Course Syllabus

***Please use the online course schedule on our course website for active links to the required readings and websites listed in the print version of this syllabus.****

**Week 1 Approaches**

- **01/21:** Introduction(s). Course Overview. Cultural Production & Narrative
- **01/23:** The Death of Print and Birth of the Digital

**Readings Due:**

1. Michael Benedikt. “Cyberspace: First Steps.” (Handout)
3. Carla Benedetti. “Is the Author Dead?” (Web)

**Week 2 Experimenting Within Print (1): Labyrinths**

- **01/28:** Jorge Luis Borges: Selections

**Readings Due:**


**Browse:**


- **01/30:** Jorge Luis Borges: Selections

**Readings Due:**


**Browse:**


**Week 3 Experimenting Within Print (2): nouveau roman**

- **02/04:** Alain Robbe-Grillet: Djinn
Readings Due:

- 02/06: Film: *Memento* (2000), Christopher Nolan, dir., 113 min.

**Week 4**  
**Experimenting Within Print (3): Orality, Myth and Memory**


Readings Due:
1. Vannevar Bush. “As We May Think.” (Web)

Browse:
1. Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*.  

- 02/13: Christoph Ransmayr: *The Last World*.

Readings Due:
3. Plato. *Phaedrus* (Handout)

**Week 5**  
(Cont.)

- 02/18: Christoph Ransmayr: *The Last World*.

**Guest Lecture:** James O’Donnell, Georgetown University. Time/Place: TBA

Readings Due:

- 02/20: Christoph Ransmayr: *The Last World*.

**Concluding Discussion**

**Week 6**  
**Experiments Within Print (4): Discarding the Author?**

- 02/25: Italo Calvino: *If on a winter’s night a traveler*.

Readings Due:
1. Calvino. *If on a winter’s night a traveler*. pp. 3-114.

- 02/27: Italo Calvino: *If on a winter’s night a traveler*.

**Guest Lecture:** Massimo Riva, Brown University. Time/Place: TBA
Readings Due:

Week 7  (Cont.)

- 03/04: Italo Calvino: *If on a winter’s night a traveler*.

Readings Due:
2. Foucault. “What is an Author?” (Web)

- 03/06: Virtual Class Meeting. Calvino Discussion.
Online MOO Discussion (Instructions to follow)

Assignment: Pick up take-home midterm exam from my office door. Exam due at next class session.

Week 8  Hypertext: Exploding the Print Narrative

- 03/11: Italo Calvino: *If on a winter’s night a traveler*.
Final Discussion.

Readings Due:
1. Peruse *Patchwork Girl* and keep a “reading map” to your walk-through of the CD.

Midterm Take-Home Exam DUE.

- 03/13: Shelley Jackson. *Patchwork Girl*

Readings Due:

Browse:
   <http://www.eastgate.com/LastingImage/Welcome.html>

Week 9

- Spring Break – No Classes

Week 10  NetArt; Art on the Net; Networked Art; Digital Art

- 03/25: Digital Artists. (Technical Requirements: many of these art pieces require Shockwave plug-ins, or are viewed best on a particular browser)
   **Film:** *Synthetic Pleasures*. (1995) Iara Lee, dir., 83 min. Clips
Browse and Play:
3. Das Epos der Maschine: <http://kunst.im.internett.de/epos-der-maschine/>
4. Lexia to Perplexia: <http://trace.ntu.ac.uk/newmedia/lexia/>

Assignment: Mine the Web for some art projects you find particularly interesting. Bring in or send me the URLs for inclusion in today’s discussion.

Readings Due:
2. Walter Benjamin. “The Author as Producer.” (Web)

• 03/27: Intellectual Property/Copyright

Readings Due:
4. Lawrence Lessig. “Privacy.” (Course Packet)

Week 11 Digital Projects: New Media & Scholarship

• 04/01: Online Scholarly Projects. Electrifying the Canon.

Browse and Evaluate:
2. “Gutenberg Digital” <http://www.gutenbergdigital.de/>

• 04/03: Electronic Scholarly Publishing.

Guest Lecture: Sue Hunter, Hayden Library. Place: TBA

Readings Due:

Week 12 What’s so New about New Media?

• 04/08: Remediation and the Remediated Self.

Readings Due:
Assignment: Web-Storyboard Project

- 04/10: No Class.

Week 13 Cyberculture in Film: Is it all Fun and Games?


Assignment: Web-Storyboard Project DUE

Week 14 (Cont.)

- 04/24: No Class. Work on seminar project.

Week 15 (Cont.)


Project Presentations

Week 16 Conclusions

- 05/06: Last Day of Classes.
  Project Presentations
  Seminar Wrap Up, Evaluations

Seminar Project Due

Parameters for Evaluation

Students participating in the course will be evaluated on their engaged participation in class discussion, on their written work for the course, and on their ability to engage with the course content in an exam situation. An attendance policy will be in effect.

Class discussions will be built on assigned readings and in-class exploration of web-based artistic and scholarly projects. (20% of grade)

Undergraduate students will be responsible for:

- leading one class discussion (10%)
- taking minutes of class discussions, individually (to be handed out in class at the next meeting and posted to our discussion forum on Blackboard) (5%)
• participating in the Blackboard discussion forum (one substantive post based on a class reading, or a response to a question that I post) (5%)

Graduate students will be responsible for:

• leading two class discussions (15%)
• taking minutes of class discussions, individually (to be handed out in class at the next meeting and posted to our discussion forum on Blackboard) (5%)
• participating in the Blackboard discussion forum (one substantive post based on a class reading, or a response to a question that I post)

Written work for the course will consist of: (60% of grade)

• two short reviews (900-1000 words) of websites and films discussed in class, and of books related to the course. Viable titles will be discussed in class. (20%)
• website storyboard for a future web project based on individual research or creative interests; these can be done individually or with a partner (10%)
• seminar project: undergraduate students will produce an 8 - 10 page paper with citations and graduate students will produce a 10 - 12 page paper with citations. Topics for these papers should develop from the content of the course, and students should discuss their ideas with the instructor. Multimedia alternatives to the seminar paper will be entertained by the instructor, if there are students who have the capability and skills necessary to produce a multimedia project. (30%)

Exams: (20% of grade)

• there will be one take-home essay exam at midterm (20%)