

Syllabus for IDS 493 Special Topics: Extended Reality Studio
Spring Semester 2019
Capital University
Thursdays, 6:00-8:45pm, CMC011

Instructor: Dr. William Ball, Prototyping lab, 002 Blackmore Library, billball@capital.edu, 614 230 2760. Office hours: Thursdays 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Course Description: A project-based course using the Unity 3D engine to develop applications in animation, gaming, simulation, augmented reality, or virtual reality. Target platforms may be mobile, desktop, AR/VR headset, cinema, or fulldome. Students will be mentored in completing a project of their own design using Unity and supporting applications. As a studio course, it is appropriate only for advanced independent learners comfortable with the expectation of quickly achieving proficiency in sophisticated software. 3 credit-hours.

Supplies

Headphones and a high-speed external storage medium of 64gb or greater is required for projects.

Course Policies.

Grading

The distribution of grades varies tremendously from class to class. Given our relatively small class size, no true “grading on the curve” is possible. Yet within general guidelines, grading expectations are adjusted to my cumulative experience of teaching the subject, and the specific set of performances on a particular assignment/exam. Some general guidelines for overall course grades follow for you to keep in mind:

A, A- are marks of excellence, not averageness. To earn one of these grades a student has to complete all assignments on time and attend and participate actively in all, or virtually all, class sessions. In addition, a student has to rise above these basic expectations on each assignment, providing evidence of great attention to detail, a passion for learning, and considerable time invested outside of class. A grade of “A” is truly a special mark, earned by few, and indicating that the student’s performance is among the best of those who have taken the course.

B+, B, B- are indications of good but not outstanding work. To earn a grade in the B range a student has to complete all assignments satisfactorily and on time, and attend and participate in most class sessions. A grade of B+ indicates a student has occasionally distinguished themselves on graded components in the class, but not consistently enough to move into the A range.

C+ through F are indications of substantial shortcomings in one or more major components of the course. Simply showing up and turning in largely complete assignments is C-level work. Less than that (i.e. failing to turn in major assignments and not attending regularly) endangers a passing grade.

The course grade will be based on 100 points, broken down into assignments as follows (further details of each assignment will be distributed well before it's due).

| Points | Item |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 7 | Progress report 1 |
| 7 | Progress report 2 |
| 7 | Progress report 3 |
| 7 | Progress report 4 |
| 7 | Progress report 5 |
| 7 | Progress report 6 |
| 7 | Progress report 7 |
| 7 | Progress report 8 |
| 7 | Progress report 9 |
| 10 | Proposal |
| 7 | Custom assignment |
| 5 | In-class exercises & attendance |
| 7 | Final presentation |
| 8 | Final portfolio |
| | |
| 100 | total |

Other Policies

Students are expected to do the reading, study, and project assignment prior to the beginning of the class period in which it is due. I will regularly call upon individual students to report to the rest of the class. This is a small class. There is no "back row" to hide in.

You may bring laptops/tablets/phones to class and to use them during class *for the purposes of note taking and working on class-related projects*. I do not expect to find you using them or other electronic devices for purposes unrelated to the class while we are in session.

All work submitted for a grade in this class must be the student's own work and must be done exclusively for this class.

You must monitor your Capital e-mail address for class updates. Use of iLearn will be required for class.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the due dates provided. Late work will lose 10 percent of its grade for every day that it is late, up to a maximum of 50 percent. The only exceptions will be for extreme, documented cases in which the student has made a serious attempt to contact me beforehand. Please staple your written assignments before turning them in. Please be careful to avoid plagiarism. Any case of academic dishonesty will be dealt with in accordance with University regulations.

Students enrolled in this course are expected to engage in a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work per credit hour per week related to the course. Students enrolled in this course are subject to all governing University and academic unit policies. These policies contain important information about academic integrity, plagiarism, attendance, drop dates, incomplete grades, grade disputes, refunds, and human dignity. It is the student's responsibility to review these policies that may be found in the following sources: Undergraduate Bulletin or associated graduate bulletin or unit student handbook, Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, and Student Handbook. Students in this course shall have access to disability services pursuant to the university disability policy. Students in this course shall have access to academic success services pursuant to the university policy.

Course Calendar

Please be aware that the following list is likely to be altered as we go along, in particular to accommodate potential guest speakers. Due dates will never be moved up.

| Week | Date | Topic | Due |
|------|---------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 1/10/19 | Introductions, Initial exercises | In-class exercises |
| 2 | 1/17/19 | 120 second pitches, Studio work | Progress Report 1, In-class exercises |
| 3 | 1/24/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 2 |
| 4 | 1/31/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 3, Tutorials completed |
| 5 | 2/7/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 4 |
| 6 | 2/14/19 | Proposal discussion | Proposals |
| 7 | 2/21/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 5 |
| 8 | 2/28/19 | Spring Break – No Class | |
| 9 | 3/7/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 6 |
| 10 | 3/14/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 7 |
| 11 | 3/21/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 8 |
| 12 | 3/28/19 | Studio work | Progress Report 9 |
| 13 | 4/4/19 | Guests, Custom assignment disc. | Custom assignment |
| 14 | 4/11/19 | Final Presentations | Final Presentations |
| 15 | 4/18/19 | Easter Break -- No Class | |
| 16 | 4/25/19 | Finals – No Class | Project portfolio |

Lab Access

You will have access to CMC011 during class time and 7am to 1am except for times that other classes are meeting in the room. You should keep all files you use on your own media.

These are the times the lab is **NOT** available:

Monday 11a-12p, 1p-2, 2p-3, 5p-6, 8p-10

Tuesday 8a-9:15, 11a-12:15p, 12:30-1:45, 2pm-3:15, 3:30-4:45, 6p-8

Wednesday 11a-12, 1p-2, 2p-3

Thursday 8a-9:15, 11a-12:15p, 12:30p-1:45, 2pm-3:15, 3:30p-4:45, 6p-9

Friday 11a-12, 1p-2, 2p-3

Document history

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Initial approval