**Course Title**

Augmenting the Gallery

## Augmented Reality in Exhibition Spaces

## Course Number

IMNY-UT 9001D01

## Instruction Mode: Blended

# Fall 2021

If you are enrolled in this course 100% remotely and are not a Go Local/Study Away student at NYU Berlin, please make sure that you’ve completed the online general Academic Orientation located on the course’s Brightspace site under “Resources”. This familiarizes you with NYU Berlin’s site specific support structure, policies, procedures and philosophy. Please contact berlin.academics@nyu.edu if you have any questions.

**Syllabus last updated on:** 28 Aug 2021

## Lecturer Contact Information

Pierre Depaz (he/him)

[pierre.depaz@nyu.edu](mailto:pierre.depaz@nyu.edu)

Your instructor will inform you about office hours/learner hours.

## Course Details

Time: **Monday 10:00am - 11:15am / Wednesday 10:00am - 12:00pm**

All times are Central European Time (Daylight Saving Time ends Oct 31, 2021).

Location: Saint Agnes (there will be an NYU Berlin member of staff walking you from the Student Residence to St. Agnes on the first day)

Remote Participants: Your instructor will provide you with the Zoom link via NYU Classes.

In the interest of protecting the NYU Berlin community, we are closely following guidance around COVID-19 from the Robert Koch Institute (Germany’s institute for disease control and prevention), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and adjusting our recommendations and policies accordingly. Your health and well-being is our top priority. Please consult the [NYU Berlin Resource Page](https://wp.nyu.edu/nyuberlin/health-wellness/covid-19-information/) frequently for the latest information. You are required to adhere to the most recent policies.

If you are attending in person, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change during the drop/add period if in-person student registration increases significantly or at any point during the semester if local COVID-19 regulations require additional physical distancing. In case of the latter, in-person students may be split into cohorts who will attend alternating sessions.

## Prerequisites

None

## Units earned

4

## Course Description

Wall labels, audio guides, and informative maps are just some of the ways by which galleries and museums convey information and hidden narratives about a collection. Given the changing role of museums and galleries in the 21st century, how can we utilize new tools such as Augmented Reality (AR) to design and deliver immersive experiences that breathe new life into an exhibit? How can such tools do so without distracting from the power and importance of a collection, or by purposefully challenging problematic aspects such as an exhibit’s disputed provenance or ethical concerns? And how can these tools make collections more accessible to a wider audience?

This course mobilizes resources from museography, art history, sociology, interaction design and 3D, real-time development to answer these questions. Topics covered include exhibition installation and curation, mixed reality production in Unity, and mobile development for Augmented Reality. The course is open to students from a variety of academic backgrounds interested in gaining hands-on experience in applying new technologies to exhibition spaces.

## Course Objectives

* Understand the theoretical concepts and practical challenges of curating and exhibiting artworks in 21st century museum and gallery spaces.
* Understand the development workflow in the Unity game engine for AR applications.
* Apply best-practices in user-interface design and information delivery on mobile platforms.
* Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of augmenting technologies within cultural spaces.
* Create relevant mobile digital content within a given exhibition through prototyping, iteration and integration.
* By working on use cases with museums and galleries in Berlin, students gain insights into how professional exhibitors work and the innovations they are considering. Students become aware of skills and experiences they can offer to potential future employers in the museum and gallery world.

## Course Approach to Teaching & Learning

This course focuses on a hands-on approach to theoretical issues in curation and exhibition. In this regard, learning by doing is given a preferential approach, both through design and development. Topics explored during the Monday meetings (Lecture) will then be prototyped through practical implementation during the Wednesday classes (Lab). Each week includes both a theoretical discussion on a given topic, as well as technical content aimed at developing familiarity with the software used in this class (Unity). Each week’s technical content will build on the previous week’s in order to form a single assignment by the mid-semester. Additionally, in order to accommodate a spectrum of technical expertise and abilities among students, further platforms for prototyping (Figma, Adobe XD) are introduced, which will enable students to complete the exercises.

Regarding class participation, the working assumption is that *critical feedback is the highest form of respect*. Thus, you are encouraged to comment on your classmates’ work when they present it, and encouraged to ask for feedback from your classmates when you present yours.

Students have the opportunity to work with partner institutions in order to design and develop an AR project based on a professional use case.

## Assessment Components

You are expected to attend class in person or remote synchronously. Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

*Technical projects* - 25%. You will complete a series of short technical projects in order to develop familiarity with the Unity engine and AR workflow. Each assignment builds on the previous one, ensuring that students master each skill at each level. Students are expected to present their projects at each step in class for a group review.

*Participation* - 20%. Participation includes (a) in-class discussion of readings and of your classmates’ project presentations, (b) completion of all homework assignments, (c) posting your weekly reading responses online, and (d) contributing to the class resources — whether by finding current exhibitions and cultural events, or innovative AR projects not mentioned during class, and sharing them with your instructor and classmates.

*Collection activation* - 25%. Due mid-semester - You will design a digital project proposal for a large-scale institution’s collection, by applying your knowledge of both applied application design and broad affordances of augmentation as seen in class. Your report should include background research on the gallery/museum and the artist(s) exhibited, analysis of the curatorial intent, the practical installation and description of the audience, and conclude with a proposal for augmenting that specific exhibition. You will submit a PDF of your proposal to your instructor.

*Museum project* - 30% - Due end of semester - You will complete a longer project, which will be developed throughout the semester in collaboration with our museum partners. This group project will include (a) a pre-emptive analysis of the site and collection that you will be working with, (b) design and development of the AR, and (c) a presentation to the partner teams with user-testing and post-production conclusions on the effectiveness and limitations of the application. A detailed grading rubric will be provided on the class website.

**Note:** All homework and reading responses are due by the time class starts. All readings are expected to be completed for the week they are listed, unless stated otherwise.

Students are expected to attend class in person or remote synchronously. Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

## Required Text(s)

All required readings will be provided as a digital copy.

## Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)

All supplemental readings will be provided as a digital copy.

## Additional Required Equipment

Students are encouraged to work with their laptop and can also use their own smartphones for mobile development. Nonetheless, essential work will take place in the computer lab or online for remote students.

## 06 September: No classes at NYU Berlin

## Session 1 - 08 September - Introduction

This session first covers housekeeping matters, introduces the course materials, learning objectives and technological tools. The second part introduces students to the changing landscape of museum institutions in the 21st century, as well as to the current state of technology in mixed and augmented reality. We will also ask questions about the relationship between the digital and the physical. How does technology augment the spaces, objects, and persons that it is applied to? How is storytelling, education and learning being changed by digital technologies?

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Technical fluency: develop a basic, functioning mobile application using the Unity Engine and the Augmented Reality toolkits. Understand the challenges at hand when developing AR applications.Understand the current state of museology in the 21st century.*

## Session 2 – 13 September – Unity Basics

This session is dedicated to learning the basics of navigating, laying out and programming objects in Unity.

Watch:

* [*Unity Tutorials, Interface Essentials*](https://unity3d.com/learn/tutorials/topics/interface-essentials/interface-overview?playlist=17090), Video 1-7, https://unity3d.com/learn/tutorials/topics/interface-essentials/interface-overview?playlist=17090
* Pierre’s recorded lecture

Technical:

* Introduction to Unity
* GameObject / Component / Script model
* Introduction to C#

**Homework (due next session):** Choose a of object as a 3D model that belongs to a specific group (the interpretation of “group” is up to you—it could be a place, a moment, an activity, a group of people, etc.). Import the type of object into Unity and position them so that it is easily visible from the camera.

## Session 3 – 15 September — **Augmenting Technologies**

This session dives deeper into the development workflow of Unity, the main software we will be using for class. The starting point for this will be the history and principles of Mixed and Augmented Reality.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Technical fluency: develop a basic, functioning mobile application using the Unity Engine and the Augmented Reality toolkits. Design awareness: understand how to structure an application around the principles of human-computer interaction and user-centered design.*

**Reading:**

* [*The Ultimate Display*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Sutherland_TheUltimateDisplay.pdf), Ivan Sutherland, Information Processing Techniques Office, https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Sutherland\_TheUltimateDisplay.pdf
* [*A Survey of Augmented Reality*](http://www.cs.unc.edu/~azuma/ARpresence.pdf), R. T. Azuma, Presence, vol. 6, no. 4, pp. 1–18, Jul. 1997. [Online]. Available: http://www.cs.unc.edu/~azuma/ARpresence.pdf.

**Lecture:**

* History and principles of Mixed and Augmented Reality.
* Introduction to ARKit/ARCore and setting up a development environment.

## Session 4 – 20 September – Unity Basics Continued

Canvas and UI in Unity.

**Homework (due next session):** Building on your previous homework, add text and images to enrich the depiction of the type of object you chose. Add one button and make some content interactive (e.g. displaying/hiding an image).

## Session 5 - 22 September - Unity and Interaction Design

This week takes a step back from the hands-on development in Unity, in order to look at some essential design concepts, such as user-experience, affordance, user story and information interfaces. What is interface design? What is interaction design? What is UX design? We will discuss the specificities and interconnections of all of these approaches in the context of AR, as well as practical methods for implementing them.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Design awareness: understand how to structure an application around the principles of human-computer interaction and user-centered design. Construct a narrative thread in a digital interactive environment.*

**Reading:**

* [*A Cultural Approach to Interaction Design*](https://github.com/NYUAD-IM/Comm-Lab/blob/master/Assets/Readings/InventingTheMedium_JanetMurray.pdf), Janet Murray, https://github.com/NYUAD-IM/Comm-Lab/blob/master/Assets/Readings/InventingTheMedium\_JanetMurray.pdf
* *Doing Cultural Studies,* Du Gay, Hall.

**Homework (due next session):** Developan AR application that allows your user to interact with digital objects, following the production, mediation, consumption model seen in class. Use the objects you have worked with so far. You should implement an input for your user to place objects, and UI components to provide feedback and information.

**Lecture:**

* Interaction Design
* Storytelling in the digital age - UX and UI

## Session 6 - 27 September - Technical Session

* Adobe XD
* Intro to ARFoundation

**Due – Technical Project 1 – Object stories**

**Homework (due next week)**: Sketch up the app of your dreams in Adobe XD.

## Session **7** - 29 September – **Museums and Utopia**

What should museums represent? The world as it was? The world as it is? The world as it could be? What relationship does a museum established between what is and what could be? This week looks at museums as “extra-real” spaces, offering alternative worldviews and paradigms, focusing on the presentation of work-in-progress and feedback-oriented discussions regarding your current progress.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: understand the ideas and intent behind the organization, layout and presentation of a given body of work. Transdisciplinarity: analyze the issue at hand from the lens of technology and media studies as well as museum studies.*

**Reading**:

* [*The Museum: A Refuge for Utopian Thought*](https://www.nyu.edu/classes/bkg/web/museutopia.pdf), Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, in *Die Unruhe der Kultur: Potentiale des Utopischen*, eds. Jörn Rusen, Michael Fehr, Annelie Ramsbrock, Velbruck Wissenschaft, 2004. https://www.nyu.edu/classes/bkg/web/museutopia.pdf

## Session 8 – 04 October – Technical Session

* Interacting with an object in AR
* Physics in Unity
* Scene Management

**Homework (due next session):** Finish the build exercise started in class on your own device. Convert your assignment #1 for AR!

## Session 9 - 06 October – The Role of Museums

This session focuses on analyzing and exploring the role of museums as historical and cultural institutions. Why do museums exist? Why do people go to museums? Have museums evolved over time? In which direction? The second part of the session is dedicated to working time on the students’ projects.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Understand the historical component of the ideas and intent behind the organization, layout and presentation of a given body of work. Analyze the evolution of the role of the museum in the 21st century. Envision what possible futures lie ahead for museum institutions.*

**Reading:**

* [*Key Concepts of Museology*](https://icom.museum/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Museologie_Anglais_BD.pdf)*, ed. André Desvallées and François Mairesse, Armand Colin, 2010, articles Collection* *pp. 26-28, Exhibition* *pp. 34-38, Mediation* *pp. 46-48, Museum* *pp.56-60, Object* *pp.61-64. https://icom.museum/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Museologie\_Anglais\_BD.pdf*
* [*The End of the Museum?*](https://www.jstor.org/stable/3332464)*,* Nelson Goodman, Journal of Aesthetic Education, University of Illinois Press, 1985. https://www.jstor.org/stable/3332464

**Lecture:** The purpose of the museum, the museum, its objects, and its technologies.

## Session 10 - 13 October - Interaction in Unity

**Technical Session**

* Interacting with an object in AR – 2
* Raycasting
* Touch interactions

**Due – Technical Project 2 – Object stories in AR**

## Session 11 - 18 October – Augmenting Objects

This week focuses on the idea and the reality of what an “object” is. What are some of the visible properties of an object? What are the invisible ones? If objects also symbolize things beyond themselves, how can we use AR and digital technology to bring those aspects to the forefront?

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: understand the ideas and intent behind the organization, layout and presentation of a given collection of objects. Design awareness: understand how to structure information in the digital world around a given object. Define what constitutes an object based on the production/distribution/consumption framework.*

**Reading**:

* *Artefacts and the Meaning of Things*, Daniel Miller, Routledge, 1994, pp. 96-147
* *Radical Technologies: The Design of Everyday Life*, Adam Greenfield, Verso, 2017.

**Lecture:**

* The object, the art-object and the display.
* Objects in anthropology

**Homework (due next session):** Complete your ARKit application by adding different scenes and more thorough background research.

## Session 12 - 20 October

## Technical Session

* ARKit programming 2
* Plane detection
* Image Markers

## Session 13 - 18 October – Presentations of Museum Partners

This week will mark the beginning of our collaboration with our museum partners, as well as the start of our reflection on specific museum or gallery partners. Partners will come to present use cases in class, and we will form groups to work on these use cases.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Real-world implementation: propose and implement a design around a given constraint (i.e., that of a real-world exhibition).Analyze a professional client presentation and identify the main action points to be addressed in the deliverable.*

**Reading**:

* [*Museum4Punkt0*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Glinka_Museum4Punkt0.pdf), Katrin Glinka, in *ICOM*, vol 70, 2018. <https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Glinka_Museum4Punkt0.pdf> Further reading to be added on specific partner institutions.

**Homework (due on that day): N/A**

## Session 14 - 20 October - Technical Session: Collection Activation Presentations and Image recognition

* ARKit Image Libraries

**Due – Collection Activation**

## Session 15 - 25 October – Museums and Information in Physical Spaces

This week focuses on laying out the current use of digital media (not limited to AR), ranging from audio guides, to interactive display tables, VR installations and companion applications. We examine how museums are making the most of digital media, while also addressing the limitations of this approach. The second part of the lecture will focus on how to organize brainstormed ideas into a design document for your M4P0 development project.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: understand the ideas and intent behind the organization, layout and presentation of a given body of work. Design awareness: understand how to structure an application around the principles of human-computer interaction and user-centered design. Transdisciplinarity: analyze the issue at hand from the lens of technology and media studies as well as museum studies. Technical skill: learn and use contemporary wireframing tools to convey your ideas.*

**Reading**:

* N/A

**Homework:** Finish your collection activation assignment. Start to think about which museum use case you would like to work on.

**Lecture:**

* The different spaces of a museum
* Guides in museums
* Walking and orientations

## Session 16 - 27 October

Lecture:

* Presentation on how to draft the specifics of an interactive project. In-class working session for Design and Technical documents.

Technical:

* Unity Collab

## Session 17 - 01 November – Museums and Information in Online Spaces

This week we explore how museums engage in technology that is exclusively online. Whether through social media, online access of physical collections or online exploration of non-accessible collections, the internet has changed the way we consider accessibility and information.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: understand the ideas and intent behind the organization, layout and presentation of a given body of work. Design awareness: understand how to structure an application around the principles of human-computer interaction and user-centered design. Analyze the evolution of the role of the museum in the 21st century. Transdisciplinarity: analyze the issue at hand through the lens of technology and media studies as well as museum studies.*

**Reading**:

* [*From Malraux's Imaginary Museum to the Virtual Museum*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Battro_VirtualMuseum.pdf), Antonia Battro in Museums in the Digital Age, ed. Ross Perry, Routledge, 2010, pp.136-147. https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Battro\_VirtualMuseum.pdf

**Homework (due today):**

* Complete a first version of your design document.
* Get in touch with the contact person at the partner museum or gallery regarding your project. Discuss your idea with them and see how they can help (assets, examples, code, reports, visitor studies, etc.).
* Come prepared to present what project you've decided to work on for the museum partnership.

**Lecture:**

* Online information organization
* The virtual museum
* The museum beyond its walls

## Session 18 - 03 November - Technical Session: AR App presentation

* Unity Animations
* Unity APIs - 1

**Due – Technical Project 3** – **Full AR app**

## Session 19 - 08 November – Museum and Education

This week we investigate the educational role of museums, focusing on inclusiveness and design for (dis)abilities. The lecture will highlight how it relates to both physical spaces, in the case of cultural institutions, and digital spaces, in the case of application design and development.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Understand the educational and pedagogical approaches behind the organization, layout, presentation of a collection. Evaluate how human-computer interaction and user-centered design are used to pedagogical ends. Analyze the evolution of the role of the museum in the 21st century.*

**Reading**:

* [*Distinction*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Bourdieu_Distinction.pdf), Pierre Bourdieu, Distinction: Social Critique of Judgment of Taste, Introduction, MIT Press, 1984. https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Bourdieu\_Distinction.pdf
* *The Ignorant Art Museum: Beyond Meaning Making*, Emilie Sitzia, in Journal of Lifelong Education, 2018, pp. 73-87. https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Sitzia\_IgnorantArtMuseum.pdf

**Homework (due next session): Finish your design document for your museum use-case**

**Lecture:** Museum as education-providers.Cultural Capital.Accessibility in physical and digital spaces.

## Session 20 - 10 November - Technical Session

* Start developing your museum project.
* Spatial Unity with geolocalization and compass

**Due – Design Document**

## Session 21 - 15 November – Augmenting Art Galleries

*This session introduces students to the principles and practices of curating a show for an art gallery. What do curators do? How do they select artists? How do they organize a show spatially and theoretically by taking into account technical requirements, artistic intent and expected audiences? Why put up a show in the first place? The second part of this session is dedicated to student work.*

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: evaluate the role of art galleries in relation to the role of museums in both the art market and society at large. Real-world implementation: propose and implement a design around a given constraint (i.e., that of a real-world exhibition). Execute the best practices in media development and project planning.*

**Reading**:

* [*Show and Tell*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Storr_ShowAndTell.pdf), Robert Storr in *What Makes a Great Exhibition?*, Paul Marincola, Reaktion Books, 2007. https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Storr\_ShowAndTell.pdf
* [*What is an Exhibition?*](https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Filipovic_WhatIsAnExhibition.pdf), Elena Filipovic in *Ten Fundamental Questions of Curating*, ed. Jens Hoffman, Mousse Publishing, 2008. https://github.com/periode/augmenting-gallery/blob/master/resources/readings/Filipovic\_WhatIsAnExhibition.pdf

**Homework (due next session):** Establish a **retro-planning** for your project, breaking down the next four weeks day by day, and post it on your blog (you can link to a google spreadsheet, for instance).

**Lecture:** The history and role of the art gallery. Digital media as an integral part of the exhibition process.

## Session 22 - 17 November - Technical Session

* Work session on your museum projects
* Unity PlayerPrefs

## Session 23 - 22 November – Exhibiting Digital Artworks

While an increasing number of artworks include a software component, the question of how to present and preserve them has proven to be complicated. How is the exhibition of a piece of software art faithful to its original intent and situation?

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Curatorial awareness: understand the ideas, intent and challenges of curation and preservation in the specific context of new media art. Design awareness: understand how to structure an application around the principles of human-computer interaction and user-centered design.*

**Reading**:

* [*Presenting and Preserving New Media*](http://www.neme.org/texts/preserving-new-media), Christiane Paul in *Digital Art*, Thames and Hudson, 2007. http://www.neme.org/texts/preserving-new-media
* [*Objects, Intent, and Authenticity: Producing, Selling, and Conserving Media Art*](https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9781315597898/chapters/10.4324/9781315597898-8), Caitlin Jones, in *New Collecting: Exhibiting and Audiences after New Media Art*, Routledge, 2016.

**Homework:** Write an update regarding your Collection Activation assignment (what further research have you done, what wireframes have you made, etc.)

**Lecture:** Exhibition and preservation of digital artworks.

## Session 24 - 24 November

Work and catch-up session on Unity. Introduction to Adobe InDesign and visual layout and communication.

## Session 25 - 29 November – Reflection Session

Students will take part in a discussion about the pros and cons of the use of technology in general, and how they relate to accessibility and inclusivity and of AR specifically, within the context of museums.

***Learning Outcomes:*** *Real-world implementation: propose and implement a design around a given constraint (i.e., that of a real-world exhibition). Technical fluency: develop a basic, functioning mobile application using the Unity Engine and the Augmented Reality toolkits.*

**Reading**:

* N/A

**Lecture:** N/A

## Session 26 - 01 December - **Work Session**

This session is dedicated to in-class work time in expectation of the presentation next week.

## Session 27 - 06 December - Work Session and Course Evaluations

**Homework (due next session):** Add the final touches to the development of your project. You are welcome to arrange an individual appointment with your instructor for specific advice and debugging. Finalize your presentation for the museum/gallery partners and include a short presentation and video of the application running on your device.

## Session 28 - 08 December – Final Presentations

Students will be presenting their final projects to the museum partners.

## Session 29 - 13 December – Class feedback

This session concludes the semester by summing up some of the key developments in the interaction between portable digital technology and museum institutions, as well as providing some directions going forward (developing museum web platforms, using Virtual Reality or archiving objects through photogrammetry). How odes AR influence our relation to the art-object? How do museums find their place in a digital world? The end of the session is dedicated to course evaluations.

## Recommendations for Teaching and Learning in Blended Learning Environment

To optimize the experience in a blended learning environment, please consider the following:

* Be mindful of your microphone and video display during synchronous class meetings. As research has shown, quiet and visually neutral backgrounds are conducive to learning.
* Please do not eat during class and minimize any other distracting noises (e.g. rustling of papers and leaving the classroom before the break, unless absolutely necessary).
* If deemed necessary by the study away site (i.e., a COVID-19 related necessity), synchronous class sessions may be recorded and archived for other students to view. This will be announced at the beginning of class time.

Laptops are not allowed during class time, unless we are working on technical aspects of the course, since they distract not just you, but classmates as well. In order to avoid unnecessary printing of materials, students are encouraged to take notes from readings and write down questions as preparation for class discussions.

## Suggested Co-Curricular Activities

You are strongly encouraged to visit museums and galleries wherever you are based, as long as the current local health and safety guidelines permit doing so. For those based in Berlin, recommendations will be listed on the class website, but feel free to add to that list by editing the wiki. The museum and gallery scene in Berlin is an incredibly diverse array of curatorial projects, materials, histories, and approaches.

## Your Lecturer

Pierre Depaz is an educator, artist, and programmer from France. Having taught at NYU New York and Abu Dhabi, he is currently a Lecturer at NYU Berlin and Sciences Po. Pierre is interested in the multiple ways computers are attempting to represent and interface with human concepts and emotions. His academic research revolves around simulation, semantics and public organization through technological means. His artistic practice includes digital games, computer simulations, interactive installations, networked performances and experimental web projects, which have been exhibited in NYC, Paris, Cairo, Abu Dhabi, Brussels, and Berlin. His teaching philosophy is influenced by Jacques Rancière’s analysis of Joseph Jactotot’s Universal Method, developed in *The Ignorant Schoolmaster*, which assumes the radical equality of all minds.

# Academic Policies

## Grade Conversion

Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

A = 94-100 or 4.0

A- = 90-93 or 3.7

B+ = 87-89 or 3.3

B = 84-86 or 3.0

B- = 80-83 or 2.7

C+ = 77-79 or 2.3

C = 74-76 or 2.0

C- = 70-73 or 1.7

D+ = 67-69 or 1.3

D = 65-66 or 1.0

F = below 65 or 0

## Attendance Policy

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers, or online through NYU Brightspaces if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Attendance will be checked at each class meeting. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to write to berlin.academics@nyu.edu to see if you can take your remote class at the Academic Center.

As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor and/or the Academics team (berlin.academics@nyu.edu) by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or site staff may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from an NYU Staff member as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances that you wish to be treated confidentially must be presented to NYU Berlin’s director or Wellness Counselor. Doctor's notes must be submitted in person or by e-mail to the Academics team, who will inform your professors.

Unexcused absences may be penalized with a two percent deduction from the student’s final course grade for every week's worth of classes missed, and may negatively affect your class participation grade. Four unexcused absences in one course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequently joining the class late.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to site staff; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

## Final exams

Final exams must be taken at their designated times. Should there be a conflict between your final exams, please bring this to the attention of the Academics team. Final exams may not be taken early, and students should not plan to leave the site before the end of the finals period.

## Late Submission of Work

1. Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (including weekends and public holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU Berlin's administration), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.
2. Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (including weekends and public holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
3. Assignments due during finals week that are submitted more than 3 days late (including weekends and public holidays) without previously arranged extensions will not be accepted and will receive a zero. Any exceptions or extensions for work during finals week must be discussed with the Site Director, Dr. Gabriella Etmektsoglou.
4. Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
5. Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

## Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

As the University's policy on "[Academic Integrity for Students at NYU](http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html)" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.  
  
NYU takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form, and may check your assignments by using TurnItIn or another software designed to detect offences against academic integrity.

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.  
  
For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

[NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines](http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/academic-integrity-for-students-at-nyu.html)   
  
[NYU Library Guides](http://nyu.libguides.com/content.php?pid=123054&sid=1057581)

# Inclusivity Policies and Priorities

NYU’s Office of Global Programs and NYU’s global sites are committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion. In order to nurture a more inclusive global university, NYU affirms the value of sharing differing perspectives and encourages open dialogue through a variety of pedagogical approaches. Our goal is to make all students feel included and welcome in all aspects of academic life, including our syllabi, classrooms, and educational activities/spaces.

## Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU Berlin’s Academics Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](http://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/university-calendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html)

## Pronouns and Name Pronunciation (Albert and Zoom)

Students, staff, and faculty have the opportunity to add their pronouns, as well as the pronunciation of their names, into Albert. Students can have this information displayed to faculty, advisors, and administrators in Albert, Brightspace, the NYU Home internal directory, as well as other NYU systems. Students can also opt out of having their pronouns viewed by their instructors, in case they feel more comfortable sharing their pronouns outside of the classroom. For more information on how to change this information for your Albert account, please see the [Pronouns and Name Pronunciation website](https://www.nyu.edu/students/student-information-and-resources/registration-records-and-graduation/forms-policies-procedures/pronouns-and-name-pronunciation.html).

Students, staff, and faculty are also encouraged, though not required, to list their pronouns, and update their names in the name display for Zoom. For more information on how to make this change, please see the [Personalizing Zoom Display Names website](https://www.nyu.edu/life/information-technology/communication-and-collaboration/email-and-communication/nyu-zoom/personalizing-nyu-zoom-display-names.html).

## Moses Accommodations Statement

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or [mosescsd@nyu.edu](mailto:mosescsd@nyu.edu)) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through NYU Berlin.

## Bias Response

The New York University Bias Response Line provides a mechanism through which members of our community can share or report experiences and concerns of bias, discrimination, or harassing behavior that may occur within our community.

Experienced administrators in the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) receive and assess reports, and then help facilitate responses, which may include referral to another University school or unit, or investigation if warranted according to the University's existing Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy.

The Bias Response Line is designed to enable the University to provide an open forum that helps to ensure that our community is equitable and inclusive.

To report an incident, you may do so in one of three ways:

* Online using the [Web Form (link)](https://nyu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_55x3HRqPYDsI0uN)
* Email: [bias.response@nyu.edu](mailto:bias.response@nyu.edu)
* US Phone Number: +1 212-998-2277
* Local Number in Berlin: +49 (0) 30 2902 91277

Please consider the environment before printing this syllabus. If printing is necessary, please select only the essential page range.