

**Dr. Dene Grigar**

**TTH 4:15-5:30 p.m., VMMC 111**

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**Web: [www.nospace.net/dene](http://www.nospace.net/dene)**

**Office Hours: TTH: 12-1 pm & by appointment**

**Class Website: <http://www.nospace.net/dene/354/354/index.html>**

### **Introduction to the Course Content and Focus**

The WSU catalog describes this course as the study of “[n]onlinear, multi-linear, and interactive narrative using elements of creative writing such as character, dialog, setting, plot and image.” This broad view lends itself well for the course to focus on various projects associated with digital narratives that allow you to explore, create, and promote it.

### **Course Structure**

We will focus on both theory and practice and, so, besides reading about concepts underlying digital storytelling, we will also spend some time learning the technologies needed for each area, such as PhotoShop, Garage Band, Audacity, Final Cut, and Flash, and preparing for the projects associated with each. The projects include:

- Written critique of a digital narrative
- Production of a digital narrative work
- Development of the electronic literature exhibit in Seattle, WA

### **Course Goals and Objectives**

Students are expected to meet the Course Objectives and Outcomes for The CMDC Program associated with this course. They are:

Goal 7. Recognize various forms of language processing and their implications for media authoring:

- A. Use digital media terminology and concepts, such as medium, media, multimedia, mass media, remediation, repurposing, translation, text, textuality, language, and code, appropriately in presentations and projects
- B. Employ various types of texts, such as visual, auditory, kinetic, and kinesthetic texts, for appropriate mediums
- C. Illustrate the way artificial systems acquire language
- D. Demonstrate knowledge about the process by which language is made via computers
- E. Study, create, and critique digital text and its central role in human-computer interactions
- F. Employ textual content in web pages and other digital interfaces or environments that respond to specific audience needs

Goal 10: Be practiced and capable communicators in all mediums

- A. Create a digital text in a variety of mediums
- B. Construct and deliver an argument focusing on the way the medium affects the message, audience, and other rhetorical components
- C. Evaluate the effective use of language in a digital text

## **Assessment**

To be successful in the course, students must 1) stay current with all of the required assignments that lead to completion of their projects, 2) participate in class activities, 3) attend all classes, 4) turn in all assignments on time. Work will also be assessed for its professional quality. Other factors considered in the assessment of work include being turned in on time, uniqueness, and, of course, content. Components that will be assessed are:

Written critique of a digital narrative: 25%

Production of a digital narrative work: 25%

Development of the electronic literature exhibit in Seattle, WA: 25%

Participation and attendance: 25%

Items turned in late will be penalized a letter grade per day (not class day but each day) late. Items not turned in cannot be made up by other work.

## **Books & Resources**

1. *Electronic Literature*, by N Katherine Hayles; Notre Dame Press, 978-0-268-03085-8
2. *Literary Art in Digital Performance*, by Francisco Ricardo; Continuum Books, 9780826436801
3. *Rethinking Curating: Art after New Media*, by Beryl Graham et al; MIT Press, 978-0-262-01388-8
4. Various articles linked from the syllabus

## **Absenteeism**

More than two unexcused absences will result in a final grade being lowered by one letter grade. Excused absences are defined as absences due to documented illnesses or deaths of close family members. Vacations, scheduled doctor visits, family reunions, week-long getaways, forgetting the semester has already begun or that we are meeting for class, and other personal reasons do not count as excused absences. Students need to be in class on the days indicated in the Course Schedule. No exceptions. If students miss more than two weeks in a row, for any reason, he or she will be asked to drop the course and retake it when the student is better able to participate.

## **University Policies**

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the university and will be strongly enforced in this course. Any student found in violation of the academic integrity policy will be given an "F" for the course and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. For additional information about WSU's Academic Integrity policy/procedures please contact (360) 546-9573.

Disability Accommodations may be available if you need them in order to fully participate in this class because of a disability. Accommodations may take some time to implement so it is critical that you contact Disability Services as soon as possible. All accommodations must be approved through Disability Services, located in the Student Resource Center on the Lower Level of Student Services Center (360) 546-9138.

Emergency Notification System: WSU has made an emergency notification system available for faculty, students and staff. Please register at Zzsis with emergency contact information (cell, email, text, etc). You may have been prompted to complete emergency contact information when registering for classes on RONet. In the event of a Building Evacuation, a map at each classroom entrance shows the evacuation point for each building. Please refer to it. Finally, in case of class cancellation campus-wide, please check local media, the WSU Vancouver web page and/or <http://www.flashalert.net/>. Individual class cancellations may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Each individual is expected to make the best decision for their personal circumstances, taking safety into account. Safety plan website - <http://safetyplan.vancouver.wsu.edu/>

Important Dates and Deadlines: Students are encouraged to refer to the academic calendar often to be aware of critical deadlines throughout the semester. The academic calendar can be found at [www.registrar.wsu.edu/Registrar/Apps/AcadCal.ASPX](http://www.registrar.wsu.edu/Registrar/Apps/AcadCal.ASPX). Questions regarding the academic calendar can be directed to the Office of Student Affairs in VSSC 100 or call 360-546-9559.

**Project I – Exploring Digital Literature**

**Tuesday, August 23, 2011**  
 During Class: Meet students, gain insights into their experiences with digital literature, and discuss their work. During class, students will be asked to share their work and to discuss it with the class.

Read for Thursday’s Class: “Electronic Literature: What Is It?” by N. Katherine Hayles (This is essentially Ch. 1 of the book *Electronic Literature* you will be reading for this course (Online at: <http://eliterature.org/pad/elp.html>).

Look over for Thursday’s Class: “Intro to Elit” (Online at [http://www.nospace.net/dene/354/intro\\_elit.ppt](http://www.nospace.net/dene/354/intro_elit.ppt)). Bring this essay (in any form) and the two books, *Electronic Literature* and *Literary Art in Digital Performance*, to class.

**Thursday, August 25, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the reading and the slides you were asked to prepare for today. We will also look over the two books you will be assigned for this portion of the course.

Read for Tuesday’s Class: Chapters 2 and 3 of *Electronic Literature*.

Look Over for Tuesday’s Class: “Annotated List of Elit Works for DTC 354” (Online at: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MCS6Mm53UYS5DXfnP3m9ZAS011ECaKR3PYWFcjyui\\_M/edit?hl=en\\_US](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MCS6Mm53UYS5DXfnP3m9ZAS011ECaKR3PYWFcjyui_M/edit?hl=en_US)). You will be assigned two works to explore and annotate. One of these is due next Tuesday.

**Tuesday, August 30, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the two chapters you were assigned to read; you will also be asked to talk about the elit work you explored for today.

Read for Thursday’s Class: Chapter 3 of *Electronic Literature*.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: "Annotated List of Elit Works for DTC 354" (Online at: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MCS6Mm53UYS5DXfnP3m9ZAS011ECaKR3PYWFcjyui\\_M/edit?hl=en\\_US](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MCS6Mm53UYS5DXfnP3m9ZAS011ECaKR3PYWFcjyui_M/edit?hl=en_US)). Explore and annotate the second work you have been assigned.

**Thursday, September 1, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the chapters you were assigned to read; you will also be asked to talk about the elit work you explored for today. □

□ Read for Tuesday's Class: Finish the book, *Electronic Literature*.

□

**Tuesday, September 6, 2011**

During Class: We will finish our discussion of the book.

Read for Thursday's Class: " Electronic Literature: *Where Is It?*" (Online at: <http://www.electronicbookreview.com/thread/technocapitalism/invigorating>).

**Thursday, September 8, 2011**

□ During Class: We will discuss the article you were assigned to read. Also: Research the authors of the two works you were assigned to explore and annotate. Add the following information to your annotation on Google Docs: Author's country of origin, date of work 1<sup>st</sup> publication, the name of the publication where it has been published, and the genre of the work. You should begin your investigation with the Electronic Literature Organization Directory (Online at: <http://directory.eliterature.org/>) since it contains much of the information you need for this assignment. This work is due at the beginning of class on Tuesday.

**Tuesday, September 13, 2011**

□ During Class: Look over the Google Docs annotated list of works and the new information posted about the authors, etc. I will present Project 1 today.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Work on Project 1.

**Thursday, September 15, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 1.

□ □ Prepare for Tuesday's Class: Rough draft of Project 1 is due at the beginning of class.

**Tuesday, September 19, 2011**

During Class: I will look over your rough drafts during class.

□ □ Prepare for Thursday's Class: The final version of Project 1 is due at the beginning of class.

□

**Thursday, September 21, 2011**

□ During Class: Project 1 is due at the beginning of class. Final Cut Workshop today.

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**Tuesday, September 27, 2011**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ Class: Sound Workshop today, led by Dr. John Barber.

□

**Thursday, September 29, 2011**

During Class: Flash Workshop today. I will also assign Project 2 today. You will receive an Assignment Sheet.

**Tuesday, October 4, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 2.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Continue working on Project 2.

**Thursday, October 6, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 2.

Prepare for Tuesday's Class: Continue working on Project 2.

**Tuesday, October 11, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 2.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Continue working on Project 2. Be prepared to show your work, thus far, to the class (at the end of class).

**Thursday, October 13, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 2.

Prepare for Tuesday's Class: Continue working on Project 2.

**Tuesday, October 18, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 2.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Continue working on Project 2. It is due at the beginning of class.

**Thursday, October 20, 2011**

During Class: Class critique of Project 2.

Prepare for Tuesday's Class: Revise your projects based on the notes given you during the class critique. Your project is due at the beginning of class.

**Tuesday, October 25, 2011**

During Class: Project 2 is due at the beginning of class. We will spend time looking at some of the works you have produced.

Read for Thursday's Class: "Introduction," and Chapter 1 in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Thursday, October 27, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the Introduction of *Rethinking Curating* and tie what you have learned to the list of elit works you have annotated.

Read for Tuesday's Class: "Chapters 2 & 3," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Tuesday, November 1, 2011**

During Class: We will visit VCLS 201, the Electronic Lit Lab, and explore works from "The Eastgate School." We will tie what you learn about these works to the reading.

Read for Thursday's Class: "Chapters 4 & 5," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Thursday, November 3, 2011**

During Class: Guest Speaker.

Read for Tuesday's Class: "Chapter 6-7," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Tuesday, November 8, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the reading and tie it into what you learned from the guest speaker.

Read for Thursday's Class: "Chapter 8," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Thursday, November 10, 2011**

During Class: Field Trip.

Read for Tuesday's Class: "Chapter 9," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Tuesday, November 15, 2011**

During Class: We will discuss the reading and tie it into what you learned from the field trip.

Read for Thursday's Class: "Chapters 10-11," in *Rethinking Curating*.

**Thursday, November 17, 2011**

During Class: Meet with the curators for Electronic Literature. You will tie in what you have learned in your readings to the information you gain from their talk.

Tuesday, November 22, 2011- Thursday, November 24, 2011 Thanksgiving Holidays.

**Tuesday, November 29, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 3.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Continue working on Project 3.

**Thursday, December 1, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 3.

Prepare for Tuesday's Class: Continue working on Project 3.

**Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

During Class: Work on Project 3.

Prepare for Thursday's Class: Continue working on Project 3.

**Thursday, December 8, 2011**  
During Class: Projects 3 is due.