

SYLLABUS FOR DIGITAL MEDIA FALL 2018

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| COURSE NUMBER: ART 20024 | SECTION NUMBER/CRN: 001/10625 |
| INSTRUCTOR: Taryn McMahon, https://tarynmcmahon.wordpress.com/ | CLASS TIME: T/Th 11am-1:45pm |
| E-MAIL: tmcmaho5@kent.edu | OFFICE HOURS: T/Th 9-11am, 5-5:30pm, and by appointment. Room 304A CVA |

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces concepts, tools, software, and a series of guided exercises to support the creative integration of digital media into the foundations of making and understanding visual art. In addition to developing technical proficiency with digital media, emphasis will be placed on visual literacy and critical thinking skills throughout this course. All work (preliminary and final) must be retained for the duration of the semester and beyond as required.

COURSE FORMAT

Digital Media is a studio course. Students will spend much of class time working at the computers on visual/conceptual problems. In addition to studio work, students will be required to actively participate in critique sessions, create and maintain their own [Wordpress.com student blog](#), contribute to various online components, and complete a series of assignments that will take place both within and outside of class time. Students are expected to work productively and collaboratively in the studio setting. At least 5 hours a week outside of scheduled class time should be set aside for Digital Media work.

GRADING

A-/A (90-100) Excellent Performance (consistently and significantly exceeding standards)
 B-/+ (80-89) Good Performance (demonstrating strong effort and consistent success)
 C-/+ (70-79) Fair/Average Performance (meeting basic criteria/requirements)
 D-/+ (60-69) Poor Performance (falling short of meeting basic criteria/requirements)
 F (<60) Failure (meeting few or none of the basic criteria/requirements)

FINAL WEIGHTED COURSE GRADE REFLECTS:

60% Project Grades
 20% Blog (Research, Writing, and Digital Portfolio)
 20% Quizzes

Grades will be given for *Projects in Units 1-4* and *Digital Portfolios* (these must be posted as a page/gallery on your blog). Mid-term grades will reflect grades for *Projects 1 & 2* and *Digital Portfolio* development. Students are permitted to rework or redo assignments to be included in their final *Portfolios* for which a grade will be given. *Project 1-4* grades will not be changed. Students can expect late work to be lowered by one letter grade (10%) and must be submitted within 1 week of the original deadline or you will receive an F for that Project grade. Attendance may impact grades significantly.

ATTENDANCE

Classes are conducted on the premise that regular attendance is expected. If students anticipate an absence, they should consult with the instructor individually whenever possible. In the event the absence was due to illness or injury, verification from the medical professional treating the illness or injury should be presented to the instructor. It is the policy of Kent State University's School of Art that final grades be lowered by one letter grade (10%) after three unexcused absences. Additionally, three late arrivals are to be recorded as one unexcused absence and arriving later than twenty minutes to any one class will be recorded as an unexcused absence. Absences and late arrivals will be excused only as is appropriate. More than five absences is cause for failure of the course. Failure to attend the Final is cause for failure of the course.

STUDENT CONDUCT

University rules and regulations form parameters of individual behavior on and off campus (and online) and follow the normative standards of behavior adhered to by the City of Kent and Kent State University communities. By virtue of a student's enrollment at Kent State University, he/she consents to follow the policies and procedures of the University. It is the student's responsibility and in his/her interest to be familiar with all applicable conduct-related policies ([Code of Student Conduct](#)).

REGISTRATION FOR COURSES

University policy requires all students to be registered in each class they attend. Students who are not officially registered for a course by published University deadlines should not be attending class and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking her/his official class schedule (using "Student Tools" in FlashFAST) prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected before the deadline.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

University Policy 3342-3-18 requires that students with disabilities be provided reasonable accommodation to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note: You must first verify your eligibility for these (adjustments) through [Student Accessibility Services](#) (330-672-3391).

DOCUMENTATION OF STUDENT WORK

The instructor may document student work created in fulfillment of academic requirements for this class for use in future didactic or administrative contexts within the School of Art. Some or all of your work may be photographed; information on works chosen to be documented will remain confidential. By continuing enrollment in this class, you automatically grant permission to the instructor to document your work and use the image reproductions for the purposes stated above, unless you submit a request in writing by week 2 to the instructor. No one who opts out will be penalized for doing so.

USE OF DIGITAL IMAGES FOR PRESENTATION

As part of this course you may have access to digital image reproductions of cultural objects or sites that are protected by United States Copyright Law. Access to these images is restricted to students actively enrolled in the class; and you are permitted to use such images only as part of work and intellectual pursuits relating to this course. You may have access to the material for the duration of the semester; downloading or copying these materials for personal or commercial use is strictly prohibited. Violation of this policy could result in severe penalties.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM

Students enrolled in the university, at all its campuses, are to perform their academic work according to standards set by faculty members, departments, schools and colleges of the university; and cheating and plagiarism constitute fraudulent misrepresentation for which no credit can be given and for which appropriate sanctions are warranted and will be applied.

BUILDING ACCESS AFTER HOURS

Both the Art Building and the CVA should regularly be open from 7am – 2am (including Saturdays and Sundays) for classes and related activities. The buildings are NOT open on university holidays. Students who need to work after hours or over holidays may do so but can expect to be asked to produce identification to verify their status and reason for being in the building. Always be aware of your personal safety when working late. It is a good idea to travel with a buddy after hours and to close all exterior doors carefully and securely while working in the building (*no doors propped open*). SECURITY AIDES is a Campus Escort Service for students needing secure transit on campus (to car, to residence hall, to library, to studio, etc.). Available from 8pm – 4am. Call (330) 672-7004 In an EMERGENCY dial 9-1-1 • (non-emergency) Kent Campus Police (330) 672-2212 • City of Kent Police (330) 673-6732

WORDPRESS REQUIREMENTS

Each student is responsible for creating and maintaining a free WordPress blog and for keeping up to date with content on the School of Art Foundations site ksucampsite.wordpress.com. The site is considered an extension of the classroom and University environment. As such all content falls under the KSU [Code of Student Conduct](#). By continuing enrollment in this class, you automatically grant permission to the School of Art to use any posted content in future didactic or administrative contexts within the School of Art, unless you submit a request in writing by Sept 15 to the instructor. No one who opts out will be penalized for doing so. Use of any content in this manner will remain confidential.

INTERNET PRIVACY

Blog posts, comments, and status updates are all publicly viewable. Blogs can be unlisted, but not private. Use common sense and common courtesy when commenting on posts by peers, faculty, or staff. Our WordPress blogs constitute a shared environment. Members who can view your work and profile include your peers, KSU faculty, members of our administration, and may include guest artists and arts professionals outside of KSU. Your blog and your participation in this online community are extensions of the classroom and the KSU SoA. Online or off, students remain accountable to the KSU [Code of Student Conduct](#).

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Students are not required to purchase a textbook or software. We may utilize the online text “Digital Foundations” along with a variety of supplemental content made available on the course blog and <http://lynda.kent.edu/>. Students will have access to the Computer Lab outside of class time. Additionally, there are digital labs in the KSU library.

USB flash drive (8G minimum), for transferring and storing files and projects

Digital Camera (a camera phone will suffice)

Headphones/earbuds, for video editing during class and open lab hours

Sketchbook/Notebook of your choice for collecting ideas and taking notes (always have it with you)

COURSE STRUCTURE: (Assignments may change as additional resources become available in the newly built CVA building)

Weeks 1-4: MANIPULATION – Photoshop + Wordpress.com + Digital Photography

Introduction to software. Learning to use scanners and shoot work in the digital photolab. Learning to use Photoshop for basic image editing. Learning the importance of web presence and designing blog/web sites to better focus on content/work, achieve an aesthetic that is representative of the artist, improve viewer usability and navigation. Adopting Common Review Standards of blog/portfolio presentation.

Weeks 5-8: ADVANCED MANIPULATION & EXPERIMENTATION – Output methods

Continuation of Photoshop with an emphasis on using non-destructive layers to create hybrid images and prepare them for web (cropping, straightening, perspective correct, distortion correct, exposure) and printing. Researching contemporary artists. Learning to print on the large format Epson and combining digital and hand skills.

Weeks 9-12: VECTORS AND VINYL– Oh my!

Color theory for digital imaging. Using Illustrator to create vector graphics and printing on the large format Epson. Using the vinyl cutter in the ARTech Studio to create a site-specific artwork.

Weeks 13-16: NARRATIVE – Time-based

Learn basic video editing using pro software. Consider how duration and observable transformation can impact imagery. Students will be required to demonstrate independent learning. Results of this project should demonstrate a cumulative comprehension of the various applications of the digital skills and foundational knowledge covered.