

West Virginia Wesleyan College // School of Fine Arts & Humanities

Department of Art

Spring Term 2016 // Intermedia: Internet & Art // ART255

Classroom: McCuskey Room 112

Tue/Thu 12-2:30pm

Professor: Ellen Mueller // Office: McCuskey Room 105

Office Hours: Mon/Wed, 2:30-5pm & by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this class we will be introduced to Processing, a flexible software sketchbook and a language for learning how to code within the context of the visual arts. We will also study contemporary art influenced by, situated on and taking the subject of the internet over the last two and a half decades. Students will experiment with coding, imagery, and video to create, represent, respond to, and reflect on net.art, Activist Art and Surveillance-Related Work, Internet-Enabled Participatory, Postinternet Art and Social Media Influenced Art, and Identity Construction as the subject and/or content of their work.

We will read, watch, and discuss perspectives on art and the internet. These perspectives will be written/created by artists, curators, art historians, and critics. Using this information as a springboard, we will create our own artworks. Experimentation is always a virtue to have as an artist.

Simultaneously keep deadlines, craft, and context in mind. Be ambitious.

OBJECTIVES:

- Students will practice utilizing Processing, both as a practical tool and as an artistic medium, through the execution of various exercises and experiments.
- Students will think about/discuss art and design processes associated with art and the internet through reading, discussion assignments, and short answer quizzes.
- By brainstorming, researching and presenting, students will identify their own artistic sources and influences.

- Students will practice identifying and utilizing the elements and principles of design by creating and critiquing art works. This process will also enhance written and oral fluency in artistic language.
- Students will practice brainstorming to strengthen their ability to form creative conceptual ideas.
- Students will demonstrate the professional activities of an artist in terms of documenting their work and self-discipline to complete all work in a timely fashion. Students will practice documenting their work, and uploading all their work to a Flickr account at the end of the semester.

NOTES ON PERSEVERANCE:

We will encounter frustrations as we deal with unexpected road-blocks, and create workarounds that fit within our timeline. These are important skills to practice, as you will do the same when you leave school and enter the world of professional artistic practice. Our weekly discipline will include a variety of activities which may include, but are not limited to, discussion, active installation creation/viewing, sketchbook entries, and scheduled readings/writings. It is important to know you do not have to be a trained artist to participate in this course. However you must be willing to explore how this medium allows you to develop and refine your artistic practice, regardless of your preferred artistic medium. Please note that an instructor, I cannot force the effort required to practice art. It must come from a desire and aptitude for struggle. Dedication and willingness to create will ensure your success in this class.

NOTES ON COURSE CONTENT:

We're about to experience some content that can be, and has in the past been, considered provocative. People in this course have been offended by what we're about to see, so even if you think this is harmless or funny, keep in mind that this can also offend. Have respect for how other people in the room feel. That said: provocative art might not be directly offensive, but can remind you of difficult experiences, and it can work on you emotionally before your thinking mind has a chance to catch up. This means it can surprise you, and that's ok, and this room is a safe place to talk about offendedness and problematic art, and you can also communicate with me via email or office visit. I'll

also try to contextualize this art by putting it in its historical moment where it will hopefully make better sense.

NOTES ON RESPECT:

The work created in the course may be of a personal and/or controversial nature. Please respect your colleagues and give their work your best attention. If you disagree with a work or its content, remember that when engaging with others' work you must be a responsible and professional critic, and as such must work to make your criticism constructive and descriptive.

Links to additional info:

Online Policy	Email Policy
Attendance Policy	Grading Policy
Late Work Policy	Textbook and Supplies
Critique	Studio Maintenance
Special Policies	Accommodations
Academic Dishonesty	Schedule