[APPENDED] IA1 - Creative Coding - MICA - Spring 2020

MICA's Keep on Learning webpage provides resources that will help students in their creative and academic work. Study guides, tutoring information, and wellness resources to Keep on Learning can be found at http://mica.edu/kol.

department	Interactive Arts
course	IA 215.01 Creative Coding - Dolphin 240
schedule	Spring 2020, Mondays 4pm - 10pm
website	https://github.com/abachman/creative-coding-fall-2020 https://bit.ly/micacodes2020

Instructor

name	Adam Bachman
pronouns	he / him
email	abachman@mica.edu
links	github, twitter, personal
office hours	Zoom meeting, between 6pm and 10pm EDT, Thursdays

You can schedule a Zoom meeting with me to review homework, classwork, or projects using this link: https://calendly.com/abachman/review-work

REVISIONS - 2020-March

Wow! Big changes! New pressures, new ideas, new opportunities? New struggles. Same desire to grow, same us.

CHANGES

Big changes! The five things you need to know are listed here with explanations below.

1. All grades are now pass/fail by default.
2. No physical computing.
3. New course outline.
4. There will be no final project.
5. Contact information updates.

1. The course is now pass/fail.

With the shift toward distance teaching/learning to complete the Spring 2020 semester, all student grades will be based on Pass/Fail unless a student specifically requests a letter grade.

Letter grades are available upon request, but you must contact me **directly** to request it specifically.

To receive a "Pass" students must:

- Complete all assignments on time
- Meet all expectations related to quality of work
- Participate in all class activities (online/offline)

Should you desire a letter grade:

- Please advise me in writing before April 17

2. No physical computing this semester :(

It was not my intention to make you purchase materials for class and then never touch them, so I will be presenting a session on the CircuitPlayground, the Makecode editor, and the CircuitPython programming language.

Due to the complexity of dealing with hardware, however, I will not be assigning work for it and we will only be spending 1 session instead of all the rest of the sessions.

3. New course outline. We're going back to Processing! :D

We get to dig deeper! Go in interesting new directions! The rough outline looks like this:

Date	Topic	Assignments
`2020-03-30 09`	Physical Computing!	Project 1
`2020-04-06 10`	Project 1 Presentations	Documentation
`2020-04-13 11`	Sketches Online	HW 6
`2020-04-20 12`	Communication in Processing	HW 7
`2020-04-27 13`	We are the system	
`2020-05-04 14`	Coding Futures	

Assignments should still be turned in the week after they are assigned.

4. No Final Project

There will be some new homework assignments, but no final project. Relax, play with some new toys, make something because making stuff is the best. This continues the emphasis on many small works over singular large works.

5. Contact Information

You can reach me by email. You should! It's great! I will respond to all messages within 48 hours, though may take longer to complete a complex answer. This is my **primary contact method**. Contact me *more* than 48 hours before you absolutely need an answer.

I will be broadcasting all lessons live at https://www.twitch.tv/okayitsnotacat, starting 4pm EDT on Mondays. Recordings will be published to YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV_P1TYK4zreaZ1M2sqoKwA and available upon request. Once the primary teaching / presentation portion of class is done, I will switch over to Zoom.

I have a Zoom meeting setup for group and 1-on-1 video chatting, the link to that meeting room will be provided by email. Office hours outside of Monday evening are still **by request only**. I can start as early as 7am EDT and finish as late as 11pm

EDT most weekdays. That gives everyone in every hemisphere plenty of opportunity to chat. I spend all day on Zoom, so it's super easy for me to start and run a meeting. This is my **secondary contact method**.

There is a class Discord server! Here's an invite link: https://discord.gg/uQPgTHK. Please use the same name you gave me or send me an email so I know which handle is yours. I will be watching chat for the duration of the previously scheduled class time, Mondays 4 - 10pm. I also have it on my mobile device so will be notified if you message me there. This is my **tertiary contact method**.

All work will continue to be turned in to the class Google Drive in your personal folder. **IF YOU CANNOT ACCESS GOOGLE FROM HOME** you may turn in work directly to me by **email only**.

In Summary:

1. Email: abachman@mica.edu
2. Zoom: contact me to set up a call
3. Discord: https://discord.gg/uQPgTHK
4. Twitch.tv: https://www.twitch.tv/okayitsnotacat

All other class materials will be stored at their original locations:

- Class Google Drive
- Class GitHub repository

If you cannot react any of the above locations on the internet, **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTACT ME TO ARRANGE ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS FOR ALL CLASS INFORMATION.**

The Vibe

This is a super weird time for us.

It's okay to acknowledge that this is not the most important thing in the world, don't stress, we're still going to have the chance to do interesting work. How great is it that we can communicate? That we can create and share? That we have the

opportunity to respond to strange times by connecting and building things that connect?

Work to the best of your ability in this moment.

- *Adam B.*

Tutoring, Coaching, and Library Resources

The Writing Studio is ready to provide virtual tutoring. Students can make an appointment for a virtual tutoring session via the Writing Studio's Calendly.

The LRC's academic coaches are ready to provide virtual peer-to-peer support. Students can see availability and schedule an appointment here.

Decker Library is offering many remote resources that can be accessed here: Current Operations Information

Academic Integrity

All of the Academic Policies in the original course syllabus apply during this period of transition. In addition you (student) must agree that:

1. You affirm the originality and integrity of the work you submit via email/online.
2. You will not share your solutions to online assignments with others.
3. You will not engage in activities that will dishonestly improve their results or hurt the results of others.

Original Syllabus

NOTE: *Due to COVID-19, the information above is authoritative and the information included below is for archival purposes only.*

Description

```
creative_coding = art + code
```

In this class, students will be introduced to technologies, contexts, histories, and materials relevant to Creative Coding for Interactive Arts.

In the first part of the course, we will use software called **Processing**--a programming language and associated tools built by artists, for artists--and students will learn programming fundamentals while creating original work through in class exercises and personal projects.

In the second part of the course will be an introduction to **Physical Computing** through the use of the CircuitPlayground Express, a microcontroller-based hardware prototyping platform. We will learn how to communicate with hardware for the sake of interactive art.

Objectives

By the end of the semester, students of this course will:

- Demonstrate an understanding of basic programming concepts.
- Be able to identify the practical or technical limits of code as an interactive component of your work.
- Be capable of reading and writing programs written in Processing and Python which are either responsive or interactive in nature.
- Have developed a core vocabulary which will enable them to seek help or participate in related discussion online.
- Know how to experiment with new ways to connect digital technologies to their own creative practice.
- Be able to professionally finish an artwork for exhibition purposes in a virtual environment.
- Be familiar with the history and current state of creative coding art practices.

Materials

- Computer you can install software on and the following application:
- Processing 3 - https://processing.org/download/ (for writing code)
- A file storage solution that is not your computer. GitHub is recommended, Google Drive is also acceptable.
- Simple sketching and prototyping supplies: paper and writing utensils are great.
- A CircuitPlayground Express (available at https://www.adafruit.com/product/3333) and micro USB cable (for the hardware unit). Should be around $35.
- All readings will be provided as PDFs or links.

Grading

NOTE: *Due to COVID-19, this section is out of date.*

30% Two major projects and associated documentation.

50% Homework assignments.

20% Weekly attendance and participation.

All projects and homework will be assigned with clear objectives and project specific evaluation methods.

An "A" in this course will require that you far exceed the minimum expectations for both form and content. Your work should show a highly developed understanding of course concepts and techniques, as well as an innovative incorporation of creative coding into your own developed aesthetic.

Deadlines
NOTE: *Due to COVID-19, this section is out of date.*

All projects and homework are to be completed by the start of class on the assigned due date. Unfinished work will not be discussed in class. However, once completed, documentation of late work may be submitted directly to the instructor with a penalty of one letter grade deduction per week.

Schedule

NOTE: *Due to covid 19, this section is out of date.*

Date	Topic	Assignments
`2020-01-27 01`	Hello world! Setting up. Basic drawing.	Homework 1
`2020-02-03 02`	Interactive, animated: Processing sketch structure	HW 2
`2020-02-10 03`	Shapes, variables, conditions	HW 3
`2020-02-17 04`	Loops and Arrays	HW 4
`2020-02-24 05`	Functions and Objects	HW 5
`2020-03-02 06`	Exploring Libraries (Sound and Vision)	Project 1
`2020-03-09 07`	Complex Drawing + **PROJECT WORK DAY**	
`2020-03-16`	*SPRING BREAK*	
`2020-03-23 08`	**Project 1 Present, critique** + Physical Computing	
`2020-03-30 09`	Using sensors	HW 6
`2020-04-06 10`	Communicating with devices	HW 7
`2020-04-13 11`	**PROJECT 2 START**	Project 2
`2020-04-20 12`	Open studio **PROJECT WORK DAY**	
`2020-04-27 13`	**Project 2 Present, critique, decompress**	
`2020-05-04 14`	Creative coding futures	

Attendance and Participation

NOTE: *Due to COVID-19, this section is out of date.*

> *As a citizen of the classroom, you are expected to actively participate in class exercises, discussions, and critiques. In addition, this class is intended to function as a peer learning environment. I encourage you to support and talk to one another during class, particularly if you are experiencing any difficulty.*

(via Sam Sheffield)

You are expected to be at every class unless you have a valid excuse.

Arriving more than 15 minutes after class starts is counted as an unexcused absence. Two unexcused absences will result in a reduced grade. More than three unexcused absences (missing more than 25% of the course!) generally results in a failing grade.

You are required to attend on project presentation and critique days even if your work is not complete. Critiques are the best method to learn about art-making from a diversity of fellow art-makers.

Cloud Policy

> *As stated in the attendance policy above, attendance is mandatory.*

> *If you are physically in the classroom but engaged in the network, where are you present?*

> *If you are on you iPhone, laptop, or embedded nano circuits, where exactly are you, and what are you getting from your time there? What does it mean to be ON your phone, how about IN the classroom? What are your rights as a human user in the technosphere? How has the extension of your body changed with the advent of second brains in the shape of cell phones? Will you turn off your*

*electronic devices at the beginning of class, will you promise me "no glow"
until we have our classroom moment together? If not, why? What do you gain
or lose from cutting off access to your networked prosthetics?*

*Throughout the course we will discuss these issues and invent new questions.
In the meantime, be respectful. Avoid deductions in your class participation
grade by abstaining from online activities not related to course content.*

(via Jessica Ann)

MICA Notices

Academic Disability Accommodations

MICA makes reasonable academic accommodations for qualified students with
disabilities. All academic accommodations must be approved through the Learning
Resource Center (LRC). Students requesting accommodation should schedule an
appointment at the LRC (410-225-2416 or e-mail LRC@mica.edu), located in
Bunting 110. It is the student's responsibility to make an accommodation request
in a timely manner. Academic accommodations are not retroactive.

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)

Students are responsible to follow health and safety guidelines relevant to their
individual activities, processes, and to review MICA's Emergency Operations Plan
and attend EHS training. Students are required to purchase personal protection
equipment appropriate for their major or class. Those students who do not have the
proper personal protection equipment will not be permitted to attend class until
safe measures and personal protection are in place.

Plagiarism

Each discipline within the arts has specific and appropriate means for students to
cite or acknowledge sources and the ideas and material of others used in their own
work. Students have the responsibility to become familiar with such processes and
to carefully follow their use in developing original work.

Policy

MICA will not tolerate plagiarism, which is defined as claiming authorship of, or using someone else's ideas or work without proper acknowledgement. Without proper attribution, a student may NOT replicate another's work, paraphrase another's ideas, or appropriate images in a manner that violates the specific rules against plagiarism in the student's department. In addition, students may not submit the same work for credit in more than one course without the explicit approval of all of the instructors of the courses involved.

Consequences

When an instructor has evidence that a student has plagiarized work submitted for course credit, the instructor will confront the student and impose penalties that may include failing the course. In the case of a serious violation or repeated infractions from the same student, the instructor will report the infractions to the department chair or program director. Depending on the circumstances of the case, the department chair or program director may then report the student to the appropriate dean or provost, who may choose to impose further penalties, including expulsion.

Appeal Process

Students who are penalized by an instructor or department for committing plagiarism have the right to appeal the charge and penalties that ensue. Within three weeks of institutional action, the student must submit a letter of appeal to the department chairperson or program director, or relevant dean or provost related to the course for which actions were taken. The academic officer will assign three members of the relevant department/division to serve on a review panel. The panel will meet with the student and the instructor of record and will review all relevant and available materials. The panel will determine whether or not to confirm the charge and penalties. The findings of the panel are final. The panel will notify the instructor, the chairperson, division, the student, and the Office of Academic Affairs of their findings and any recommendations for change in penalties.

Title IX Notification

Maryland Institute College of Art seeks to provide an educational environment based on mutual respect that is free from discrimination and harassment. There are multiple ways to report sexual harassment/misconduct/assault and reports are encouraged (www.mica.edu/equal_opportunity). Students requiring academic adjustments due to an incident involving sexual harassment or discrimination

should contact Student Affairs at 410.225.2422 or Human Resources at 410.225.2363. Keeping with institutional commitments to equity and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, faculty and staff members are required to report disclosures of gender based discrimination made to them by students. However, nothing in this policy shall abridge academic freedom or MICA's educational mission. Prohibitions against discrimination and discriminatory harassment do not extend to actions, statements or written materials that are relevant and appropriately related to course subject matter or academic discussion.

Students with Extended Illness or Absence

In the case of extended illness or other absences that may keep the student from attending a class for more than three meetings, undergraduate students must contact the Student Development Specialist in the Division of Student Affairs or have an official disability accommodation letter issued by the Learning Resource Center that specifically addresses class absences. For students who have not been approved for academic disability accommodations, the Student Development Specialist will work with the student to determine the cause and appropriateness of the absences and subsequently notify instructors as necessary. Graduate students must contact the instructor, program director, and the Office of Graduate Studies. Students in professional studies programs must contact the Associate Dean for Open Studies. The appropriate administrator will facilitate a conversation with relevant faculty to determine whether the student can achieve satisfactory academic progress, which is ultimately at the sole discretion of the faculty member.