Exploring Digital Media

BDP101     Unique (Fall 08): 65885
Meeting Time: TH 3:30 – 5:30 (8 weeks)
Room: UTC 4.110
Instructor: Dr. Bruce Pennycook
Office: CMA 6.176
Office Phone: 471-9453 or 471-0916
Email: bpennycook@mail.utexas.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 - 11:30
Teaching Assistant: Brittany Hammer
Email: brittanymhammer@gmail.com
TA Office: TBA
TA Hours: Friday 3-5 (tentative)

Course Overview & Objectives

Exploring Digital Media is a Bridging Disciplines Forum Seminar that aims to present a broad survey of digital art and media. For most of the eight seminars there will be a guest speaker in the first hour then in the second hour there will be a lecture/discussion period based on the presenter’s work and on the general topic. Students in this course will learn about the many areas of specialization that the phrase “digital art & media” covers ranging from the Internet to game design.

Outline and Tentative Speaker List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>wk</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>speaker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28 Aug</td>
<td>&quot;Being Digital&quot;</td>
<td>B. Pennycook</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 Spt</td>
<td>WWW</td>
<td>T.B.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>11 Spt</td>
<td>music/audio</td>
<td>Russell Pinkston, Music</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>18 Spt</td>
<td>animation</td>
<td>Arie Stavchansky, RTF</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>25 Spt</td>
<td>digital cinema</td>
<td>Tom Schatz, UTFI</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>2 Oct</td>
<td>gaming</td>
<td>Cinco Barnes, game developer</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>9 Oct</td>
<td>preservation</td>
<td>Megan Winget, iSchool</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>16 Oct</td>
<td>summary</td>
<td>B. Pennycook</td>
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Course Requirements

1. Pre-requisites – none.

2. Resources

There is no textbook for this course.
3. Grading and Assessment

Each week you will be given a question or issue to address in writing. The written assignments are in most cases a 1-page report/essay. The questions will be derived from the guest lecture and from my lecture materials and may require you to do some web-based research to answer in full.

Assessment of these reports will be based on three things: accuracy of the content, structure and logic of the ideas and materials and the quality of writing. Be certain to read and correct your own work before you submit to avoid grammatical and spelling errors.

Note that attendance is mandatory. You must provide a medical or equivalent note if any classes are missed.

4. Homework and Grading Policy

Reports are due 5pm the following Monday after each Thursday class. There are no extensions. Reports not submitted by then will not be counted. The only valid excuse for missing this deadline is a signed note from a doctor or the UT medical services.

There are 8 reports worth 12% each = 96%. The remaining 4% is discretionary and will be dependent upon your contributions in class, quality of writing and improvements to the reports over the 8 weeks.

Reports are to by typed in Word (or some equivalent), saved as html, then uploaded to your UT Webspace. We will retrieve these from Webspace, print them for grading and return them to you by the following Thursday class. Details of how to do this will be covered in the first class session.

Students who wish to rewrite a report to improve their grade must request a “re-write” by email to Prof. Bruce Pennycook.

There is no Final Exam.

UT Honor Code

“The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.”