

Welcome to the MxD Seminar

Our shared goal this semester: investigate and put into practice concepts and methods associated with horizontal co-design. Learn how to "design better, together."

The practical details:

- Our Canvas site is organized into weekly [Modules](#) containing each week's assignments and content.
- There's work due on Tuesday, our first day of class.
We'll use the [Pecha Kucha](#) format to get to know each other.
- The [syllabus](#) has due dates and all the fine print on course policies.
- TL;DR, we're very serious about due dates and attendance. If you need accommodation for emergencies or illness, we're serious about providing that, too. Be in touch *ahead of time* if physically possible and be ready to provide appropriate documentation if requested.

1. Course Information

Research & Practice—with Maria Rogal | Seminar—with Dori Griffin

Meets Tu/Th | periods 5-7 | 11:45am-2:45pm | FAC 310

We'll collaborate closely throughout the semester across both classes.

All MxD class meetings on Zoom (if ever needed) share one link:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/98251992090>

Research & Practice catalog description: A rotating topics course focused on the integration of research and practice to address complex problems within diverse contexts. The study and use of qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research methods appropriate for an expanded practice are addressed through discussions, case studies, writing, fieldwork, and presentations. Prerequisite: MxD student or permission of instructor. Corequisite: GRA 6930 Seminar.

Seminar catalog description: 3 hrs. Contemporary issues pertaining to design and visual communications and related areas. Discussion of literature, development of research questions, and framing methodologies. Corequisite: GRA 6931c: Research and Practice.

2. Instructor

Dori Griffin – dgriffin@arts.ufl.edu

Zoom office: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/6308683645>

Schedule meetings via Calendly: <https://calendly.com/dorigriffin/30-minute-meeting>

Canvas/Teams delivers direct messages to my phone M-F 7am-5pm

I reply to coursework-related messages routinely M-F around 8am and 4pm, other times as I'm available. On Teams, tag me or DM me if you need a quick reply. For DGS-related emergencies, I reply ASAP.

3. Coursework

As designers who conduct research and practice design in our community, and communicate our process to design colleagues and community members, we're constantly building relationships, learning from lived experiences, and developing new methods (or refining existing ones) that allow us to co-design better futures with and within our communities. This semester, our focus is on developing horizontal co-design methodologies and practices in the local context of Gainesville and supported by a rich process of research, literature review, and experiential learning. Bi-weekly process documentation, designed within a shared format, will capture our work as it progresses. At semester's end, we'll recap the work with formal concluding presentations. You'll summarize your own work in an individual process book segment designed to a shared template.

Graded coursework includes:

- 25% Ongoing bi-weekly process documentation
- 15% Unit 1 assignments (in class + asynchronous)
- 15% Unit 2 assignments (in class + asynchronous)
- 15% Unit 3 assignments (in class + asynchronous)
- 15% Unit 4 assignments (in class + asynchronous)
- 15% Concluding process documentation

Calendar:

- Weeks 1-4: setting shared frameworks and goals
- Weeks 5-8: positionality and its impacts on our work
- Weeks 6-10:
- Weeks 11-16

4. Grading

A	95 – 100%	C	74 – 76%
A-	90 – 94%	C-	70 – 73%
B+	87 – 89%	D+	67 – 69%
B	84 – 86%	D	64 – 66%
B-	80 – 83%	D-	60 – 63%
C+	77 – 79%	E	<60

Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Along with more information on how UF assigns grade points, you'll find these by visiting:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

5. UF Policies & Resources

Attendance & absences

Attendance is required for this class. You can miss two class days without penalty. Two late arrivals (after class begins) or early departures (before class is dismissed or ends) equal one absence. All unexcused absences after the first two cost -5 points each from the final grade in the course. More than 6 absences of any kind – missing more than 3 weeks of class – equals automatic course failure *unless* we make documented accommodations in advance. To receive an “excused” absence, you must do one of the following:

1. notify us *before* class begins that you will not be able to attend class; we can make arrangements as/if needed for you to participate remotely.
2. notify us *after* class begins and provide official documentation of a university-sanctioned reason to receive an excused absence. Military service, varsity sports travel, and illness are common excused absences when documented by a written note from a commanding officer, coach, or doctor.

Regardless of the type of absence, you are still required to complete assignments, so it is vital that you contact us as soon as possible to discuss your options. It is your responsibility to keep track of your attendance record in Canvas. Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Along with more information on how UF assigns grade points, you’ll find these by visiting: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

Students Requiring Accommodation

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It’s important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. (If there’s something I/we can do that you know to be helpful and functional for you, feel free to let Dori know informally.)

UF In-class Recording Policy

Students are allowed to record video or audio of *class lectures*. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor. A class lecture *does not include* lab/studio sessions, student presentations, academic exercises involving solely student participation, or private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

UF Evaluations Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. 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 <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.a.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

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/>) 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 in this class.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu>, 352-392-1575

Call the University Police Department at 352-392-1111 or 911 for emergencies.

The Writing Studio

The Writing Studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online: <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> in 2215 Turlington Hall for one-on-one consultations and workshops.