

509 | Designing for Wordpress

Wednesdays 6:00PM–9:00PM | Oct 1 to Dec 10, 2014 location: 112 Michigan Ave Room 819

Instructor Andrew Kaye

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Course Description

In this course, students learn to create their own web designs in WordPress allowing for everything from blog integration to a full-fledged content management system. While working with the WordPress template, students create themes that blend their own design vision with WordPress' robust functionality. At the end of the course, students will have a website created in WordPress according to their own creative vision.

Prerequisites

Content Management Systems.

Course Objectives/Outcomes

- advanced wordpress management and design
- intelligent website development
- custom theme design/creation

Textbooks

none

Supplies

Laptop/usb drive

Evaluation

Participation: Process work, class critiques, class preparedness, attendance and work done in class

Faculty reserve the right to make changes and/or adjustments to the syllabus.

The mission of the Adult Continuing Education program is to provide excellence in adult multi-- disciplinary art and design education through studio, digital, academic, and museum exposure with the goal of building hands-- on and digital art making skills, developing creative and critical thinking skills, fostering expressive and conceptual capabilities, and providing structured, sequential learning pathways for personal and professional application in all areas and future fields of study.

Course Schedule

The class schedule is subject to change at the discretion of faculty based on necessary adjustments to specific activities relevant to this course. Updates to the schedule will be shared with the class as appropriate.

WEEK 1

- Introductions
- Review Syllabus / Overview of Designing for Wordpress
- Web Resources
- WP File Structure
- Getting Started with Wordpress
- HOMEWORK: Review Course Materials / PDF

WEEK 2

- HTML to Wordpress**
- Overflow from Week 1
- Refresh HTML/CSS skills
- Anatomy of a Wordpress Theme
- Hacking a Theme
- HOMEWORK: Continue hacking theme

WEEK 3

- First Steps to Building Your Theme**
- Best practices: designing for wordpress
- HTML Site → WP Theme
- HOMEWORK: Begin first custom theme

WEEK 4

- WP Conversion**
- Continue building custom theme
- HOMEWORK: Reading, PDF download provided by instructor

WEEK 5

- WP Conversion Continued**
- HTML site → WP Theme
- HOMEWORK: Work on conversion

WEEK 6

- Child Themes**
- Implementing child themes
- Continue working on site conversion

WEEK 7

Working with Wordpress

Implementing your custom theme/ debugging

WEEK 8

Other Options

When to use a template theme

Best template themes

_s, bootstrap, etc..

continue working on themes

WEEK 9

Bringing it All Together

Finishing sites

Troubleshooting

WEEK 10

What Next?

Group critique of finished sites

Policies

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago is committed to full compliance with all laws regarding equal opportunities for students with disabilities. Continuing Studies students with disabilities should call 312.629.6170 or email cs@saic.edu for further information.

Continuing Studies

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