

Principles of Interaction Design

This course is an overview of the principles of interaction design with a focus on the history of the practice itself, as well as the fundamentals of the human centered design process, and industry best practices. This course will be a combination of lectures, assignments and exams.

COURSE INFORMATION

CRN 43648

Tues/Thurs 6-7:20pm

MH 138

bridgetweis.com/dsgn390

Prerequisites: n/a

INSTRUCTOR

Bridget Weis

bridget.weis@wwu.edu

Office hours: Tues 2:30-4:00pm

Office: FI 106B

SUPPLIES

Sketchbook / notebook

Flash drive

REQUIRED READING

Norman, Don. *The Design of Everyday Things: Revised & Expanded Edition*. Basic Books, 2013.

Film: *Objectified* (Gary Hustwit)

Additional texts/articles will be provided throughout the quarter.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Moggridge, Bill. *Designing Interactions*. MIT, 2007.

Buxton, Bill. *Sketching User Experiences: Getting the Design Right and the Right Design*. Morgan Kaufmann, 2007.

OBJECTIVES

- Gain knowledge of visual perception and cognition, usability, and functionality.
- Examine the development of interaction design as a professional discipline and its impacts on design, technology, and society.
- Understand concepts and methods of human centered design (HCD), content strategy, and designing with empathy for the user.
- Explore current industry practices related to the user experience design process, including: contextual research, ethnography, information architecture, navigation, concept development, prototyping, and usability testing.
- Learn to analyze and critique interfaces, systems, physical and digital spaces, and devices.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory and will be carefully recorded daily, even if your assignment is incomplete. It is essential that you be present and punctual for the entirety of each class period. *There are 2 allowed absences, any additional absence after the second absence will result in a full letter grade reduction from your final grade.* Special exceptions, including religious observances and other exceptions that are officially recognized by the university, will be accommodated in advance and on an individual basis. Students must attend all critiques and exams. You are responsible for obtaining the learning materials and assignments that you miss when you are absent. Class will start on time, therefore arriving late or leaving early will count as a tardy. *Note: 2 tardies = 1 absence.*

DEADLINES

Timeliness of projects is essential for academic and professional success. Students must have homework and readings completed before class starts on the day they are due. Work not finished or not turned in at the designated time is considered late. *Each day an assignment or project is late, it will result in a full letter reduction off of your project grade.* Technical difficulties are never an acceptable excuse for not meeting a deadline.

PARTICIPATION

Participation is very important in this class. You are expected to participate fully, actively, and professionally in class each day. This means that you work efficiently and effectively both individually and within groups. You are also encouraged to speak up and to share your thoughts in discussion, which allows you to articulate your ideas, collaborate with your colleagues, appreciate multiple points of view, understand and explore complex concepts, and learn from one another. Professional and respectful conduct is expected from everyone at all times. You will be expected to participate in spending time outside of class to develop your skills and solve technical problems.

COURSE WORK

Case Study	25%
Film Analysis	10%
Team Project	40%
Final Exam	25%

PERCENTAGE SCALE

100-94	A	76-74	C
93-90	A-	73-70	C-
89-87	B+	69-67	D+
86-84	B	66-64	D
83-80	B-	63-60	D-
79-77	C+	60-0	F

GRADING SCALE

A | High quality work demonstrating outstanding skills, craftsmanship, and innovative approaches to the problem.

B | Satisfies the minimum requirements of the project and demonstrates thorough understanding of concepts and principles.

C | Satisfies the minimum requirements of the project.

D | Does not satisfy the minimum requirements of the project. Problems with quality and/or knowledge of concepts.

F | Falls well below expected standards in solving the minimum requirements of the project.

PROJECT EVALUATION

While your project grades are mostly based on the final presentations, you will also be evaluated for conceptual development, process, effectiveness, and collaboration. In addition, your ability to meet deadlines for homework, participate during discussions, and contribute to class discussions will count toward your final grade.

GRADE INQUIRIES

I do not reconsider grades. There are no exceptions. Each grade is final. I am available during office hours to provide further project feedback if there are any questions.

COMPUTER LAB

Use of the university computer labs is a privilege. Users must not download software updates or trial versions. Users must not engage in illegal activities such as sharing music or software. Equipment must not be used to copy, replicate, or in any way violate trademark, license, or copyright. Computers, software, and web space must not be used for commercial purposes.

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS

Students must always backup their work to flash drive or external hard drive in order to reduce risk of lost or damaged files. Never work directly from the (U) Drive on your portable drive. It is much slower and can cause a lot of problems. Work on the desktop and remember to save to your portable drive when you are finished.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Western Washington University students have an obligation to fulfill the responsibilities of their particular roles as members of an academic community. Honesty is essential to learning. Without it, fair evaluation for all is impossible. Academic integrity is demanded, and academic dishonesty at Western Washington University is a serious infraction dealt with severely. Students shall not claim as their own achievements, work or arguments of others, nor shall they be a party to such claims. It is the instructor's responsibility to confront a student and to take appropriate action if academic dishonesty, in the instructor's judgement, has occurred. For help and guidance with the academic honesty procedures, students should contact WWU's integrity website: wwu.edu/integrity.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Reasonable accommodation for persons with documented disabilities should be established within the first week of class and arranged through Disability Resources for Students: telephone (360) 650-3083; email drs@wwu.edu; and online wwu.edu/depts/drs/.

This syllabus is subject to change. Changes, if any, will be announced in class. Students will be held responsible for all changes.