

GRA 4197C | *Visual Systems in Design* | Fall 2025

Meets M/W

C316 11.45-2.45 in FAC 316

C314 3.00-6.00 in FAC 314

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Office Hours

Fridays 11am

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95109131715>

Course Details

Course Description

Self-directed complex and integrated design projects with an emphasis on interactive design systems.

Student Learning Outcomes

Throughout this course students will learn:

- To demonstrate independent and critical modes of inquiry in developing interactive flexible visual systems across multi-platform contexts.
- To evaluate ways designers respond to global social, political, and environmental challenges and integrate this understanding into the conceptual development of their own work.
- To develop self directed projects in a collaborative creative environment and publicly communicate the trajectory of work developed and documented throughout the semester.

Texts & materials

Reading: Links to all required readings and viewings will be posted to Canvas.

Software: Adobe Creative Suite or equivalent.

Storage and backup: Accidents happen. Please backup your work to cloud or physical storage on a regular basis to be sure your work isn't lost.

Point distribution

This course evaluates engagement with the design process—from problem definition through the presentation of outcomes. As such, the grading scale is broken down into process outcomes.

Grading

The grading scale for this course is consistent with the current UF policy for assigning grade points which can be viewed at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

Project grades will reflect final deadlines for projects but also for meeting each deadline along the way. Life happens, if there are circumstances which will prevent you from submitting final work on time please contact me to discuss plans for an altered timeline.

Letter	GPA	Percent	Course Points	Letter	GPA	Percent	Course Points
A	4.00	100–94	1000–950	C	2.00	76–73	769–730
A-	3.67	93–90	949–900	C-	1.67	72–70	729–700
B+	3.33	89–87	899–870	D+	1.33	69–67	699–670
B	3.00	86–83	869–830	D	1.00	66–63	669–630
B-	2.67	82–80	829–800	D-	0.67	62–60	629–600

Course Policies

Attendance

Being present for class allows you to participate in credit-earning, in-class activities and complete required assignments; more importantly, your contributions to discussions and peer review sessions facilitate an engaged learning community. After the first two absences, each additional unexcused absence will reduce the final course grade by 5/100 points, or half a letter grade. Unless you check in via email ahead of time to make specific and mutually agreeable arrangements, official documentation of university-approved circumstances (illness, military service, university travel, religious observances, etc.) is required for absences to be excused. Two late arrivals or early departures equal one absence. More than six absences results in automatic failure of the course, unless we've made arrangements ahead of time to accommodate ongoing, documented situations.

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 me know informally.

Make-up work

Presentations and in-class activities can only be made up in the case of documented emergencies or for university approved reasons such as military/university travel, illness, or religious observances; contact me ahead of time to make arrangements. Read the full university policies regarding attendance, excused absences, and make-up exams at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Academic integrity

If you use words, images, or ideas that are not your own, cite them. This includes the use of AI text and image generators. Claiming the work of others (including AI) as your own is a serious breach of professional ethics and will result in a failing grade in this class. The UF Honor Code specifies a number of other behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. View the Honor Code online: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Course evaluations

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 2-3 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 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.

GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

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. Call 866-281-6309 or email ask@ufl.libanswers.com for more information.

Teaching Center: 1317 Turlington Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. Writing Studio: Daytime (9:30am-3:30pm): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138 | Evening (5:00pm-7:00pm): 1545 W University Avenue (Library West, Rm. 339). Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Academic Complaints: Office of the Ombuds; Visit the Complaint Portal webpage for more information.

Enrollment Management Complaints (Registrar, Financial Aid, Admissions): View the [Student Complaint Procedure webpage](#) for more information.

Tentative Schedule

08.25	Week 2	First Class - Intro to Project 1
09.01	Week 3	Holiday
09.17	Week 5	Present Project 1
09.22	Week 6	Intro to Project 2
10.17	Week 9	Holiday
11.11	Week 13	Holiday
11.24-28	Week 15	Thanksgiving
12.03	Week 16	Last Class - Present Project 2