DIG 6850C - DIG ARTS & SCI CONVERGENCE

COURSE NUMBER: DIG6850C	CREDIT HOURS: 3
SEMESTER/YEAR: FALL 2016	CLASS LOCATION: CSE E413
	CLASS MEETING TIME(S): MON 5,6; WED 6
INSTRUCTOR: Assoc Prof Marko Suvajdzic	**OFFICE LOCATION/HOURS:** TBA
	CONTACT EMAIL: MARKO@DIGITALWORLDS.UFL.EDU
CONTACT PHONE: (352) 294-2000	**COURSE WEBSITE:** DIGITALWORLDS.UFL.EDU/PROGRAMS/MA-IN-DAS/

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A graduate course offering an interdisciplinary approach to the examination of the technological and cultural underpinnings that continue to shape current electronic media and digital arts, including: video games, Internet, computer-animated movies, virtual reality, and more. In this course students are exposed to a wide variety of contemporary and historic media theories, practices, artifacts and cultural movements. Students' investigations and written analyses will serve to heighten their critical and analytical skills across traditional and electronic media and encourage further examination of media artifacts in the 21st century world.

This is a theory and research focused class. Students are expected to actively collaborate in the creation of class projects, as well as to undertake an individual project tailored to each student's particular research interests. Students will be exploring the field of digital arts and sciences with intent to produce original research material, work on their graduate thesis topic, and improve their presentation skills. Students will be expected to show a high level of independent work appropriate to their graduate school status. Research results will be presented in both written and digital media formats.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
None

PURPOSE OF COURSE
The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the field of Digital Arts and Sciences and to narrow down on their field of research, thus bringing them closer to fully defining their graduate thesis or project in lieu of thesis.

COURSE GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES:
At the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Present findings from your own research into some particular aspect of digital culture.
2. Describe and articulate major trends and trajectories in the field of digital arts and sciences.

3. Describe the major perspectives on how changes in digital culture are changing the way people participate, engage, learn and work.
4. Describe and articulate major trends and trajectories in digital culture, digital literacy and digital media.
5. Analyze and critique both historical and contemporary digital arts artifacts in terms of production design and value, metaphor and narrative.
6. Use different perspectives to analyze and investigate events, communities and media in digital culture.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS CLASS. THERE WILL BE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS IN LIEU OF THE FINAL EXAM. THE FINAL PRESENTATION MATERIAL MUST BE SUBMITTED TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE END OF THE SEMESTER.

Week	Topic	Assignments/Quizzes
1	- Class introduction - In class group exercise "New media, and digital arts" + "Language of New Media", Lev Manovich	
2	Student presentations	Who am I, and what is my research interest (10-12 min/student)
3	- In class exercise: 5 conferences compatible with my research - Review of the materials necessary for one year review for graduate students - In class discussion	Research and compile a list of 5 conferences in a research area of choice
4	"Computer Machinery and Intelligence", Alan Turing "The Construction of Change", Roy Ascott - In class discussion	
5	"The Medium is the Message", Marshall McLuhan "From Software-Information Technology: Its New Meaning for Art", Nelson, Negroponte, Levine - In class discussion	Research paper proposal (1 pager)
6	"The Lessons of Lucasfilm's Habitat", Chip Morningstar, F. Randall Farmer "Will There be Condominiums in Data Space", Bill Viola - In class discussion	
7	"Cardboard Computers", Pelle Ehn, Morten Kyng	Written research paper (5-

	• "Seeing and Writing", J. David Bolter • In class discussion	10 pages)
8	• "The World Wide Web", Tim Berners-Lee • In class discussion	
9	• In class review of students final project proposals	Final project proposal (1 pager)
10	• In class review of students final project proposals	
11	• Student presentations: Research Paper • In class discussion	
12	• Student presentations: Research Paper • In class discussion	
13	• Semester in review • Final presentations Q&A	
14	• Final Project Presentations	Final projects
15	• Final Project Presentations	

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND SOFTWARE:

1. "The New Media Reader", Noah-Wardrip-Fruin, Nick Montfort (http://www.amazon.com/The-Media-Reader-Noah-Wardrip-Fruin/dp/0262232278/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1376805880&sr=8-1&keywords=new+media+reader)

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

1. "Being Digital", Nicholas Negroponte (http://www.amazon.com/Being-Digital-Nicholas-Negroponte/dp/0679762906/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1376805452&sr=1-1)
2. "Weaving the Web: The Original Design and Ultimate Destiny of the World Wide Web", Tim Berners-Lee (http://www.amazon.com/Weaving-Web-Original-Ultimate-Destiny/dp/006251587X/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1376806159&sr=1-1&keywords=1.+Tim+Berners-Lee)
3. "The Cult of the Amateur", Andrew Keen (http://www.amazon.com/Cult-Amateur-MySpace-user-generated-destroying/dp/0385520816/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1376711830&sr=1-3&keywords=andrew+keen)

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEES:

Material and supply fees are assessed for certain courses to offset the cost of materials or supply items consumed in the course of instruction. A list of approved courses and fees is published in the Schedule of Courses each semester. (UF-3.0374 Regulations of the University of Florida)

Material and supply and equipment use fee information is available from the academic departments or from the schedule of courses (Florida Statutes 1009.24). The total M&S for this class is $53.90

EVALUATION OF GRADES

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Grade
Student presentations: Who am I, and what is my research interest (10-12 min/student)	100	10%
Research and compile a list of 5 conferences in a research area of choice	50	5%
Written research paper (5-10 pages)	250	25%
Student presentations of the assigned topic	200	20%
Final project presentation	300	30%
Participation – Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions	100	10%

GRADING SCALE:

Letter Grade	% Equivalency	GPA Equivalency
A	94 – 100%	4.0
A-	90 – 93%	3.67
B+	87 – 89%	3.33
B	84 – 86%	3.00
B-	80 – 83%	2.67
C+	77 – 79%	2.33
C	74 – 76%	2.00
C-	70 – 73%	1.67
D+	67 – 69%	1.33
D	64 – 66%	1.00
D-	60 – 63%	.67
E, I, NG, S-U, WF		0.00

More information on grades and grading policies is here:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

COURSE POLICIES:

PARTICIPATION / ATTENDANCE POLICY
We value participation more than mere attendance. Each Instructor is responsible for communicating the specific details of what percentage of your grade (if any) will be assigned to participation, and how class participation will be measured and graded.

MAKE-UP POLICY

Presentations may not be presented late. Documented emergencies or medical situations may be the only accepted reasons for an excused absence on the day of a presentation.

COURSE TECHNOLOGY
The students will be required to have access to, and use a personal computer with the access to the Internet. Word editing software will be required for written assignments.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS
Students can communicate directly with the Instructor regarding the course material.

UF POLICIES:

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge that states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
The Honor Code (https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

CLASS DEMEANOR
Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

NETIQUETTE COMMUNICATION COURTESY
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats, more information can be found at: http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf

ONLINE COURSE EVALUATIONS

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Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

U Matter, We Care
If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center
http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. http://www.crc.ufl.edu/

Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Student Complaints Campus:
https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints:
 http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process

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Disclaimer: This syllabus represents the instructor's current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

DIGITAL ARTS & SCIENCES CONVERGENCE SYLLABUS V1 MS