Front End Web Development (GD 431)

course description

This course provides experienced web designers with an opportunity to further their conceptual abilities, designing more complex web sites. Students will develop their knowledge introduced in the Digital Media: Web Design class concentrating on projects which rigorously explore issues of visual communication, interactivity, user experience and inter-media. Students will design a variety of site typologies such as e-commerce sites, educational sites, and intranets. Software will include site management tools, time, and sound applications.

meeting

Thursdays *from* 4–10pm *in* Brown 206

during Fall 2018 *for* 3.00 credits (*studio*)

led by

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https://mica-web.slack.com/

course overview

Code and design are not opposite ends of some spectrum, and they share more commonalities than you might expect. Both can be expressions of creativity, require problem-solving strategies and can solve real-world problems.

This class will be a hands-on exploration of the important skills, tools and considerations for modern front-end web development. You will build upon your existing graphic design knowledge of layout, typography, color theory and learn the HTML and CSS to create web-based versions of your designs and the CSS and JavaScript to make them interactive. You will create and be evaluated on web projects: how they perform in the browser, on mobile devices and the code you wrote to get those results. You will also work collaboratively with your colleagues to identify project goals and evaluate your success in achieving those goals.

course learning outcomes

As part of this course, you will:

1. Learn modern and advanced HTML, CSS and JavaScript, building on foundational knowledge from GD430 Web Design.
2. Create and expand your own design and development processes for working on interactive projects.

3. Design and build larger systems of pages and consider how to manage them.
4. Integrate better into established web/product teams, at the same time becoming more self-sufficient in fully realizing your designs in the browser.
5. Become familiar with the workflow and considerations of modern front-end web development, including user experience and accessibility.

evaluation & assessment

Each assignment will have a detailed rubric, and your work will be evaluated based on process, product, and professionalism. Feedback will be given in the form of critiques and code review, which may occur in person/in class and via GitHub/Slack. It is your responsibility as a student to follow up on feedback which is unclear or confusing to you.

expectations

assignments & projects

Coursework will include: in-class exercises to demonstrate and experiment with your growing HTML, CSS and JavaScript skills, 3 major multi-week projects and 1 written evaluation of an existing web site.

Deadlines are paramount; missing project deadlines almost always results in you receiving feedback and evaluation later than your colleagues. In addition, barring exceptional circumstances, late assignments will receive a grade no higher than a C.

attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of each class in which they are enrolled. They are expected to be ready to start work at the opening of class and to remain for the entire class session. Generally, students who miss more than 3 classes for any reason in a 15 week course (or 20% of class meetings) will earn a failing grade.

anticipated costs

You will be required to have a physical notebook for this course, but other than this nominal expense, we will make use of texts, articles and tools freely available online. You will be required to host their projects online for the duration of the semester; free hosting options will be discussed and paid options, should you opt to use them, should cost less than $60 for the semester.

course outline

Week 1	Aug 30	How does the internet do its thing?
Week 2	Sept 6	What is semantic HTML and why do we care?
Week 3	Sept 13	Sass: CSS superpowers
Week 4	Sept 20	What's possible with modern layout techniques
Week 5	Sept 27	Who does what in modern web development?
Week 6	Oct 4	How do we identify and evaluate UX? What is inclusive design?
Week 7	Oct 11	Fall break; no class
Week 8	Oct 18	Command line and version control
Weeks 9–10	Oct 25, Nov 1	How do we overcome the limitations of what we've done so far? Getting started with templates and static site generators
Weeks 11–12	Nov 8, Nov 15	How do we make it move? Intro to SVG, CSS animation and JavaScript
Week 13	Nov 22	Thanksgiving; no class
Week 14	Nov 29	Debugging JavaScript and exploring JavaScript libraries and frameworks
Week 15	Dec 6	Final presentation and conclusion

note: Additional details, including assignments and deadlines, will be available on the [course web site](https://mica-web.github.io/gd-431/) and are subject to change.

https://mica-web.github.io/gd-431/

scheduling of student course evaluations

Class time will be set aside toward the end of the semester for completion of student course evaluations.

Academic Policy Statements

Full academic policies and procedures are [published online](https://www.mica.edu/About_MICA/Policies_and_Handbooks/Academic_Policies_and_Resources.html).
https://www.mica.edu/About_MICA/Policies_and_Handbooks/Academic_Policies_and_Resources.html

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. If you have encountered sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, please know that there are multiple ways to report it and you are encouraged to do so (www.mica.edu/equal_opportunity). If you require academic adjustments due to an incident involving sexual harassment or discrimination, please contact Student Affairs at 410.225.2422 or Human Resources at 410.225.2363. Please be aware that in order to meet our 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 Cause for Legitimate 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.