

ART151: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE CODING IN NEW MEDIA ARTS

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M/W 8:00am - 10:40am

Taft Hall 117

CLASS DESCRIPTION

This is a studio-based course that introduces students to computer programming with an emphasis on using creative practices to formulate new ideas. No previous programming experience is required. Students will develop a technical aptitude for generating dynamic and data-driven visual projects, and through a socio-historical analysis of computation, art and philosophy, contextualize their projects with an understanding of how computation has augmented how we make meaning from our visual environment. Composing a series of projects throughout the semester, students will experiment and develop their own strategies to develop and evaluate project rubrics and goals. Students will complete the class with a foundation of technical skills to pursue individual learning of more advanced programming, scripting, and web development. There are no prerequisites for this course.

The class will be taught as a series of lectures, discussions, tutorials, project work, and student critiques. *Note: Students are required to have a device that enables internet browsing and downloading large files.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Acquire a vocabulary to unpack programming concepts and techniques with confidence.
- Critically examining how new media art is entangled in histories of culture and technology.
- Develop idiosyncratic processes to facilitate creatively engaging with computation
- Produce a series of works from exercises to longer-term projects.

- Productively discuss and critique peers' work.
- Connect technical skills to critical thinking to create meaningful artistic compositions.

GRADING, ATTENDANCE, PRIVACY, AND ACCOMODATION POLICIES

Department of Art, UIC

Contact / Credit Hour Policies

This class is a 4-hour credit course. During an average week, you will be expected to spend 3-5 hours on homework per class. Homework will primarily consist of assignment completions, project development, project documentation, and written assignments. See the UIC Contact / Credit hour policy for a detailed explanation for how homework time is calculated on a per-credit-hour basis.

Grading Key

A = outstanding accomplishment in all assignments (technically and conceptually), excellent engagement with ideas and materials, excellent participation in classroom community (vocal, inquisitive, and ALWAYS thoughtful), full attendance, exceptional progress in artistic process

B = above average accomplishment in all assignments, strong engagement with ideas and materials, work falls short of fully embodying the initial conceptual or formal impetus. during class, you are invested when you choose, but lack the rigor to ALWAYS be present in class. full attendance and above average progress

C = average accomplishment of all assignments, work submitted on time, some engagement with ideas and materials, some participation in classroom community, full attendance, average progress, Student shows lack of motivation and interest in thoroughly developing their skills as an artist, student, and citizen.

D = the work does not meet the assignments criteria, some assignments not completed or completed in a perfunctory manner, little engagement with ideas and materials, irregular or damaging participation in classroom community, irregular attendance, minimal

progress
F = a number of assignments not completed or completed in a perfunctory manner, little or no evidence of engagement with ideas and materials, lack of participation in classroom community, failure to arrive prepared for class routinely, irregular attendance, little or no evidence of progress

*NOTE - Merely turning in all assignments is not a guarantee of a C or above.

Grading by Assignment

5% - Mini project 1
25% - Project 1
5% - Mini project 2
25% - Project 2
5% - Mini project 3
25% - Project 3
10% - Participation

Attendance

Attendance is required. Students are expected to attend all classes and be present for the full duration of each class. In class time is for instruction. When possible, instructors will make time for students to work independently on projects. Unless special permission is granted by the instructor, students are required to remain in class during this independent work time. Announcements and directions will be given at the beginning of class so it is important that you arrive on time. Absences, late arrivals, and leaving class early will reflect negatively on your grade. Communicate with your instructors if there are serious or extenuating circumstances that prevent you from arriving on time or from participating fully. Be prepared to present a doctor's note if an absence is due to illness.

- Maximum: two unexcused absences for the semester.
- Three unexcused absences = your grade will drop by one letter grade.

- One letter grade will be dropped for each additional unexcused absence.
- Five or more unexcused absences = automatic failure of the course.
- Missing class on a scheduled presentation or critique day is equivalent to not having your work ready. It will result in a failing grade for that assignment.
- Three late arrivals or early departures will count as one absence.

Class schedule

This syllabus is only a general guideline for the course. The schedule will change depending on class performance during the semester.

Adjustments will be announced during class time when changes occur.

Assignments

Assignments are always due on the day they are DUE. Late work is not acceptable because of the fact that in-class activities are often closely tied to sharing and discussing assignments. Late work undermines your own learning as well as the learning community of the class as a whole.

Cell phones and other digital communications

During class time, it is not appropriate to make or receive phone calls; view or send texts, direct messages, or e-mails; use the internet for any purpose unrelated to the course content. You may be asked to leave the classroom if you do. "Mental absence" due to cell phone, web surfing, or social media distractions will be counted as missed class time (ie, an absence), and will contribute to the lowering of your grade.

Accommodation for Disabilities

Guided by the belief that people with disabilities are assets to the University, UIC is committed to full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of university life. We seek to provide an academic, social, and physical environment that makes disabled people integral to the diversity of perspectives that is vital to an academic community.

UIC supports the principles of universally accessible design, alternative communication formats, and the expression of disability community and

pride. At all levels of the University, UIC promotes equal opportunity, fair treatment, and the elimination of barriers for qualified individuals with disabilities.

Students with disabilities who require accommodations for full access and participation in UIC Programs must be registered with the [Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#). Please contact DRC at (312) 413-2183 (voice) or (312) 413- 0123 (TDD).

During the first week of the semester a student who has a letter of accommodation (LOA) for any type of disability **MUST** schedule a meeting with their instructor(s) so that you may create + agree upon a clear plan for implementing accommodations.

Religious Holiday Observance Policy

In accordance with Illinois state laws and with respect for cultural diversity, we will make every effort to avoid scheduling examinations or requiring student projects be turned in or completed on religious holidays. Students who wish to observe their religious holidays must notify the instructor by the tenth day of the term that they will be absent unless their religious holiday is observed on or before the tenth day, in such case students must notify instructor at least five days in advance of the date when he or she will be absent. [UIC's Policy on religious holidays and Religious Calendar](#)

Safe Space

The UIC School of Art & Art History is committed to creating a safe space in our classrooms that is a welcoming, supportive, and safe environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) students. See also: [UIC's Nondiscrimination Policy](#), [Open Expressions Policy](#), and [SAAH's Allyship Booklet](#).

Image Reproduction

Images of projects created in this course may be used for educational purposes, including instruction in future courses and promotion of the School, College or University. If you have concerns about sharing or distributing any of your work for these purposes, please discuss these with your instructor.

Cheating

In accordance with UIC policies, any student caught copying homework, plagiarizing a paper, or any copying visual material without giving appropriate credit will:

1. Fail the assignment
2. Be subject to removal from and failure of the course
3. Be reported to the Dean of Students for possible removal from the University.

Digital Privacy @ CADA

The College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts (CADA) strives to safeguard the privacy of its faculty, students, prospective students, and employees in online learning environments and other online events and activities hosted or sponsored by the College.

The College may record online events for internal use and faculty may record and post live online lectures on Blackboard, UIC's internal Content Management System; those recordings are permitted under these guidelines. However, the meeting host should endeavor to give notice whenever an online class or event is being recorded. If any student is identifiable in an image or recording from an online class, distributing that content publicly (i.e., outside of password protected Blackboard) may constitute a violation of the educational record protections provided under FERPA.

Individuals who suspect a violation has occurred should report that matter to Assistant Dean Dina Taylor (dltaylor@uic.edu) or Associate Dean Cheryl Towler Weese (cheryltw@uic.edu).

Lecture Recordings

Occasionally, class sessions may be recorded via Zoom (or a similar platform) for the purposes of study / review or for students who are unable to attend an in-class session. Your instructor will inform you if they plan to record the lecture. The "record" feature for students will be disabled so that no one may be able to record the session without your knowledge. Recording in-class lectures without the permission of the instructor is not permitted.

If you have privacy concerns and do not wish to appear in lecture recordings, you may turn OFF your video and notify the instructor. If you prefer to use a pseudonym on screen instead of your name, please let the instructor know what name you will be using, so that they can identify you during the class session. If you wish to ask a question but don't want your name to appear in the chat, you may direct-message the instructor through the chat feature. If you have questions or concerns about this video recording policy, please contact the instructor before the end of the first week of class.

These guidelines do not restrict a student's right to record lectures or download content pursuant to the [assistive technology accommodations](#) outlined by the [UIC Disability Resource Center](#).

It is also important to maintain a learning environment where everyone feels comfortable participating. To protect these interests, students and other participants may not copy, record, reproduce, screenshot, photograph, or distribute the following content:

- Live discussions or meetings
- Discussion boards
- Rehearsals, Critiques, and other creative activity
- Images of students, faculty, or other participants

Any attempt to disrupt an online course or event (e.g., "Zoombombing") or to use the College's online platforms to introduce malware or gain unpermitted access to files or networks is prohibited and may violate other University policies depending on the nature of manner of the conduct. Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary action under the UIC Student Disciplinary Policy.

Student Disciplinary Policy

The [Student Disciplinary Policy](#) is the University's process to handle allegations of misconduct by UIC Students. The Student Disciplinary Policy addresses both academic misconduct (such as plagiarism, cheating, or grade tampering) and behavioral misconduct (such as theft, assault, under-age drinking, and drug-use.) See also: [Guidelines for Academic Integrity](#)

UIC Resources

- UIC's Hotspot and Laptop Lending program for students (and instructors). [Request Form Here](#)
- For remote access to virtual computers + labs with specialized software, visit: [UIC Virtual Computer Labs](#)
- [UIC Counseling Center](#): 312-996-3490
- [Disability Resource Center](#): 312-413-2183
- [UIC Gender + Sexuality Center](#):: 312-413-8619
- [UIC Wellness Center](#): 312-413-2120
- [UIC Police Station](#):
 - emergency: 312-335-5555
 - non-emergency: 312-996-2830
- For additional information or assistance with the equal opportunity, affirmative action, and harassment policies and procedures of the University of Illinois at Chicago, please contact the [Office for Access and Equity](#).