

**Penn State University – School of Visual Arts**  
**Spring 2016**  
**A&A 411 IDS Capstone II**  
**Professor: Eduardo Navas (ean13@psu.edu)**  
**Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30 – 5:30 PM**  
**Office hours: 9 - 11 AM Mondays/Thursdays, 206 Arts Cottage**

### **Course Description**

IDS Capstone II provides arts and design students an opportunity to implement a digital art and design undergraduate thesis.

### **Class Structure**

Class is scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays. Mondays are lecture and meeting days; this is the time when students can share progress as a group, and discuss issues with peers and the instructor. Wednesdays are lab days. This time is for students to work on their projects. Students can also schedule longer appointments of half an hour or more with the instructor on Mondays from 9 AM to 2 PM or Thursdays from 9 AM to 11 AM.

Students will have scheduled class critiques. See the end of this syllabus for details. There will be two major critiques, one around the middle of the semester, in which IDS faculty will be invited to sit in, and a final thesis critique to be held at the end of the semester. The final critique will take the form of an exhibition/presentation open to the public and possibly available online.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

1. To understand how content and form are combined to communicate a message.
2. To understand the history and theory that is relevant to digital art and design.
3. To acquire a basic understanding of conceptual models important in visual culture and especially in digital art and design.
4. To gain historical knowledge of the diverse production in digital art and design.

### **A Note on Plagiarism**

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. A student who commits plagiarism will be reported to the office of the visual arts. The student's behavior will be taken very seriously and dealt with according to the guidelines provided by Penn State University, School of Visual Arts. To avoid plagiarism, please cite your sources when appropriate.

### **Academic Integrity Statement**

*University Policies and Rules Guidelines* states that academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at The Pennsylvania State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Consistent with this expectation, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts. Academic integrity includes a commitment not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty

violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to acts such as cheating on exams or assignments; plagiarizing the words or ideas of another; fabricating information or citations; facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others; claiming authorship of work done by another person; submitting work completed in previous classes; and/or submitting the same work to multiple classes in which a student is enrolled simultaneously.

### **Accessibility Statement**

Penn State welcomes students with disabilities into the University's educational programs. Every Penn State campus has an office for students with disabilities. The Office for Disability Services (ODS) Web site provides contact information for every Penn State campus: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/dcl>. For further information, please visit the Office for Disability Services Web site: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods>.

In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, you must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <http://equity.psu.edu/ods/guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with an accommodation letter. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. You must follow this process for every semester that you request accommodations.

### **Safety Information**

Students in the School of Visual Arts may find themselves working in the shop or in their studios or classrooms using a variety of power and hand held equipment, which may cause injury. Students should use the shop only after having received an orientation in the use of such equipment and when supervised by faculty or shop personnel. Should any injuries occur, in the shop, studios, or classrooms in the School of Visual Arts please report them to Matt Olson, Shop Supervisor, Room 108-A Visual Arts Building, Phone: 814-865-3962, email: [mjo5165@psu.edu](mailto:mjo5165@psu.edu).

### **Required Readings**

This is a research based class. Required readings and resources will be assigned to each student individually.

## **Course Requirements**

*Please note that final grades are dependent upon consistent performance in all course requirements.*

- **Attend every class session.** (See attendance below for more details.)
- **Participate in class and online discussions.**
- **There are a total of 2 major presentations, one during midterms and the second at the end of the term.**
- **There are no make-ups.** Please check with me for possible exceptions. Not consulting with me prior to the dates when assignments are due will lead to an automatic F for the respective assignment.

## **Grading**

- Attendance 14%
- Class Participation/forums (in class discussion and critiques) 21%
- Midterm Presentation 30%
- Final Presentation/Thesis completion 35%

Total 100%

## **Grade Scale**

Letter grade assignments are as follows:

- 94-100 = A
- 90-93 = A-
- 87-89 = B+
- 84-86 = B
- 80-83 = B-
- 77-79 = C+
- 74-76 = C
- 70-73 = C-
- 60-69 = D
- 0-59 = F

## **Attendance**

- Three Absences = F, Three tardies (15 minutes late or early departure) = one absence.
- One Absence will take away 1.5% from attendance grade and 1.5% from class participation.
- There are no excused absences unless it is an extreme case. Please check with me for exceptions.

## **Semester Schedule**

The schedule may change as the semester progresses. For the latest updates, please check Angel, and check class e-mails regularly.

**Week 1:**

**Monday, January 11, 2016**

Introduction | Go over schedule for the Spring semester | Develop order of presentation for the coming weeks | Short Individual meetings as necessary

**Week 2:**

**Monday, January 18, 2016**

**Martin Luther King Day, No Classes**

**Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 3:**

**Monday, January 25, 2016**

Class presents as a group for general in-class critique

**Wednesday, January 27, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 4:**

**Monday, February 1, 2016**

Individual meetings

**Wednesday, February 3, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 5:**

**Monday, February 8, 2016**

Lecture | Short Individual Meetings

**Wednesday, February 10, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 6:**

**Monday, February 15, 2016**

Class presents as a group for general in-class critique

**Wednesday, February 17, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 7:**

**Monday, February 22, 2016**

Individual meetings

**Wednesday, February 24, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 8:**

**Monday, February 29, 2016**

Class presents as a group for general in-class critique

**Wednesday, March 2, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 9:**

**Monday, March 7, 2016**

**Spring Break**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

**Spring Break**

**Week 10:**

**Monday, March 14, 2016**

Prepare for midterm presentation | Individual Meetings

**Wednesday, March 16, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 11:**

**Monday, March 21, 2016**

Midterm Presentation to Faculty (May change to next week, depending on faculty schedule)

**Wednesday, March 23, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 12:**

**Monday, March 28, 2016**

Lecture | Go over adjustment of Thesis based on Presentation Feedback | Individual Meetings

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 13:**

**Monday, April 4, 2016**

Lecture | Individual Meetings

**Wednesday, April 6, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 14:**

**Monday, April 11, 2016**

Lecture | Preliminary presentation for final thesis

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 15:**

**Monday, April 18, 2016**

Lecture | Prepare for final thesis presentation | Individual Meetings

**Wednesday, April 20, 2016**

Lab Day

**Week 16**

**Monday, April 25, 2016**

Final Presentation | Exhibition

**Week 17:**

**Monday, May 2, 2016**

Submit adjustments to Presentation