



York University / Sheridan Institute - Honours Bachelor of Design Program
 FA/YSDN 1006 3.0 Winter Term 2008/2009
 required practicum course eligible for Professional Certificate in Digital Design and
 Cross-disciplinary Certificate in Digital Media.

Interactivity Design 1

York

Section M lab02 : Thursday 8:30 - 12:30 TEL4034
 Course Director: David Gelb dgelb@yorku.ca
 Office hours: Thursday 12:30 - 14:30 or by appointment TEL 4021

Section M lab02: Tuesday 8:30 - 12:30 TEL4034
 Course instructor: TBA

Section M Lab03 : Tuesday 17:30 - 21:30 TEL4034
 Instructor: Ian Cauthery

Sheridan

Section S lab 01: Wednesday 09:00 – 13:00, J223
 Course instructor: Gail Leija gail.leija@sheridanc.on.ca

Section S lab 02: Wednesday 09:00 – 13:00, SCA318
 Course instructor: A Hladkyj andrew.hladkyj@sheridanc.on.ca

Section S lab 03: Wednesday 14:00 – 18:00, SCA318
 Course instructor: A Hladkyj andrew.hladkyj@sheridanc.on.ca

Prerequisite

Prerequisite: FA/YSDN 1001 3.0 or permission of the Department of Design.
 For students not in the B.Des program, Compulsory and Voluntary Supplementary Fees apply.

Course description

Examines and explores the forms of interactivity through designing visual representations of the human computer interface based on the introduction of the developing theories and models of interaction

Expended course description

This course begins with a knowledge of visual elements and design principles and extends the students knowledge into interactive media. The course is an introduction to the principles and theories of interactive design and is taught through projects and class readings.

One of the fundamental characteristics of interactive media is that it is a medium that is displayed on some type of computer. Interactive media are driven by an underlying system of digital data and/or networks.

The goal of interactive media design is to offer design solutions that are useful, usable and desirable. Interacting with computers should be an enjoyable experience.

Course learning objectives

The purpose of this course is to assist students with developing a conceptual and technical framework for approaching interactive design projects and related theoretical issues.

The specific objectives of this course are that students will be able to:

- independently research and critically examine interactive objects using an analytical approach
- apply design principles towards interactive problem-solving
- produce process documents such as diagrams, briefs and storyboards
- collaborate with peers to develop collective knowledge and skills
- integrate project concepts into functioning interactions

- develop and apply knowledge and skills of visual design for screen-based interfaces
- perform technical implementation of design projects using HTML, CSS, Processing, Photoshop and Illustrator

Schedule

See the project handouts

Required textbook

There is no required textbook for the course. Instead instructors will refer to various texts (online and print) as needed throughout the course.

Recommended readings

The following are useful texts that, though not required, could help you in developing a better understanding of issues related to the content of this course.

ABRAMS Janet and HALL Peter; "New Cartographies of Networks And Territories" University of Minnesota Design Institute, 2006
 BENYON David, TURNER Phil and TURNER Susan; "Designing Interactive Systems", Pearson Education Limited, 2005
 BUXTON, Bill; "Sketching User Experiences", Morgan Kaufman, 2007
 CAMERON, Andy; "The Art Of Experimental Interaction Design" Gingko Press, 2004
 COOPER, Alan; "About Face: The Essentials of User Interface Design", John Wiley & Sons 1995.
 COOPER, Alan; "The Inmates Are Running the Asylum : Why High Tech Products Drive Us Crazy and How to Restore the Sanity", Sams 2004
 GARRETT, Jesse James; "The Elements of User Experience", New Riders Publishing, 2003.
 GOTZ, Veruschka; "Grids, for the Internet and other Digital Media", AVA Publishing, 2002
 KAHN Paul and LENK Krzysztof; "Mapping Web Sites", Rotovision, 2001
 LAUREL, Brenda. ed.; "The Art of Human-Computer Interface Design", New York: Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc., 1990.(p. 5-10 and p. 191-207)
 LOGREN, Jonas and STOLTERMAN, Erik ; "Thoughtful Interaction Design", MIT Press, 2004

NORMAN, Donald; "Design of Everyday Things", Basic Books, 1988
 PREECE Jennifer, ROGERS Yvonne, SHARP Helen; "Interaction Design, beyond human-computer interaction" 2nd ed., John Wiley & Sons, 2007
 ROSENFELD, Louis and MORVILLE, Peter; "Information Architecture", O'Reilly & Associates, Inc., 1998.
 SAFFER, Dan; "Designing for Interaction", New Riders, 2007.
 VAN DIJCK, Peter "Information Architecture For Designers", ; Rotovision, 2003.
 Wodtke, Christina; "Information Architecture: Blueprints for the Web", New Riders Press, 2002.
 WURMAN, Richard Saul "Information Architects", Watson-Guptill Publishing, 1997.

Periodicals and Journals

Design Studies. Guildford, Eng.: IPC Science and Technology Press.
 Design Issues. Cambridge: MIT Press.
 Visible Language. Sharon Helmer Poggenpohl, ed. Cleveland : MIT Press.

Required material

Some specific materials may be required for completion of projects. Their cost will vary depending on the materials and techniques chosen by a student. Students will also need digital data storage devices: USB drive, portable hard drive and access on the digital-locker server.

Facilities

Use of the Design facilities and equipment is for the proper completion of assigned design projects only. Privileges may be withheld for improper use. Lateness or incomplete work due to the loss or suspension of privileges is not an acceptable reason for missing deadlines. Students under suspension of privileges must find alternative means to complete projects.

Associated fees

There are Compulsory Supplementary Fees and Optional Supplementary Fees associated with this course for all students not enrolled in the York/Sheridan Joint Degree Program. All Supplementary Fees (Compulsory and Voluntary) are payable in cash or Certified Cheque at the Department of Design Administrative Offices within the first two weeks of term.

Special conditions

Attendance and lateness

(see Design Handbook, Program Policy, page 38)
 The course is intensive and class attendance is important as preliminary and intermediate solutions to problems are due in every class.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class and students are expected to be punctual. Two lates equals one absence.

Lateness of more than thirty minutes is equal to one absence. If a student is absent from four classes during the term, regardless of the reasons, a grade "F" will be given for the course and all academic and financial penalties and consequences attached to the student's non-attendance will be the responsibility of the student.

Grading and Deadlines

(see Design Handbook, Program Policy, page 39)

Late projects

All projects and exercises must be turned in on the date specified in the project brief. Late projects will be accepted, and down graded 10% per business day. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the Course Instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor's letter). Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment. Assignments are to be handed at the beginning of class on the due date.

Grading

Grading is non-competitive within the course/section but based on professional standards as set by The Society of Graphic Designers of Canada/The Association of Registered Graphic Designers of Ontario (RGDON). When grading individual projects/assignments, you will be graded on four distinct aspects of the work.

1. Concept and Ideas - their originality and relevance to the problem - Lateral Thinking abilities, analysis of project requirements, understanding of the problem and its parameters, goals & objectives
2. Refinement of the Concept - the ability to take the original idea(s) and develop/ improve and apply them - Vertical Thinking abilities, critical evaluation of ideas & solutions
3. Skills - the technical abilities (understanding & execution) as demonstrated throughout the problem from early sketches to finished state, translation of ideas to visually & technically refined forms
4. Presentation - the ability to communicate visually, verbally and in written form the systematic and logical direction your synthesis of the problem solving process has taken and appropriateness of the final visual resolution of the project/exercise

The proportional weighting of the course work is:
 This course consists of 90% project work and 10% participation. A grade will be given after each project is submitted. See the project for details

Grading System

A+ (9) 90–100%	exceptional work
A (8) 80–89%	excellent work
B+ (7) 75–79%	very good work
B (6) 70–74%	good
C+ (5) 65–69%	competent

C (4) 60–64%	fairly competent
D+ (3) 55–59%	passing
D (2) 50–54%	marginally passing
E (1) marginally below 50%	marginally failing
F (0) below 50%	inadequate work

Projects and exercises

A Grade will be returned within 2 weeks after a project is due. See the project handout for details.

Important course information for students

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/ Academic Integrity Website
- Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
- Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Student Conduct Standards
- Religious Observance Accommodation

Academic honesty and integrity

York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/acadhonesty.htm>).

There is also an academic integrity website with complete information about academic honesty. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website (<http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/students.htm>).

Occupational health & safety

Students must be aware of ergonomic factors related to the course work and should practice recommended exercise to prevent developing occupational related health problems. Please refer to the following webpage for details: www.yorku.ca/dohs/ergonomics.htm

Ethics review process

York students are subject to the York University Policy for the Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants. In particular, students proposing to undertake research involving human participants (e.g., interviewing the director of a company or government agency, having students complete a questionnaire, etc.) are required to submit an Application for Ethical Approval of Research Involving Human Participants at least one month before you plan to begin the research. If you are in doubt as to whether this requirement applies to you, contact your Course Director immediately

Special learning preference

Students who have special physical and / or mental preferences in learning course content and / or performing course work must consult with the course director for special assistance in the first week of the class.

Access/Disability

York provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials.

It is the student's responsibility to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Failure to make these arrangements may jeopardize your opportunity to receive academic accommodations.

Additional information is available at www.yorku.ca/disabilityservices or from disability service providers:

- Office for Persons with Disabilities: N108 Ross, 416-736-5140, www.yorku.ca/opd
- Learning and Psychiatric Disabilities Programs - Counselling & Development Centre: 130 BSB, 416-736-5297, www.yorku.ca/cdc
- Atkinson students - Atkinson Counselling & Supervision Centre: 114 Atkinson, 416-736- 5225, www.yorku.ca/atkcsc
- Glendon students - Glendon Counselling & Career Centre: Glendon Hall 111, 416-487- 6709, www.glendon.yorku.ca/counselling

Religious observance accommodation

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete an Examination Accommodation Form, which can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

Procedures for submitting work

All work is to be turned in personally to the Course Director during the officially scheduled class time.

At York, under normal situations, the Design Office

will NOT accept drop-off of student work. In the rare case of illness of the instructor on a due date, special arrangements can be made (between the Course Director and the Office) with the Office for the submission of student work.

In case of unusual circumstances, students at Sheridan may submit their work by depositing it into the drop-off mail slot, provided by the mailroom at Sheridan. Please address your envelope(s) to your instructor and inform the instructor immediately about this special arrangement. Students should refer to the University Calendar for the proper process of applying for Deferred Standing or requesting Aegrotat Standing, if such is applicable.

Student responsibilities

York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for in-class test or examinations pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first two weeks of class. Similarly, should lab, practica, workshop, etc., assignments scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course Director immediately.

It is the responsibility of the student to

1. always back-up/ save/archive digital work - the hard drives on the computers will be trashed of all student files on a regular basis,
2. read and understand the university Policy on proper use of computing facilities (This policy is posted on the York University web site and posted on Notice Boards in and around the Design studios.), and
3. inform the Course Director, in a timely fashion, of any problems that may interfere with the student's progress in the course.

Student conduct

Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect and to refrain from actions disruptive to such a relationship. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. A statement of the policy and procedures involving disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available on the York website <http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/legislation/senate/harass.htm>

Please note that this information is subject to periodic update. For the most current information, please go to the CCAS webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents): http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm.