

ARTS240 - Introduction to New Media

Assistant Professor Kevin Hamilton
Fall 2007 - Mondays, 1-3:40PM
Art and Design room 229
[Website TBA]

Description:

This course is a broad survey of the history, theory and practice of New Media forms. Different models of professional practice, including studio and client driven practices, will be explored through lecture, discussion and research components. Students will also be introduced to the use of some common new media tools.

We will be covering a great deal of material that you will be expected to recall throughout your tenure as a candidate for an undergraduate degree in New Media. Though there will be no tests in this course, you are strongly encouraged to take notes and begin making a habit of collecting names, references, and vocabulary for later use.

Contact information:

Kevin can be best reached by email (kham@uiuc.edu). Office hours will be announced later, or can sometimes be arranged by appointment.

Activities:

This course will entail a great deal of reading, discussion, and research. Each week you will be assigned readings, response questions, and research tasks involving the collection and sharing of examples in practice. In addition to weekly reading and writing assignments, you will be expected to keep an online journal or journals via a blog. A final project will involve the assembly of an annotated reference collection that relates to some of your more specific interests in New Media. You will also be expected to attend a few out-of-class events, typically on Wednesday evenings.

Expectations:

Timely attendance is mandatory. Writing assignments will not be accepted late. You will be expected to have read each week's course material in time for our discussion. Participation in class discussions is also required. Your grade will be determined thusly:

Attendance (10%)

Participation in class discussions (20%)

Completion of weekly writing and research assignments (40%)

Final Project (30%)

Required Texts:

Blais and Ito, [At The Edge of Art](#) - available at campus textbook stores

Arjen Mulder, [Understanding Media Theory](#) - out of print. I have copies for loan a passing grade for this course is contingent upon your return of the book in good condition.