Art + Technology

Graduate Seminar: Full Luxury AI

Learning about each other, what we value, and how that might be embodied in art practice.

Years taught: 2021


For Fall 2021 we will consider artificial intelligence from a “pharmakological” perspective. In simple terms: what poison does AI portend and what cure might it propose? We will discuss modes with which cultural practitioners might engage the advance of artificial intelligence, empowering us to make meaningful, material, social change. The seminar will include visiting speakers and field trips along with reading, reflecting, arguing and discussing a broad range of historical, theoretical, and creative works in an individual and small group format. For the “makers”, the course is conceived as a companion to the hands-on, workshop-oriented, ART6925C Experiments in ARTificial Intelligence.
Art + Technology

Graduate Seminar: Full Luxury AI

Learning about each other, what we value, and how that might be embodied in art practice.

Sample from Grandmother by Holly Herndon

Years taught: 2021

Credits: 3; Prerequisite: Consent of instructor and graduate program adviser.

Jack Stenner, Ph.D
Associate Professor
Office: FAC 304
Office Hours: Th 11:30am-12:30pm
352.213.0997
stenner@ufl.edu

Graduate: ART 6933 Area Methods: Rotating Topics
Class: PHYSICAL – Fine Arts Bldg C Room 302
Time: T 11:45 AM – 2:45 PM
Website: http://jackstenner.com/teaching/grad-seminar-21
Listserv: Class contact will be made UF email and via Discord (invite to be provided)
Objectives

Over the course of the semester, the goal is to help you develop your art practice in the following ways:

1. Analysis
   Analyze and evaluate works from an informed point-of-view.

2. Materiality
   Recognize the role of tools and their impact on meaning.

3. Criticality
   Engage in meaningful discussion, develop a sense of criticality.

4. Research
   Investigate new techniques and methodologies.

5. Praxis
   Successfully link concepts, expression, and medium.

6. Growth
   Learn to integrate useful suggestions by others.
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:

Despite what some lunatics might say, Covid-19 is STILL a problem. We are required to meet in person this semester, but thankfully there is a vaccine. Please get one! You MUST, at a minimum, follow UF Covid-19 Guidance as a member of this community.

Required materials will depend on the proposed projects submitted by students. Students will design projects and set budgets based on the goals of the work. See the Schedule of Courses for any attendant fees related to this course.

A graduate seminar is a group activity that depends on member participation. You are expected to constructively criticize your peers. Constructive criticism is considered a part of your class participation. You are also expected to show and discuss your work, whether it is complete or not. This too, is part of participation. Over the course of the semester, depending on how it develops, there will likely be assigned readings to which you will be expected to post a written reflection. These will be evaluated for the care with which they approach the subject, but will not be treated as “English” papers.

Detailed, specific info on grades and grading can be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

Instructor's evaluation of student's interest, motivation, attendance, proficiency and overall development or improvement during the semester will be taken into consideration in determining the final course grade. This syllabus is subject to refinement and development throughout the semester based on feedback and class interaction. Policies and grading criteria are absolute and will not change. Any substantial changes will be discussed with the class prior to implementation.

Grading breakdown:

- Presentation of your work = 25%
- Contribution to critique = 25%
- Writing response(s) to assigned readings = 25%
- Attendance = 25%
Students are encouraged 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/.

Readings will consist of .pdfs and URLs available on the class website.

Students will be expected to submit work for critique as a part of their own development. Any costs will be borne by the student. See the UF Schedule of Courses for any attendant fees related to this course.

Be sure to read the University of Florida Policies regarding academic honesty, the honor code, accommodations for students with disabilities, wellness, computer use and acceptable use policy, disruptive behavior, health and safety, email and communications, and late work policy.
Al Grad Seminar 2021 Schedule

return to course

Al Grad Seminar Schedule

Tuesday 08.24

Week 1: Introduction, Context, Plan

Content:
Introductions
Syllabus Review
Semester plan discussion

SCREEN: Love and Power from All Watched Over By Machines of Loving Grace, by Adam Curtis
SCREEN: The Use and Abuse of Vegetational Concepts from All Watched Over By Machines of Loving Grace, by Adam Curtis

Assignment:
Prepare to present your work.
Sign up for critique on the schedule as discussed in class.

WATCH: The Monkey in the Machine and the Machine in the Monkey from All Watched Over By Machines of Loving Grace, by Adam Curtis

Readings:

Tuesday 08.31

Week 2: Chaos

Content:
Discuss Reading(s)

CRIT:

Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 09.07

Week 3: New Travelers

Content:
Discuss Reading(s)

CRIT:
Tuesday 09.14

Week 4: Paradise

Content:
Discuss reading(s).

CRIT:

Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 09.21

Week 5: Earth

Content:
Discuss reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 09.28

Week 6: Labor

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 10.05

Week 7: Data

Content:
Discuss reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 10.12

Week 8: Classification

Content:
Discuss reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 10.19

Week 9: Affect

Content:
Discuss reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.

Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 10.26

Week 10: State

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).

CRIT:
Assignment
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 11.02

Week 11: Power

Content:
Discuss Reading(s)
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.
Readings:

Tuesday 11.09

Week 12: AI-Capital

Content:
Discuss reading(s).
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.
Readings:

Tuesday 11.16

Week 13: Means of Cognition

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.
Readings:
Tuesday 11.23

Week 14: The Social Factory

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

Tuesday 11.30

Week 15: Perfect Machines

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Read assignment below, take notes, post reflections to Canvas.

Readings:

No Class.

Week 16: Communist AI

Content:
Discuss Reading(s).
CRIT:
Assignment:
Make work.
Readings:
None

Tuesday 12.14

Exam Week: Final 12:30PM - 2:30PM

Get together and have a Covid-19 free party...or just disappear into the holiday?
ARTificial Intelligence Resources

back to Experiments in ARTificial Intelligence
back to Full Luxury AI

My Support Forum
The links below are dynamically retrieved from my bookmarking application. Please feel free to send links to information you think should be included.

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<td>10.1: Introduction to Neural Networks - The Nature of Code - YouTube</td>
<td>Sat, 07/31/2021 - 09:22</td>
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<td>AI for Social Good Guide – Google AI</td>
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THEORY

Some of the ways we think about it.

*from Silver Peak Lithium Mine by Kate Crawford.*

Use the filters to narrow your focus on specific topics.

Return to ARTificial Intelligence Resources

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<td>&quot;I don't trust AI&quot;: the role of Explainability in Responsible AI</td>
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<td>Wed, 04/22/2020</td>
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Artists who incorporate artificial intelligence in their practice.

*im here to learn so (((((( by Zach Blas

Use the filters to narrow your focus on specific topics.
Return to ARTificial Intelligence Resources

The artists below are dynamically retrieved from my bookmarking application. Please feel free to send links to artists you think should be included.

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<td>A Data Artist's Guide to Putting People (and Privacy) First</td>
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<td>Anatomy of an AI System</td>
<td>Mon, 09/10/2018</td>
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<td>Beck - Hyperlife (Hyperspace: A.I. Exploration) - YouTube</td>
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