

Syllabus & Course Policies

DMS 551 - Methods of Making III

State University of New York at Buffalo
Department of Media Study
Spring 2017

F 1:00-4:40pm CFA 244

Instructor: Brian Larson Clark
Office hours: Friday 12:00-1:00PM (and by appointment), CFA 240A
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Course Website: <http://www.media-study.com/dms551>

Course Description

Methods of Making III is a graduate-level investigation into the design and production of web-based media. Topics will include: mobile web development (HTML5, CSS3, jQuery, Bootstrap), interaction design, and programming (Processing, P5.js). This is a student-driven course and topics will be determined by the research interests and needs of the class. This course is for students with basic, intermediate, or no coding experience.

Course Objectives

Also, at the end of the course the students should be able to:

1. understand and apply the principles of:
 - visual communication
 - programming for interaction design
 - mobile web design
2. create and update a well-designed mobile website using HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript which appears correctly in both desktop and mobile browsers.
3. write code in Processing which can be executed within a web browser.

Required Texts

All required texts will be distributed to the class via links and pdfs.

Recommended Texts

Shiffman, Daniel. *Learning processing: a beginner's guide to programming images, animation and interaction*. Amsterdam: Morgan Kaufmann, 2015.

Software Used

Sublime Text

FileZilla <https://filezilla-project.org>

Processing <https://processing.org/download>

Learning Outcomes & Assessment Grid for DMS 551 - Methods of Making III

1. Students should be able to read and write HTML5 and CSS3 without the aid of a web development program and build a website that conforms to current web development standards.	Completion of Project #1
2. Students should demonstrate foundational knowledge and techniques of programming as it applies to media art.	Completion of Project #2
3. Student should be able to understand and apply course topics, including web design, interaction design, and programming, to a final project of their choice.	Completion of Final Project

Required Materials

Removable USB drive. The department will provided these to you. You will need to back up your work frequently. It is your responsibility to keep your work safe and accessible.

Lab Fee

This course carries a \$125 lab fee which will appear in your bill. This fee allow you to use the computer labs (during lab hours), check out equipment from the equipment room, and let you keep your very own jump drive.

Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to revision by the instructor.

Office Hours

Fridays 12:00-1:00PM, CFA 240A. You are welcome to drop by during those hours or make an appointment to introduce yourself or discuss your work. If my regular office hours will not fit your schedule (If you have a class or work obligation during that time) talk to me or email me and we will work out an alternate time.

E-Mail

Be sure to check your UB email account regularly. PDFs, course materials, and course updates may be distributed via email. When sending me an email please always include DMS-551 within the subject line.

Course Website

<http://media-study.com/dms551>

Course Work

Unless otherwise specified, assignments and projects must be handed in at the beginning of class the day they are due. Late work will be penalized unless you have a reasonable excuse and make arrangements in advance. If you are having trouble turning in work due to circumstances beyond your control, please let me know.

Evaluation

Grades will be calculated as follows:

10% classroom participation/performance

40% assignments (2 projects)

50% final project

Grading Scale

93-100	A	77-79	C+
90-92	A-	73-76	C
87-89	B+	70-72	C-
83-86	B	69-65	D
80-82	B-	64 or less	F

Academic Integrity

In general, you may not turn in work for this course which you will also use for credit in another course. If you have questions about this policy, please discuss it with me.

Offensive Content

In class we will examine a broad range of creative work. There may be selections with some students will find offensive in content or tone. In such cases, students are permitted to leave the room without penalty, at their own discretion.

General Policies

- A. Students who require special accommodations because of diagnosed disability should bring relevant documentation to the instructor and/or to the Chair, who will oversee arrangements with assistance from the Office of Disabilities.
- B. Student athletes must provide an official letter with the dates of their meets and travel days during the first weeks of classes. Make up quizzes and exams that fall during those days must be rescheduled with the instructor at least 3 days before departure. As a rule of thumb, we will administer make-ups and move work deadlines to the day before the student leaves town.
- C. Students are expected to turn off and put away call phones, pagers, iPods, CD players, and computers for the duration of class.
- D. Students are not allowed to eat in the classroom. Please eat before or after class.
- E. Students are expected to follow the guidelines for appropriate behavior outlined in the University Catalog. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
- F. If you need to depart early, do so quietly after having cleared it with your instructor at the beginning of the class.
- G. The grade of incomplete will be given only to students who have some serious, well-documented medical condition or in cases of family tragedy, etc. and who have satisfied the attendance policy and are missing only one major assignment. No incomplete will be given to substitute for a poor or failing grade or for any other reasons. A written agreement must be drafted and signed by the instructor and the student. The instructor reserves the right to request completion of the incomplete prior to the 12 months set by the University.
- H. Final grades are final. Once grades are submitted they will not be changed. Thus, students should refrain from cajoling instructors (via email, phone, in person, etc.) into changing the final grade, which goes against the University policy.

Attendance

You are expected to be here each day, on time and ready to go. You are expected to have completed any assigned reading and to participate in class discussions, critiques, and the work at hand. Participation in class will account for part of the course grade.

- A. Regular attendance is required for the development of proficiency skills.
- B. Attendance means attentiveness, cooperation, and active participation in class.
- C. Students are responsible for the material covered and the homework assigned on the day/s they were absent
- D. In case of an ongoing problem, such as a personal crisis or chronic illness, the student should resign from the course and retake it when the circumstances allow for the fulfillment of the requirements.
- E. Tardiness: arriving after class has started may count as an absence or partial absence
- F. Leaving the classroom for a considerable period of time will be considered an absence.

It is a long semester and things come up, so you may miss class a total of three (3) times for any reason, but after that your final grade will be automatically reduced a half-letter grade for each additional absence.

Class Work

- A. Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments and course work.
- B. Academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade and disciplinary actions by the university. Examples of academic dishonesty are: copying the work from the internet or a book, having someone else do the work for you, or cheating during an exam or quiz.
- C. Be prepared for class each day by having done the assigned readings, etc.
- D. Homework will be assigned during each class by the instructor.
- E. It is the student's responsibility to bring any questions on the homework to the attention of the instructor.
- F. Homework will be turning in to the instructor on the designated date.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment of employees and students, as defined below, is contrary to University policy and is a violation of federal and state laws and regulations.

Unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

1. submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic advancement;
2. submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic decisions affecting such individual;
3. such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or academic performance, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

No university employee of either gender shall impose a requirement of sexual cooperation as a condition of employment or academic advancement, or in any way contribute to or support unwelcome physical or verbal sexual behavior.

Any member of the university community who requires additional information or who wishes to make a complaint or receive a copy of the University procedures to be followed for complaints arising from matters related to the policies outlined above should contact the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, 406 Capen Hall, 716-645-2266.

Examples of Sexual Harassment

- Sexual advances
- Touching of a sexual nature
- Displaying or distributing of sexually explicit drawings, pictures, written materials and/or computer (digital) images
- Sexual gesture or looks
- Sexual jokes or comments
- Pressure for sexual favors
- Touching oneself sexually or talking about one's sexual activity in the presence of others
- Spreading rumors about or rating other student's sexual activity or performance

What to do if harassed

Do:

- Trust your instincts.
- Tell harasser that their behavior is unacceptable
- Document the incidents in detail. Keep a journal with dates, times, possible witnesses, and other concise details.
- Tell someone about the incident and get emotional support
- Seek advice or counseling
- Inform school if behavior continues or of any threatening, intimidating, or retaliatory behavior.

Don't:

- Assume the behavior will go away if you ignore the harasser.
- Try to deal with the harassment alone -- get help;

Students With Disabilities

If you have a disability (physical, learning, or psychological) which may make it difficult for you to carry out the course work as outlined, and/or requires accommodations such as recruiting note takers, readers, or extended time on exams and assignments, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources, 25 Capen Hall, 716-645-2608, <http://www.student-affairs.buffalo.edu/ods>, and also your instructor during the first two weeks of class. ODS will provide you with information and will review appropriate arrangements for reasonable accommodations.

Weapons as Props

If you are planning a student production which involves using any prop which could be interpreted to be a weapon (toy gun, BB gun, knife, etc.) AND you are planning to shoot on the UB campus or any other public place, you MUST obtain WRITTEN permission from the University Police or the equivalent authority before you shoot. If you do not, you will face serious problems, including possible expulsion from the University.

Course Schedule & Assignments

This is a tentative schedule. Expect it to change. Due dates and expectations will be announced in class.

WEEK 1 (2/3)

Topic: Course Introduction

Topic: Web Design basics

Introduction: HTML, CSS

Determining the direction of this course

WEEK 2 (2/10)

Topic: Web Development/Design Standards

Topic: Designing Websites for Mobile Devices

Topic: Principles of Graphic Design

WEEK 3 (2/17)

First project due

Topic: Working with FTP Clients (FileZilla)

Topic: Uploading and Testing Websites

Topic: w3c Validation Tools

Topic: Introduction to Processing and P5.js

WEEK 4 (2/24)

Topic: Programming in the Processing IDE

WEEK 5 (3/3)

Individual project proposal due

WEEK 6 (3/10)

Individual Meetings

WEEK 7 (3/17)

Second project due

Topic TBD by class needs/interests

WEEK 8 (3/24)

No Class! Spring Break!

WEEK 9 (3/31)

Individual Meetings

WEEK 10 (4/7)

Topic TBD by class needs/interests

WEEK 11 (4/14)

Individual Meetings

WEEK 12 (4/21)

Topic TBD by class needs/interests

WEEK 13 (4/28)

Individual Meetings

WEEK 14 (5/5)

TBA

WEEK 15 (5/12)

Student presentations

FINAL PROJECTS DUE