

San José State University

Department of Art and Art History

Art 104, Advanced Projects in Digital Media Art, Section 01, Fall 2017

Instructor: Andrew Blanton

Office: Art 311

Email: andrew@andrewblanton.com

Office Hours: T/TR 11-12 or by appointment

Class Day/Time: W 12-2:50

Classroom: ART 237

Class Website: switch.sjsu.edu and https://github.com/ablanton/SJSU_SWITCH

Course Description

This semester's Interdisciplinary Seminar in Digital Media will work toward bringing SWITCH back online. Through a combination of lectures, presentations, and research, this class will explore old SWITCH articles and rebuild the web platform for a new distribution of SWITCH journal. The core premise of the class will address individual and collaborative writing exercises, seeking to critically understand cultural normative assumptions about modernity and the use of technology while considering multiple alternatives to the current technological status quo. These assignments will build into the first issue of the re-launch of SWITCH.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

LO1: understand the context of digital media art within contemporary art and society

LO2: develop skills in creative research and problem-solving, brainstorming, and visual communication

LO3: deploy their skills for artistic achievement

LO4: demonstrate familiarity with the language of visual critique

LO5: expand their skills in writing to include analysis, and critical review

Required Texts/Readings

Readings will be assigned throughout the class. No textbook is required for the class and all readings will be presented through the class blog.

Suggested texts include:

SWITCH internet archive

Expanded Cinema - Gene Youngblood

Sensorium, Embodied Experience, Technology, and Contemporary Art

A History of the Senses - Robert Jutte

Darwin's Pharmacy - Richard M. Doyle

Classroom Protocol

Participation:

- Participation in class discussions for readings, material that we watch in class, giving feedback to your peers on their work is **mandatory**. Remember that 20% of your grade is based on your participation in class + topic presentation and you are expected to actively participate in such discourses as they are some of the most important sections of our class.
- On Presentation days you must be able to explain and give a clear presentation of the topic, research, and concepts. If you have a hard time talking in front of a crowd or remembering your points, use a notebook, powerpoint, sketches or bullet points for your presentations.
- For readings that I will be assigning in this course you are required to post your reading response (500 word two pages double spaced) response to our class blog. You are asked to think critically and post something that questions, criticizes, endorses, and/or adds to the reading. See the course outline chart for deadlines for these responses.

Grading Policy:

Seminar Participation = 10% + 10%

It is required that you attend and participate regularly in seminar discussion, this will account for 10% of your grade. The course includes engaged **group dialogue** and student-lead presentations of the assigned readings along with visual material. The student-lead presentations will be assigned at the beginning of the semester and your presentation and preparedness will account for an additional 10% of your grade. Students will be assessed based upon their individual level of engagement in seminar and the quality of student-lead presentations as defined in the grading policy/ rubric below.

Weekly Reading Responses = 60% (12 x 5% each response)

Required weekly reading and writing assignments must be submitted on the day they are due. Students will submit a double-spaced typed written response per reading assignment (see course schedule for details). Reading responses will illustrate your brief summary of, along with your questions and challenges to, the text. Please use paragraph format, and spell-check - no bullet points. Reading responses will be assessed based upon quality and specificity of your response, as well as attention to key ideas from the assigned readings.

Final Paper and Research Presentation = 20%

The class will conclude with a 7-page written paper. Final papers and research projects must demonstrate comprehension of, and engagement with, at least two of the primary seminar themes and topics. Research leading to the final presentation will begin in early November when the final project assignment is given.

ART 104/Interdisciplinary Seminar in Digital Media, Fall 2017, Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Wed 8/23	Course Introduction /Overview of Syllabus Introductions (Instructor-Students) Git Registration Reading 1: Assigned in Class
2	Wed 8/30	Reading 1 Due Presentation + Discussion Reading 2: Assigned in Class
3	Wed 9/6	Presentation + Discussion Reading 2 Due Reading 3: Assigned in Class
4	Wed 9/13	Presentation + Discussion Reading 3 Due Reading 4: Assigned in Class
5	Wed 9/20	Presentation + Discussion Reading 4 Due Reading 5: Assigned in Class
6	Wed 9/27	Presentation + Discussion Reading 5 Due Reading 6: Assigned in Class

7	Wed 10/4	Presentation + Discussion Reading 6 Due Reading 7: Assigned in Class
8	Wed 10/11	Presentation + Discussion Reading 7 Due Reading 8: Assigned in Class
9	Wed 10/18	Presentation + Discussion Reading 8 Due Reading 9: Assigned in Class
10	Wed 10/25	Presentation + Discussion Reading 9 Due
11	Wed 11/1	No Class Due to ATC (Advancement to Candidacy) Final Paper Requirements Posted to the blog. Students will present their ideas on 11/11 to the class.
12	Wed 11/8	Final Presentation Proposals + Discussion/Critique Reading 10: Assigned in Class
13	Wed 11/15	Presentation + Discussion Reading 10 Due Reading 11: Assigned in Class
14	Wed 11/22	Thanksgiving! No Class
15	Wed 11/29	Presentation + Discussion Reading 11 Due
16	Wed 12/6	Final presentations

		Final 7-page paper due no later than Sunday, December 17th <i>The final paper and project format will be assigned in class on Wednesday, November 4th and available online in PDF format</i>
17	Final Paper	The final exam is a 7-page written paper and research project due no later than Sunday, December 18th

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/) at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late/drops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/late/drops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

[University Policy S12-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf), <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

Academic integrity

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and

Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. [Presidential Directive 97-03](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Accessible Education Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Students' Religious Holidays

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See [University Policy S14-7](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>.