

The Artist as Programmer
AHD-2241-A / VCD-2241-A

133 West 21st Street, 206c
Thursday, 12:10pm-3:00pm
Spring 2019

Justin Elm
jelm@sva.edu
212.592.2255

OBJECTIVES & DESCRIPTION

In the post-studio interdisciplinary art world, technology plays a critical role in an artist's practice. The ubiquity of the internet and computers demands a new kind of literacy. By examining contemporary artists working on the periphery of traditional media, we'll explore the implications for art and artists. Readings and lectures will be supplemented by in-class exercises that introduce fundamental programming principles with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. To emulate the interdisciplinary art world mentioned, this course is a hybrid art history course with studio practice.

REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to attend every scheduled class meeting and to participate fully in class demonstrations and discussions. Homework covering the previous week's demonstrations will be turned in at the beginning of each class. Additionally, there will be warm up challenges each day. At the end of the semester, students will submit a final project.

Weekly Homework: 18%
Challenges: 18%
Attendance: 18%
Participation: 18%
Final Project: 28%

ATTENDANCE

There are no excused absences. Two absences are acceptable, any more will affect your final grade.

REQUIRED TEXTS

There are no required texts, all readings will be provided in PDF format on SVA's learning management system, Canvas.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Students found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty will fail the assignment for which an infraction is suspected and substantiated. More serious violations will be handled through the process enumerated in the SVA Handbook (p. 8).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In order to receive academic accommodations due to disability, a student must first register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS). Students approved for accommodations will be given an *ODS Accommodation Letter* to submit to their instructors. If a student does not provide an *ODS Accommodation Letter* to their instructor, they will not be eligible to receive accommodations in that course. All instructors are required to adhere to SVA's policies regarding accommodations for student's disabilities. Students who have a need for academic accommodations, or suspect they may have a disability should contact the ODS.

Office of Disability Services
340 East 24th Street
New York, NY 10010

212.592.2282
disabilityservices@sva.edu

REFERENCE LINKS

<https://html.com/>
<https://github.com/>
<https://jquery.com/>
<https://stackoverflow.com/>
<https://www.javascript.com/>
<https://www.hackerrank.com/>
<https://www.w3schools.com/css/>
<https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/>

INTERESTING LINKS

<http://formandcode.com/>
<http://hello.processing.org/>
<http://devart.withgoogle.com/>
<http://chromeexperiments.com/>
<http://threejsplaygnd.brangerbriz.net/>

OUTLINE

All scheduled topics are subject to change relative to what we are able to achieve the week prior.

WEEK 1 – January 17

Syllabus, Introduction, Basic Techniques, Data Types

Ullman, Ellen, *Life in Code*, 'The Dumbing Down of Programming'
(p. 39-55)

WEEK 2 – January 23

HTML, CSS, JavaScript, File Structure

Ullman, Ellen, *Life in Code*, 'The Dumbing Down of Programming'
(p. 39-55)

WEEK 3 – January 30

JavaScript, Conditionals, Loops

Spotlight: Casey Reas

Reas, Casey, & McWilliams, Chandler, *Form + Code*, 'Introduction & What is Code'
(p. 8-26)

WEEK 4 – February 6

Functions and Scope

Spotlight: Daniel Shiffman

Reas, Casey, & McWilliams, Chandler, *Form + Code*, 'Repeat'
(p. 42-65)

WEEK 5 – February 13

Functions, Introduction to Objects

Spotlight: Bret Victor

Victor, Bret, "Learnable Programming"

WEEK 6 – February 20

Continuing with Objects

Spotlight: Golan Levin

Levin, Golan, "Dialtones Report"

WEEK 7 – February 27

DOM and jQuery Part 1

Spotlight: Rafaël Rozendaal

Rozendaal, Rafaël, "Notes on Abstract Browsing"

SPRING BREAK; NO CLASS – March 4-8

WEEK 8 – March 13

DOM and jQuery Part 2

Spotlight: Jon Rafman

Zhexi Zhang, Gary, “Infinite Lives: The online anthropology of Jon Rafman”

WEEK 9 – March 20

Application Structure, Review

Spotlight: James Bridle

Bishop, Claire, “Digital Divide”

WEEK 10 – March 27

Sliders, Canvas, Animate

Spotlight: Raven Kwok

WEEK 11 – April 4

Useful and Practical

WEEK 12 – April 11

Guest Lecturer

WEEK 13 – April 18

Real World Examples

WEEK 14 – April 25

Review, Request, Missing Pieces

WEEK 15 – May 2

Final Projects