SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: History of Video Games

CODE NO.: VGA100 SEMESTER: 1

PROGRAM: Video Game Art

AUTHOR: Jeremy Rayment

DATE: July, 2013 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** August,

2012

APPROVED: "Colin Kirkwood" Sept/13

DEAN DATE

TOTAL CREDITS: 2

PREREQUISITE(S): None

HOURS/WEEK: 2

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For additional information, please contact Colin Kirkwood, Dean
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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Through this course the student will achieve a greater understanding of how key limitations drove the art direction of the time. Students will learn about key milestones in the history of video games ranging from the origins to the current generation. Significant time will be spent learning how to research, reference and analyze art as a precursor for learning how to produce efficient game art.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1. Critically research, reference and analyze art. Potential Elements of the Performance:
 - Display ability to adequately research, and reference game art projects
 - Demonstrate the ability to analyze referenced art and effectively communicate unique characteristics and attributes
 - Based on researched materials communicate effectively the creative direction and rationale of new game projects
- 2. Apply effective time management and artistic efficiency skills. Potential Elements of the Performance:
 - Complete assignments on time
 - Develop assignments in an iterative, efficient manner
 - Respond effectively to changing and tight deadlines
- 3. Create game art assets matching targeted generational time periods. Potential Elements of the Performance:
 - Develop art assets appropriate for game concepts targeting various video game hardware generations.
 - Work within technical restrictions to achieve a desired artistic outcome.
- 4. Communicate (visually, verbally and in written form) with other artists, potential employers, art directors and clients for the purposes of game art creation.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Develop artistically consistent game assets for given target platforms and designs
- Present art projects to groups of art peers

Effectively listen to and follow directions

III. TOPICS:

- 1. The Origin of video games
- 2. First steps technology
- 3. First steps commercialization: Atari, Pong, Odyssey
- 4. Atari
- 5. Atari: The Golden Years
- 6. Second generation consoles
- 7. Activision
- 8. First true Icon carries video games into mainstream
- 9. Home Computers breed future programming visionaries
- 10. The First Story creates an industry leader
- 11. Graphical firsts
- 12. 3D Games
- 13. Rise of Sega

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS: None

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Final evaluation for this course will be a letter grade as outlined below. Assignments will be weighted equally and will constitute 100% of the student's final grade. A missing assignment is equivalent to course objectives not achieved which results in an "F" (fail) grade for the course.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

Grade	<u>Definition</u>	Grade Point Equivalent
A+ A	90 – 100% 80 – 89%	4.00
В	70 - 79%	3.00
С	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in	

field/clinical placement or non-graded

subject area.

X A temporary grade limited to situations

with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the

requirements for a course.

NR Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W Student has withdrawn from the course

without academic penalty.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session. < Optional: It is the departmental policy that once the classroom door has been closed, the learning process has begun. Late arrivers will not be granted admission to the room.>

COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM

1. Course Outline Amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

3. Prior Learning Assessment:

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the program coordinator (or the course coordinator regarding a general education transfer request) or academic assistant. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question. Please refer to the Student Academic Calendar of Events for the deadline date by which application must be made for advance standing.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

4. Accessibility Services:

If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Accessibility Services office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

5. Communication:

The College considers **Desire2Learn (D2L)** as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of this Learning Management System (LMS) communication tool.

6. Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in *Student Code of Conduct*. Students who engage in academic dishonesty will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

7. Tuition Default:

Students who have defaulted on the payment of tuition (tuition has not been paid in full, payments were not deferred or payment plan not honoured) as of the first week of November, will be removed from placement and clinical activities due to liability issues. This may result in loss of mandatory hours or incomplete course work. Sault College will not be responsible for incomplete hours or outcomes that are not achieved or any other academic requirement not met as of the result of tuition default. Students are encouraged to communicate with Financial Services with regard to the status of their tuition prior to this deadline to ensure that their financial status does not interfere with academic progress.

8. Student Portal:

The Sault College portal allows you to view all your student information in one place. **mysaultcollege** gives you personalized access to online resources seven days a week from your home or school computer. Single log-in access allows you to see your personal and financial information, timetable, grades, records of achievement, unofficial transcript, and outstanding obligations, in addition to announcements, news, academic calendar of events, class cancellations, your learning management system (LMS), and much more. Go to https://my.saultcollege.ca.