DIG2632 Creating Mobile Games

Instructor
Nick Heitzman

Phone
(352) 294-2000

Email
Canvas Mail

Office Location
NRG 102
ZOOM Link

Office Hours
T 2 – 3 PM

Course Number
DIG2632

Semester/Year
Fall 2020

Course Credits
3 credits

Course Location
Online

Course Description
Develops appreciation and basic fluency in the application of visual and design literacy into emergent forms of digital media. Historical and theoretical perspectives inform hands-on learning across topics including pre-visualization and storyboarding in static and time-based media, and the critical analysis of contemporary and iconic visual storytelling.

Pre-Requisite Knowledge and Skills
None

Objectives: By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the general work-flow for creating mobile games using industry standard software.
- Define scope for their game by creating a Game Design Document.
- Understand the various types of tools involved in designing a mobile game.

Required Materials
- Unity HUB and Unity 2019+ (Free registration required)
- Visual Studio (or similar scripting software)
- Adobe Photoshop CC or GNU Image Editor

Recommended Materials
- Lynda.com Online Unity Tutorials (Free access for UF students)
- Official Unity Development Community https://unity3d.com/community
- ArtStation https://www.artstation.com/
- Sketchfab https://sketchfab.com/
- Night in the Woods game http://www.nightinthewoods.com/
- Digital Graphic Drawing Tablet with Pen (Photoshop compatible)
# Course Schedule

This schedule is only a guide and is subject to change. Unless otherwise indicated, assignments and readings are due the day they are listed on the syllabus, not the following day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Stretch Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Week 1 | Introduction to Game Development  
Syllabus Overview  
Game Genre and Gameplay Brainstorming | None | None |
| Week 2 | Game Design Document (GDD) Creation  
Aesthetics, Gameplay, and Features  
Milestones, Scope, Deliverables | GDD V1.0 | Player Background Story |
| Week 3 | Level Map Design  
Unity Editor Basics  
Rough Gameplay Maps | Rough Level Map | Gameplay Path(s) Overlay |
| Week 4 | Player Character and Animations  
Assembling the Player  
2D Sprite Animations | Player Animations | Player Accessory |
| Week 5 | PROTOTYPE MILESTONE  
First-pass Gameplay Spaces Active  
Physics and World Scale, Teleports | PROTOTYPE MILESTONE | None |
| Week 6 | User Interface Development  
Canvas UI/UX Pipeline  
Narrative Delivery Options | UI/UX Screenshot | Final UI Mockup + Dialogue |
| Week 7 | Tilemaps, Tilesets, Tile Palettes  
Grids and Tilemaps  
Tile Palettes | Tileset Screenshot | Custom Tile Palette |
| Week 8 | MIDTERM MILESTONE  
Game Build Process  
Testing and Bug-Fixes | MIDTERM MILESTONE | None |
| Week 9 | Level Transitions and Post-processing  
Level Indexes and Navigation  
Post-processing System Exercises | Transition Screenshots | Post-Processing Screenshot |
| Week 10 | Parallax and Lighting  
Parallax and Layers  
Hybrid Lighting | Parallax Lighting Screenshot | Particle Effect Screenshot |
| Week 11 | Splash Screen and Icon  
Splash Screen Development  
Game Icon Creation | Splash Screen Logo | Game Icon Image |
| Week 12 | Game Start and Credits Screens  
Game Start Scene Integration  
Consistent Design | Game Start Screenshot | Game Credits Screenshot |
| Week 13 | BETA MILESTONE  
Game Build Updates  
Testing and Bug-Fixes | BETA MILESTONE | None |
<p>| Week 14 | Game Audio | Audio Asset List | None |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
<th>Stretch Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Global and Local Sound Audio Balancing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Play Testing</td>
<td>Game Balance Self-Evaluation</td>
<td>Peer Playtest Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bug and Issue Priorities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Testing Each Other’s Games</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>GOLD MASTER MILESTONE</td>
<td>GOLD MASTER MILESTONE</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final Game Build</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Evaluation of Grades**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARTICIPATION</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRETCH GOALS</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAME DESIGN DOCUMENT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROUGH LEVEL MAP</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLAYER ANIMATIONS</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UI/UX SCREENSHOT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TILESET SCREENSHOT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSITION SCREENSHOTS</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARALLAX + LIGHTING SCREENSHOT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPLASH SCREEN LOGO</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAME START SCREENSHOT</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUDIO ASSET LIST</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAMEPLAY SELF-EVALUATION</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PROTOTYPE MILESTONE</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDTERM MILESTONE</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETA MILESTONE</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINAL PROJECT (GOLD MASTER)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>% Equivalency</th>
<th>GPA Equivalency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94 – 100%</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 93%</td>
<td>3.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89%</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84 – 86%</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 83%</td>
<td>2.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 – 79%</td>
<td>2.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74 – 76%</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 73%</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 – 69%</td>
<td>1.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter Grade | % Equivalency | GPA Equivalency
--- | --- | ---
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/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/)

**Materials and Supply Fees**
Material and supply and equipment use fee information is available from the academic departments or from the schedule of courses ([Florida Statutes 1009.24](https://www.fldh.state.fl.us/statutes/chapter1009_fs.html)). The total course fee for this class is **$0.00**.

The total course fee for each course is listed on the UF Schedule of Courses. ([https://registrar.ufl.edu/soc/](https://registrar.ufl.edu/soc/)).

**Course Polices**

**Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy**
We value participation more than mere attendance. The 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. Interaction with your peers and the instructor will empower you to greater achievement.

In our course, attendance for students is mandatory. Students are allowed three unexcused absences. If you miss more than three classes during the semester, each additional absence will lower your overall grade by 100 points. If you miss more than six classes, you will fail the course. Exempt from this policy are only those absences involving university-sponsored events, such as athletics and band, and religious holidays, family emergencies, and health issues for which you must provide appropriate documentation in advance of the absence.

Additionally, tardiness will not be tolerated. If you are tardy for three class periods, you will receive an unexcused absence.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/)

**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.

The University of Florida and Digital Worlds requires that students have access to and on-going use of a laptop/mobile computer for DIG courses in order to be able to function in the current learning environment. Digital Worlds requires each student’s laptop computer to meet certain minimum specs for heavy graphics use, the requirements documented below must be met.

**DW Technology Requirements**
Course Communications
Students can communicate directly with the instructor regarding the course material through the course management system (CANVAS) using “Canvas Mail”.

Course Recordings
Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Course Technology Support

The Technology Support Center provides computer support for Digital Worlds students who access Zoom, lecture recordings, student equipment, facilities and other technology-based resources. [http://digitalworlds.ufl.edu/support](http://digitalworlds.ufl.edu/support)

For computer assistance related to Zoom, lecture recordings, student equipment, and facilities request please Submit a Help Ticket or email support@digitalworlds.ufl.edu.

For support related to account services, technical consulting, mobile device services, software services, administrative support, application support center, and learning support services, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 352-392-4357 or helpdesk@ufl.edu.

UF Policies

University Honesty Policy
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which 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-conduct-honor-code/](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-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, https://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 CommunicationCourtesy
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

Software Use
All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy
There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html

Course Evaluation
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.

Campus and Academic Resources

_U Matter, We Care:_ If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

_Counseling and Wellness Center:_ Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

_Student Health Care Center:_ Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

_University Police Department:_ Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
**UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](https://www.ufl.edu).

**E-learning technical support:** Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](https://it.ufl.edu/helpdesk) at 352-392-4357 or via email at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

**Career Connections Center:** Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

**Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center:** Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

**Writing Studio:** 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

**Student Complaints On-Campus:** [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](https://studentconduct.ufl.edu).

**On-Line Students Complaints:** [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](https://distancelearning.ufl.edu/sctc).

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.