

Art 619: IxD Professional Practices

Professor Ashley John Pigford / design@udel.edu

Course Description

Through studio tours, guest lectures, case studies and both individual and collaborative activities, students will observe, critique and apply examples of professional practices related to the larger field of interaction design.

Learning Objectives

- Experience a diverse range of potential employment in the field of interaction design, including non-profit and commercial contexts
- Demonstrate an understanding of interaction design processes, including techniques in user research, prototyping and testing
- Exhibit an understanding of the value of active experimentation to discover new approaches to interaction design
- Compare and contrast various business strategies related to interaction design

Course Calendar

This course will meet on Wednesdays from 4:30-7:30pm and attendance to every class period is required. The content of this course includes visits from and to industry partners, educational institutions and community partners, and the schedule of these visits is subject to constant change. Pay close attention to the Google Calendar for schedule updates, commitments and deadlines.

Assignments

On-and-Off-Campus Site Visit Reflections: 100 points

For every visit, either on-campus or off-campus, you are required to write a Reflection Document with a 250-word narrative of your experience and key bullet points of specific things you learned through this experience. You must keep these in a Google folder as Google Docs.

Mid-Term Portfolio: 500 points

Half way through the semester you will present your online portfolio for review and discussion. The key aspect of your presentation is how you are crafting/presenting your work targeted at the type of employment you seek after graduation.

Final Portfolio: 500 points

At the end of the semester you will present your online portfolio for review and discussion. The key aspect of your presentation is how you have modified and developed your portfolio through

instructor and peer feedback so it is targeted at the type of employment you seek after graduation.

Academic Honesty

<http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/10-11/code.html#honesty>
<http://www.udel.edu/provost/fachb/III-1-d-dishonesty.html>

It is the official policy of the University of Delaware that all acts or attempted acts of alleged student academic dishonesty be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. At the faculty member's discretion and with the concurrence of the student or students involved, some cases, though reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs, may be resolved within the confines of the course. All others will be adjudicated within the Undergraduate Student Judicial System.

It is essential that every faculty member make it clear to students that academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. A brief discussion at the beginning of each term should affirm the importance of academic integrity and indicate that the instructor is aware of the problems of academic dishonesty and is sensitive to it, is willing to clarify as carefully as possible what constitutes plagiarism, and will take action not only to prevent cheating but to bring charges against students suspected of violations.

Grade Evaluation

Each project includes a rubric on how it will be graded. All assignments follow this a general guide to grade evaluation:

A = Exceeds Minimum Requirements Conceptually and Functionally, Presentation is clear and communicated well.

B = Exceeds Minimum Requirements Conceptually and Functionally, Some clarity and communication issues with Presentation.

C = Meets Minimum Requirements.

D = Obvious lack of attention to project

F = Failure to complete assignment

Final letter grades will be determined according to the University of Delaware's Official Grade Scale.

The requirements and objectives for this course are clearly stated in this syllabus. This is the criteria you will be graded on. If you are not clear about the criteria or what you will be graded on, please ask. I encourage you to discuss your grades with me at any time. Federal law prohibits me from discussing your academic standing (including grades) with anyone except

you. I am also prohibited from sending email with personal information, such as grades and academic standing.

Letter Grade Descriptions

The following Letter Grade Descriptions detail the criteria for earning grades. Plus and minus grades fall between the straight letter grades in achievement. To receive a grade of C or better on any assignment, it must be turned in on time unless a PRIOR arrangement has been made or there is an emergency situation.

A Outstanding work relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements. This work goes FAR beyond completing the requirements of the assignment and shows unusual mastery of the skills and innovative and creative thinking.

B Significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements. A “B” is a very good grade, but not outstanding.

C Average achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect, but does not go beyond. A “C” is an average grade, meaning you did not succeed beyond the average effort of your classmates.

D Worthy of some credit even though it fails to fully meet the course requirements. Basically, it means that you squeaked by... “D” is for “dangerously close to failing.”

F Represents failure and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an “I”. Keep in mind that a student can turn in work, attend class and still fail the course if the work is not worthy of credit according to the clearly stated criteria for passing work. An “F” carries zero grade-points and the credits for the course do not count toward any academic degree program.

A letter grade of an “I” stands for an Incomplete Grade and is assigned at the discretion of the instructor when, due to extraordinary circumstances, e.g., hospitalization, the student was prevented from completing the work of the course on time. Student must have been passing the course before the emergency incident. Requires a written agreement between the instructor and student specifying the time and manner in which the student will complete the course requirements. In no event may any such written agreement allow a period of longer than 6 months to complete the course requirements.