

DIG3433 Digital Storytelling

Instructor

Eamon O'Connor

Phone

(352) 294-3937

Email

Canvas Mail

Office Location

Office Hours

Variable

Course Number

DIG3433

Semester/Year

Fall 2021

Course Credits

3 credits

Course Location

ONLINE

Course Meeting Times

- Mon- Wed 10:40 AM
- Asynchronous

Course Description

Digital Storytelling introduces students to the history and practice of designing narrative media. Students will explore how various narrative traditions still influence the design of stories in interactive forms of digital media. Course materials include a variety of multimodal media for students to engage with, and they will be expected to draw on these media to produce their own creative artifacts and stories that grapple with the techniques and concepts discussed throughout the course

Pre-Requisites:

BA in Digital Arts and Sciences major

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

- Use fundamental storytelling techniques in the creation of digital media
- Recognize and interpret basic components of storytelling (protagonist/an conflict, goal, plot arc, etc.)
- Analyze the meaning and cultural functions of a variety of digital stories
- Understand varying cultural storytelling practices and how they interact media
- Create experimental digital stories that harness the unique properties of multimedia tools

Recommended Materials

- *Writing Fiction*, 9th Edition, Janet Burroway et al “*Challenges for Game Designer*”, Brenda Brathwaite, Ian Schreiber
- *Making Shapely Fiction*, Stern
- Unity - <https://unity3d.com/>
- GameMaker - <https://www.yoyogames.com/gamemaker>
- Twine - <https://twinery.org/>
- Inform 7 - <http://inform7.com/>

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.

Week	Subject	Week	Subject
Week 1	Course Welcome / What are Stories	Week 1	Course Welcome / What are Stories
Week 2	Elements of Storytelling	Week 2	Elements of Storytelling
Week 3	Elements of Storytelling Continued	Week 3	Elements of Storytelling Continued
Week 4	Interactivity and Storytelling	Week 4	Interactivity and Storytelling
Week 5	Interactivity and Storytelling Continued	Week 5	Interactivity and Storytelling Continued
Week 6	Forms of Storytelling	Week 6	Forms of Storytelling
Week 7	Showing vs. Telling	Week 7	Showing vs. Telling
Week 8	Storytelling Structure	Week 8	Storytelling Structure
Week 9	Interactive Structure	Week 9	Interactive Structure
Week 10	Rules and Narrative	Week 10	Rules and Narrative
Week 11	Mechanics and Narrative	Week 11	Mechanics and Narrative
Week 12	Character Development	Week 12	Character Development
Week 13	Immersion and Narrative	Week 13	Immersion and Narrative
Week 14	Final Assignment Introduction and Overview	Week 14	Final Assignment
Week 15	Project Work Sessions	Week 15	Project Work Sessions

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	% of Grade
Story Analyses/Responses – Students will compose analyses and responses to prompts focused on understanding/applying key aspects of digital and interactive storytelling.	700	70%
Interactive Story - you will draft a three page draft (750 words) for an interactive short story. The assignment must be written as a story (this means that at minimum it includes the following: a story structure, conflicts, characters, resolution, conclusion, events, twist, locations) and include a post-script that explains three ways that interactivity will factor into the final version of the story.	200	20%
Class Participation and Attendance – Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions, both in class as well as in course online forums and outside class Group meetings.	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 – 59%	0.00

More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<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). 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/>).

Course Polices

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, Privacy Policy, 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.

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/>

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

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>

For computer assistance related to Zoon, 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/>) 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 who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, 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>

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](#).

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail 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.

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

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.