

ICOM 495: Senior Capstone

Classroom:	Instructor: Brad King	Phone: 8692
Due Date: Wednesday, noon	Office: AJ 389	Email: jbking@bsu.edu
Website: http://www.thedudemane.net	Office hours: By appointment (Google+ for groups, Skype/Gtalk video for individuals)	Twitter: #bsudmm
		Category: Senior Capstone

Class Description:

This capstone experience requires the student to demonstrate a working knowledge of the skills learned in the Digital Media Minor. This class will require a project and presentation as the final portfolio piece.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will apply the basic structure of the interaction design process as demonstrated through in-class reading, discussion, and a final project;
2. Students will apply basic low-fi and hi-fi prototyping methodologies as part of the interaction design process as demonstrated through assignments;
3. Students will understand and apply basic qualitative and quantitative evaluative methods as demonstrated through a final thesis paper; and
4. Students will create a final digital product that encompasses the various skills learned in the Digital Media Minor as demonstrated by a final project, a final project report, and a presentation.

Texts:

The course texts are readings freely available as PDFs through Google Scholar. They are provided for students within the Blackboard environment. In Week 4, there are Web readings from Purdue's OWL site. If you are not familiar with the Purdue Online Writing Lab, you should be: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

Assignments:

All assignments will be due on Wednesday at noon. Late work will not be accepted unless students make arrangements before the due date. This class will consist of five types of assignments:

1. **Readings:** These assignments are meant to introduce you topics and ideas that will be discussed in Lectures. There are some readings that are contained within larger narratives; In those cases, the page number and title of the selection is listed within the weekly schedule;
2. **Lectures:** These mini-modules will expand upon the Readings, but they will not be replications of the reading. You will not be able to complete assignments properly if you skip either of these;
3. **Minute Essays:** These graded assignments will ask you to briefly expand upon Readings and Lectures;

4. **Thesis:** This paper will be constructed throughout an 8-week period, and focus on a theoretical issue related to your Creative Project; and
5. **Creative Project:** This project will be constructed throughout a 12-week period, and focus on demonstrating the skills learned in the Digital Media Minor.

Thesis (300)

- Research Question: 25
- Annotated Biography: 25
- Thesis, Abstract, Intro: 50
- Thesis: 200

Creative Project (500)

- Description/Requirements List/Design: 25
- Prototypes/Sketches: 25
- Prototypes/Sketches: 50
- Pre-Report Design Document: 100
- Benchmark/Working Prototype: 50
- Evaluation Meeting: 50
- Final: 200

Minute Essays (100)

- 10 short essays: 10

Assignment Policies:

- Papers will be turned in via email or dropbox, no hard copies will be accepted unless stated otherwise
- Papers will be saved as such: lastname.assignmentname
- Papers will be Word documents (.doc, .docx, .rtf)

Written Assignments

- Arial 12, Single Spaced, Single Column, Left Justified, Straight Quotes (and others)
- Your Title Pages will include: your name, class and assignment. Failure to do this will result in a zero for the assignment.
- Please use Works Cited at the end of your academic papers, and use the current edition of APA. In-text citation should follow this format (Author, Year) but you should make sure you use Purdue's OWL to make sure. If you use FOOTNOTES or ENDNOTES, you will receive no points for your work.

Screencasts/Audio Files

- Ideally you will record your screencasts as .mov, .avi, or other standard files (e.g. check YouTube's uploading policy); however, if you use Jing's standard version the .swf is fine.

Grade Scale

	pts	percentage
A+	873	97-100
A	837	93-96
A-	810	90-92
B+	783	87-89
B	747	83-86
B-	720	80-82
C+	693	77-79
C	657	73-76
C-	630	70-72
D+	603	67-69
D	567	63-66
D-	540	60-62
F	539	<60

Brad's Rules, or How My Classroom Works

1. Professionalism breeds excellence. You are always under scrutiny. You are evaluated in more ways than simply turning in your assignments.
2. I am not your friend. I am not your parent. I am your professor. It's not personal, I promise you.
3. There is not, nor will there ever be, extra credit in life.
4. If you are going to be late or if you are going to miss class, I will expect to hear from you before the start of class. There are very few acceptable reasons for lateness or absence. You will only know what those are if you contact me ahead of time. If I do not accord me this respect, please do not expect me to waive my fourth rule.
5. However, there are two acceptable excuses for missing class: an illness and a catastrophic family event. Both require you to contact me ahead of time, but please do not worry that you will be penalized.
 - In the case of illness, I will expect doctor's documentation delivered at the start of the next class period. This will be some formal document. An email or hand-written note on a sheet of notebook paper will not suffice.
 - *You* are missing my class. Please do not believe the burden is on me to believe your story.
6. If we have small group discussion groups and critique groups. Please use them. Do not ask me questions until you have discussed those with your group. My first question to you will be: what did your group say? If you have no good answer, I will have no good answer.
7. For simple questions, Google before you ask me. Be curious.
8. If you do not complete the assignments, please do not participate in discussions. Your uninformed opinions only serve to remind us that you did not do the work assigned.

9. Do not ever tell me "you don't know" why you did something when I ask for an explanation about your writing or research. You had a reason. Enough of one that moved you into action. So let's talk about it.

My Website

Outside of the Blackboard environment, I use my own site:

<http://www.thedudemane.net>. All materials you need for this class will be on Blackboard; however, I conduct much conversation with students and the world through that site. It would

- Your class will have its own TAG (located on the left side of the site) where you can see the latest announcements.
- The class syllabus, assignment sheets and rubrics will be available in the BSU tab (located along the top).
- You can also follow me on Twitter: [bsu_brad](#) for teaching, [@brad_king](#) if you've a hankering for my rants on life, the universe and everything.
- Some of the most interesting student reactions take place on Facebook. Feel free to add me.
- You will not miss out on any classroom instruction if you do not use Twitter and Facebook; you will, however, miss out.

Syllabus

My syllabus is merely a guidepost for the semester. No class ever runs exactly the same. Therefore, like presidential appointments, the syllabus serves at the pleasure of the professor. Subject to change. And to paraphrase the California appellate judge's ruling: all parties are advised to chill.

Department Rules

Equipment Check Out:

The Integrated Media Lab's checkout policy is that the student returns the equipment 24 hours after renting. The exception is if the student rents the equipment out on Friday, it is not due back until the following Tuesday. If the student fails to return the equipment on time, a warning will be issued for the first offense. After the first offense, the student will not be able to rent equipment from the lab for the remainder of the semester. Hours of lab operation are posted in classrooms and on the lab window.

Saving Documents on Lab Computers:

If you do not have a Flash drive or some other external hard drive, please make sure that you don't save documents on your lab computer desktop. There is a drive -- THAWSPACE -- where you can create a folder and save your documents. Please do not sully our desktop workspace with your files.

Department Writing Statement

The Department of Journalism regards writing proficiency as essential to the satisfactory completion of all journalism courses. Therefore, department instructors must monitor writing performance and language usage proficiency in all journalism courses. Student grades must reflect both criteria. This means you will be graded on your spelling, punctuation and sentence structure.

Disabled Student Statement

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. My office location and hours are...

Diversity Statement

The Department of Journalism is committed to creating an awareness of diversity issues as they relate to the society, to the workplace and to the classroom.