. Instructors are required to list and describe approved optional and mandatory supplementary fees for courses. This can include possible costs incurred for special materials, equipment, services, or travel.

In Site Graphics 697.03 there will be minor printing and mounting costs associated with the exhibition. Last year, most students spent less than $30 on printing, and foam core. The assignments and deliverables are designed to keep cost low, avoiding large format production. All printing can be done on Tabloid sized paper.

Other Notes

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when: (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work, (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author, (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or, (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.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 unauthorised 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.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE

If a student has a concern about the course, academic matter, or a grade that they have been assigned, they must first communicate this concern with the instructor. If the concern cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student can proceed with an academic appeal, which normally begins with the Faculty. https://ucalgary.ca/student-appeals/

More student support and resources (e.g. safety and wellness) can be found here: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines