

Parsons School of Design

School of Art Media and Technology

BFA Communication Design

Creative Computing

PUCD2035; CRN 3396

FALL 2019

Tuesday 12:10 – 2:50 pm

2 W 13th Street, Room 1011



Annaka Olsen

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Office hours by appointment

Course Description

Creative Computing is designed to introduce students to programming as a creative medium—as a way of making and exploring. The coursework focuses on developing a vocabulary of interaction design principles which can then be applied across a range of platforms. Students are encouraged to experiment with various media, tools, and techniques, ultimately producing a portfolio of interactive and visual projects designed for the screen. An emphasis is placed on typography as it applies to a screen context, research-based problem solving and a “learning through making” approach to technical skill building. Historical and current interaction design precedents will be discussed.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course, students should:

- Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental programming concepts
- Develop several visual & interactive projects
- Objectively present their design process and workflow
- Integrate a variety of media elements into their projects
- Problem solve with other students through reading other students’ code
- Demonstrate the ability to research and learn unfamiliar technical topics.
- Concept projects that use code in a creative way
- Research historic and current design precedents to contextualize their work.
- Evaluate how typography and its variables are applied to interactive systems to facilitate orientation, support usability and create consistency

Evaluation and Final Grade Calculation

I will assess each student's performance against all of the assessment criteria in determining your final grade.

Participation / Attendance	30%
Projects	50%
Reading Responses	20%
presentation	(10%)
weekly responses	(10%)
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TOTAL	100%

Assessable Projects

- Index (semester project)
- Default Poetics
- CSS Paintings
- Experimental Reading
- World Building (final project)

Index & Archive

At the end of the term, you will be required to have uploaded all of your projects as well as provide me with project documentation. Projects completed on time are eligible to be improved upon for grade adjustment until final index is due.

Materials and Supplies

We will be using open source software and creating our own code. If at anytime you feel that you need to purchase a software or code, please contact me and we can find a workaround or alternative.

We will be learning to read and write these languages: **HTML, CSS, JS**

Software and technology we will use

Laptop and charger
Notebook and writing utensils
Text editor (*Atom preferred*)
FTP (*Fetch preferred*)
Web Browser (*Chrome preferred*)
Browser developer plug-ins

Classroom Communications

Dropbox Paper
Class Website/FTP
Slack

Participation

Class participation is an essential part of class. Class participation includes:

- Keeping up with readings and projects
- Contributing to discussions and critiques
- Helping your classmates
- Asking for help when you need it
- Participating in class workshops
- Being present and on time
- Contributing to a culture of care

Attendance

Three absences from class will result in a failing grade. Please notify me before class if you are unable to attend and I will work with you. Work due on a day that you are absent must be turned in remotely for review.

Readings and group discussions

Each week a student will be asked to lead the discussion for the assigned weekly reading. Students who are not presenting are asked to post their own questions or comments about the reading by the Sunday before Tuesday's class.

Meeting Schedule

Week	Date	Class Content	Excercises/Activites	Check Points	Projects				
					index	DP	WP	ExR	WB
1	Aug-27	HTML 1 files and folders	Hello, world!	Code quiz 1		Intro			
2	Sep-3	HTML 2 ftp	Going public		Intro	Review part 1			
3	Sep-10	CSS 1 color on the web	Browser inspector			Review part 2	Intro		
4	Sep-17	CSS 2 layouts					Review part 1		
5	Sep-24	Images +	Collection				Review part 2	Intro	
6	Oct-1	Responsive	Mobile first!	Code quiz 2			Submit Online	Bring in sketches	
7	Oct-8	CSS 3		Midterm check point	Review				Intro
8	Oct-15	JS 1						First draft	Bring in proposals
9	Oct-22	JS 2	Demo day						Research review
10	Oct-29	<i>Workday</i>	Small group meetings					Second draft	Content & mockups
11	Nov-5	Group critique & feedback						Final review	
12	Nov-12	Documenting the web	Documenting workshop						First draft
13	Nov-19	<i>Workday</i>	Small group meetings	Code quiz 3					Second draft
14	Dec-3	Group critique & feedback		Course evaluations					Final review
15	Dec-10	Show & Tell!			Final Review				

Grading Standards

- A 4.0** *Work of exceptional quality, which often goes beyond the stated goals of the course*
- A- 3.7** *Work of very high quality*
- B+ 3.3** *Work of high quality that indicates higher than average abilities*
- B 3.0** *Very good work that satisfies the goals of the course*
- B- 2.7** *Good work*
- C+ 2.3** *Above-average work*
- C 2.0** *Average work that indicates an understanding of the course material; passable.*

Satisfactory completion of a course is considered to be a grade of C or higher.

- C- 1.7** *Passing work but below good academic standing*
- D 1.0** *Below-average work that indicates a student does not fully understand the assignments; Probation level though passing for credit*
- F 0.0** *Failure, no credit*

Grade of W

The grade of W may be issued by the Office of the Registrar to a student who officially withdraws from a course within the applicable deadline. There is no academic penalty, but the grade will appear on the student transcript. A grade of W may also be issued by an instructor to a graduate student (except at Parsons and Mannes) who has not completed course requirements nor arranged for an Incomplete.

Grade of Z

The grade of Z is issued by an instructor to a student who has not attended or not completed all required work in a course but did not officially withdraw before the withdrawal deadline. It differs from an "F," which would indicate that the student technically completed requirements but that the level of work did not qualify for a passing grade.

Grades of Incomplete

The grade of I, or temporary incomplete, may be granted to a student under unusual and extenuating circumstances, such as when the student's academic life is interrupted by a medical or personal emergency. This mark is not given automatically but only upon the student's request and at the discretion of the instructor. A Request for Incomplete form must be completed and signed by student and instructor. The time allowed for completion of the work and removal of the "I" mark will be set by the instructor. Grades of "I" not revised in the prescribed time will be recorded as a final grade of "F" by the Registrar's Office.

Resources

The university provides many resources to help students achieve academic and artistic excellence. These resources include:

The University (and associated) Libraries

The University Learning Center

University Disabilities Service

In keeping with the university's policy of providing equal access for students with disabilities, any student with a disability who needs academic accommodations is welcome to meet with me privately. All conversations will be kept confidential. Students requesting any accommodations will also need to contact Student Disability Service (SDS). SDS will conduct an intake and, if appropriate, the Director will provide an academic accommodation notification letter for you to bring to me. At that point, I will review the letter with you and discuss these accommodations in relation to this course.

Making Center

The Making Center is a constellation of shops, labs, and open workspaces that are situated across the New School to help students express their ideas in a variety of materials and methods. We have resources to help support woodworking, metalworking, ceramics and pottery work, photography and film, textiles, printmaking, 3D printing, manual and CNC machining, and more. A staff of technicians and student workers provide expertise and maintain the different shops and labs. Safety is a primary concern, so each area has policies for access, training, and etiquette with which students and faculty should be familiar. Many areas require specific orientations or trainings before access is granted. Detailed information about the resources available, as well as schedules, trainings, and policies can be found at resources.parsons.edu. If you are planning curriculum that makes use of specific resources should contact the Making Center in advance to coordinate.

Responsibility

Students are responsible for all assignments, even if they are absent. Late assignments, failure to complete the assignments for class discussion and/or critique, and lack of preparedness for in-class discussions, presentations and/or critiques will jeopardize your successful completion of this course.

Plagiarism in Code, Using Citations, Giving Credit

Code is not created in a vacuum, but instead relies on a vast network and history of collaboration and sharing. When modifying the code of others, be sure to credit the original author. We will cover proper ways to use and cite your sources in class.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Compromising your academic integrity may lead to serious consequences, including (but not limited to) one or more of the following: failure of the assignment, failure of the course, academic warning, disciplinary probation, suspension from the university, or dismissal from the university.

Students are responsible for understanding the University's policy on academic honesty and integrity and must make use of proper citations of sources for writing papers, creating, presenting, and performing their work, taking examinations, and doing research. It is the responsibility of students to learn the procedures specific to their discipline for correctly and appropriately differentiating their own work from that of others. The full text of the policy, including adjudication procedures, is found on the university website under Policies: A to Z. Resources regarding what plagiarism is and how to avoid it can be found on the Learning Center's website.

The New School views "academic honesty and integrity" as the duty of every member of an academic community to claim authorship for his or her own work and only for that work, and to recognize the contributions of others accurately and completely. This obligation is fundamental to the integrity of intellectual debate, and creative and academic pursuits. Academic honesty and integrity includes accurate use of quotations, as well as appropriate and explicit citation of sources in instances of paraphrasing and describing ideas, or reporting on research findings or any aspect of the work of others (including that of faculty members and other students). Academic dishonesty results from infractions of this "accurate use". The standards of academic honesty and integrity, and citation of sources, apply to all forms of academic work, including submissions of drafts of final papers or projects. All members of the University community are expected to conduct themselves in accord with the standards of academic honesty and integrity. Please see the complete policy in the Parsons Catalog.

Intellectual Property Rights

The New School (the "university") seeks to encourage creativity and invention among its faculty members and students. In doing so, the University affirms its traditional commitment to the personal ownership by its faculty members and students of Intellectual Property Rights in works they create. The complete policy governing Intellectual Property Rights may be seen on the university website, on the Provost's page.