

# HDCC 209B

## Practicum in Digital Cultures and Creativity Course Description

This two-credit research practicum serves as the culmination of your coursework in the Digital Cultures and Creativity Program in the Honors College. It is designed to support your individual (or collaborative) capstone project by exploring the major issues and questions associated with conducting research in creative digital communities. Given the interdisciplinary nature of DCC, each project will be highly individualized thereby providing the opportunity for co-learning structured around discussion, experimentation and group feedback. Through this course you will be asked to synthesize information, demonstrate intellectual curiosity and resourcefulness, as well as develop critical thinking and creative problem solving skills. Particular emphasis will be placed on professional development and situating your research in the context of a larger community of creative thinkers, artists and designers. Arts-based research methodologies such as photography will also be looked at in tandem with more traditional forms of scholarship.



Practicum in Digital Cultures and Creativity  
Spring 2013

**Professor**  
Krista Caballero (klc@umd.edu)

**Office Hours**  
By appointment

**Class Times**  
Wednesday, 3:30-5:15pm  
QAN 1132  
& QAMPR

**Course Website**  
<http://mith.umd.edu/dccresearch/>

### Learning Outcomes

- You will gain practical experience from inception to implementation on the methods, skills, tools and systems that can be used for completing a creative digital project.
- You will be able to discuss major issues and debates in the areas of citation/attribution, copyright and project development.
- You will gain a better knowledge of how to effectively and efficiently utilize online library databases including archives that include sound, photo and film.
- You will gain an understanding of different research methodologies including creative arts-based research (ABR)
- You will demonstrate the ability to choose and use appropriate technologies to communicate a final project.
- Through research, writing, and an oral presentation, you will develop critical thinking skills and gain experience speaking publicly.
- Your final capstone will effectively synthesize the theoretical with the process of creation.

### Readings

All readings will be available through links on the course site or posted on ELMS.

### Written Assignments

All written assignments must be double spaced, written in size 12 Times New Roman font.

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## Grading

Timeline & grading rubric	(10%)
Finalized Proposal Revision (w/ annotated bibliography & publicity campaign )	(20%)
Presentations	(15%)
Production "Book"	(10%)
Final Project w/self assessment	(25%)
Participation (including in-class reading responses & group feedback)	(20%)

Expectations for participation include having read all of the day's pertinent required readings prior to their assigned due date, active and thoughtful engagement during discussion and with your peers in class. Attendance alone does not guarantee an A in class participation.

You final project will be self-graded. You will come up with a rubric of 10 items related to capstone goals set for yourself throughout the semester. This rubric will be due toward the beginning of the semester (Feb 20) and will be further discussed in class.

## Late Work

No late work will be accepted. Each assignment is due prior to the beginning of class on the date indicated.

## Weekly documentation:

You will be required to keep a production "book" documenting your work process. The format and outcome will vary depending on your project and may be digital (i.e. blog, website) but could also be in the form of a journal or sketchbook. Course readings / topics should also be thoughtfully integrated as you explore the major issues and questions throughout the semester. This should move beyond mere summary to critically analyze what you are learning and explore the relationships between ideas. The intent is to synthesize the theoretical with the process of creation taking place and then offer your own analysis, response and questions. This will be 10% of your final grade.

## Computing Policy

DCC is a program that actively utilizes emerging technologies in order to explore new methods of learning and scholarship. Please bring an iPad or laptop to class each week. However, this does not mean "digital participation" will replace more traditional forms of participation. In other words, it is fully expected that you actively contribute to group discussions and/or critique. Please no cell phones.

## Academic Integrity

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. Cheating includes: reusing portions of coursework for credit, allowing others to prepare work, and utilizing external aids including commercial term paper and internet companies. If you have a question regarding any of the above or the code in general, consult immediately with one of the instructors. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>.

## Plagiarism and Citations

The definition of plagiarism is broader than commonly assumed. Plagiarism includes: direct quotation, paraphrasing, summarization, and fabrication of materials. All quotations taken from other authors, including paraphrasing and all sources from the Internet (including Wikipedia, blogs, and forums) and other digital media, must be indicated by quotation marks and properly referenced. When writing a blog or blog comment, cite at least the author's name and enough information for a reader to find the work on their own (e.g. a hyperlink if available.) Some of the works we'll be reading may not be covered by the MLA style guide (e.g. project development); if this is

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the case, please give at least the work's title, author, date of publication, and the web address for the work (if any). If you are ever uncertain about your need to cite something or how to do so, please contact the instructor before turning in your work.

## Note on Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Any source that you draw ideas and quotes from must be cited accurately in APA or MLA style. If you use any source in your work without correctly citing the work, this constitutes plagiarism. Any intentional plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course.

## Types of Plagiarisms

1. Buying papers, borrowing papers, or recycling former papers unrevised and claiming these types of papers as your own for your assignment in this course.
2. Cutting and pasting parts of a webpage or borrowing passages from a book for your paper without properly citing these parts and claiming the material as your own for the expressed intent of cheating.
3. Using another's creative work such as photos, data visualizations or artwork without proper credit or alteration.

## Administration

If you have a registered disability and wish to discuss accommodations, please email the instructor by the end of the second week of class. Disabilities can be registered through Disability Support Services (4-7682 or 5-7683 TTY/TDD).

It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor by email of any religious observances that will conflict with your attendance, assignment deadlines, or final exam. The student should provide emailed notification to the professor by the end of the second week of the term; the notification must identify the religious holiday(s) and the date(s). If this notification is not given to the instructor by this date, all missed assignments, quizzes, and exams are subject to grade penalties.

## Syllabus Subject to Change:

This syllabus is subject to change at any time according to the professor's discretion.

## SCHEDULE:

### PART I: RESEARCH 101

WEEK 1 (Jan 23): Course introductions

WEEK 2 (Jan 30): Formulating and refining your research question

Reading:

Booth, *The Craft of Research*, Part III, 3.0-4.4 (pgs. 40-71)

DUE: Formulate a project summary draft utilizing 3 steps from reading (name, add a question and motivate question - pgs. 49-51.) This must be e-mailed by the beginning of class. You will present them in discussion.

WEEK 3 (Feb 6) : Creative Research Methodologies and Design Thinking

Readings:

- 1) Gregory C. Stanczak, *Visual Research Methods*, "Intro: Images, Methodologies, & Generating Social Knowledge" (1-13)
- 2) Tim Brown and Jocelyn Wyatt, "Design Thinking for Social Innovation"

WEEK 4 (Feb 13): Best Practices and Values in Design

Readings:

- 1) Lessig, *Free Culture*, "Creators" and "Mere Copyists" (pgs. 21- 47)
- 2) Optional: Cohen, *Doing Digital History*, "Owning the Past?" (pgs 189-219)

Listen:

Paul "DJ Spooky" Miller (first 14'20"): <http://www.pri.org/stories/arts-entertainment/music/remix-culture-ttbook.html>

PLEASE NOTE: This week marks the point in the semester where we move more specifically into working labs and individual meetings. For Week 5, Week 6, 8, and Week 13 the class will split into 2 groups. Each group will receive 50 minutes of individual discussion and lab/workshop time. Group A will meet from 3:30-4:20 pm and Group B will meet from 4:25-5:15 pm. Students will be assigned a group based on the type of project that they will be working on. Please respect your peers and be prompt!

### PART II: BUILDING, DESIGN AND CREATION

WEEK 5 (Feb 20): Working Lab / Design

Reading:

Manovich, "Interaction as an Aesthetic Event" (2007)

DUE: Project Timeline & Grading Rubric

WEEK 6 (Feb 27): Working Lab / Writing

Reading:

Knott, "A Guide to Writing an Annotated Bibliography"

WEEK 7 (March 6): The Library and Research Methodologies

NOTE: we will all meet at McKeldin Library, 6th floor, room 6103

WEEK 8 (March 13): Working Lab

March 20 -- No class/Spring Break

WEEK 9 (March 27): Individual Meetings

DUE: Finalized Proposal Revision (with Annotated Bibliography and Publicity Campaign Proposal)

DUE: Production "book"

WEEK 10 (April 3): Individual Meetings

### PART III: PRESENTATION AND THE PUBLIC

WEEK 11 (April 10): Public Presentations of Semi-final Project

WEEK 12 (April 17): Public Presentations of Semi-final Project

WEEK 13 (April 24): Working Lab / Presenting

WEEK 14 (May 1): Individual Meetings

I will be available during class for any final feedback, troubleshooting or questions. This is optional based upon individual project needs. You may also choose to take class time and work on your own or with your group.

DUE: Production "book"

WEEK 15 (May 8): Final Class

DUE: Final Project and Written Self-Assessment

CAPSTONE EVENT: THURSDAY MAY 9TH!