Bergen Community College

Division of Arts and Humanities
Department of Visual Arts

Course Syllabus

Course Designation, Number, and Title

ART-298: Special Topics in Digital Media

Basic Information About Course and Instructor

Semester and Year:
Section Number:
Meeting Times:
Location:

Instructor:
Office Location:
Phone:
Office Hours:
Email Address:

Course Description

Official Catalog Course Description

This course explores specialized topics in digital media, allowing students to experiment with emerging technologies, tools, and creative methodologies. Emphasis is placed on project-based learning and developing innovative solutions in contemporary media arts. Topics will vary by semester based on industry trends and faculty expertise.

Credits: 4 (2 lectures, 2 labs)
Prerequisites: ART-190 or ART-290, or departmental approval
Corequisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of meeting the requirements of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in specialized digital media techniques.
2. Research and apply emerging technologies in digital media.
3. Develop innovative projects that integrate technical and conceptual approaches.
4. Critically analyze and refine creative work through structured critique.
5. Present a final project demonstrating expertise in the chosen special topic.

Means of Assessment

Students will be assessed based on the quality and originality of their projects, participation in critiques, and ability to integrate feedback into their work.

Course Content

This course includes lectures, hands-on workshops, and critiques.

Major Topics Covered:

- Advanced digital media tools and software
- Experimentation with new creative techniques
- Researching contemporary media trends
- Concept development and ideation
- Portfolio and professional presentation

Course Texts and Other Study Materials

- Course readings and resources will be provided based on the specific topic of the semester.
- Students are required to have access to relevant software and equipment.

Research, Writing, and/or Examination Requirements

- Students will complete research-based assignments that support their creative projects.
- Final projects must include a written component documenting the creative process.

Grading Policy

- **A:** Outstanding work demonstrating originality, technical mastery, and creativity.
- **B:** High-quality work with strong technical competence and artistic decision-making.
- **C:** Satisfactory completion of assignments with some weaknesses in execution.
- **D:** Marginally meets course requirements but lacks refinement and creativity.
- **F:** Fails to meet course requirements or submission criteria.

Attendance Policy

All students are expected to attend every scheduled meeting of each course. Attendance policies will be determined by the instructor and included in the individual course outline.

Other College, Divisional, and/or Departmental Policy Statements

- **Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:** Students must adhere to BCC's academic integrity policies.
- **ADA Statement:** Students with documented disabilities should contact the Office of Specialized Services.
- **Use of AI Tools:** See BCC's AI Guidance Resource Page for proper use.

Student and Faculty Support Services

- **Accessibility Statement:** Contact the Office of Specialized Services at (201) 612-5270 or visit www.bergen.edu/oss for accommodations.
- **Student Support Services:** Visit https://bergen.edu/currentstudents/ for academic support, tutoring, and advising.
- **Library Resources:** Access online research guides at https://bergen.edu/library/.

Course Outline and Calendar

Week	Topic/Activity	Assignments/Events
1	Introduction to Special Topics	Initial research and proposal
2	Researching Emerging Media Trends	Concept Development Assignment
3	Experimentation with Tools & Techniques	Skill-building exercises

4	Project Ideation and Planning	Begin Preliminary Project
5	Hands-On Digital Media Production	Continue Preliminary Project
6	Mid-Term Review & Critique	Present Progress
7	Refining Concept and Execution	Continue Working on Main Project
8	Industry Practices and Case Studies	Research-Based Assignment
9	Advanced Production Techniques	Continue Main Project
10	Peer Critiques and Feedback	Apply Revisions
11	Final Project Development	Final Touches on Work
12	Portfolio Development	Final Documentation and Reflection
13	Final Presentation Preparation	Rehearsal and Review
14	Final Project Submission & Critique	Course Wrap-Up

Note: This Course Outline and Calendar is tentative and subject to change based on class progress.