

## **DTC 375-02: “Language, Texts, & Technology” Fall 2020 Course Syllabus**

Instructor: Ted Fordyce

Class Time: Wednesdays – 5:45 to 8:30

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Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 5:00 to 6:00 vis Zoom

Class Web Site: <http://dtc-wsuv.org/wp/dtc375-fall20/>

### **COURSE SUMMARY**

This course examines the relationships between texts and the technologies through which these texts are created, stored, delivered, and interpreted. We also study the ways that these relationships impact, and are impacted by, the language inscribed by text. This course combines introductions to existing theory with opportunities to explore those theories through the hands-on making of digital artifacts. This approach follows the “learn, think, build” focus of The CMDC Program.

(LEARN) Read scholarship by major figures involved in the development of the field of digital media, including multimedia artists and scholars who have laid the groundwork for its practices and theories.

(THINK) Engage in meaningful discussion, both in writing and orally, about the digital objects produced by others and apply critical thinking and problem solving to digital media projects.

(BUILD) Create expressive or informative multimodal, digital objects that are not reproducible as print objects and effectively explain both orally and in writing the process and method of their production.

### **Course Materials**

Readings, videos, and recordings will be made available online.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Student assessment will be based on attendance, class participation, and assignments as follows:

Reading Responses:	20 Points
WordPress Project:	15 Points
eBook Project:	20 Points
Twine Project:	20 Points
In Class Assignments:	10 Points
Class Participation:	15 Points

Grading is calculated as follows:

A	93 – 100 Points
A-	90 - 93 Points
B+	87 - 89 Points
B	83 – 86 Points
B-	80 – 83 Points
C+	77 – 89 Points
C	73 – 76 Points
C-	70 – 73 Points
D	60 - 69 Points (Non-DTC students Only)
F	Below 60 Points

### **Attendance**

Attendance is required. Every two days of unexcused absence results in final grade being lowered by one letter grade. University policy regarding excused illness is followed.

### **Participation**

It is obvious when students do not come to class prepared or do not participate in class. Coming to class having read the material, taking notes when appropriate, contributing to class discussion, showing up with assignments ready to go, turning in assignments on time, and attending the time set aside for the final exam are expected. Doing homework for another class or fooling around on email or Facebook, etc. means you are not participating in class. You will be asked to leave the class if you are not prepared or not participating.

## **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

This course specifically addresses three of the 10 goals established for the Digital Technology and Culture degree. Students who successfully complete this class will be able to:

- Appreciate the history of technological development, from local to global perspectives, and its implications for a variety of mediums (DTC Goal 8).
- Synthesize media forms for multimedia contexts (DTC Goal 1).
- Be practiced and capable communicators in all media (DTC Goal 3).
- Utilize an interdisciplinary perspective in order to understand the basics of social, economic, and education changes brought by digital media.

## Course Schedule

Date	Class Activities	Due
August 26	Class Introduction	
September 2	Frameworks	
September 9	Language	WordPress Site
September 16	Images	
September 23	Audio	
September 30	Moving Images	
October 7	Multimodal Systems	
October 14	Early Writing Systems	Reflection Papers 1 thru 4
October 21	Scribal Writing Systems	
October 28	Print	
November 4	Digital Systems	Ebook draft
November 11	Hypertext	Ebook Project
November 18	Algorithms	
November 25	Thanksgiving	
December 2	Games	Reflection Papers 5 thru 8
December 9	Other Writing Systems	Twine draft
December 16	Finals Week	Twine project

## WSU Learning Goals

Learning Goal	Applicable Course Topics	Evaluation
Critical & Creative Thinking	All	Projects and reflection papers, and class discussions
Information Literacy	Reading Research	Reflection Papers
Communication	All	Projects and reflection papers, and class discussions

Diversity	Study of technological and cultural relations to communication systems	Twine project and reflection papers
Depth, Breadth, & Integration of Learning	All	Projects and reflection papers, and class discussions

### **Reasonable Accommodation**

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities or chronic medical conditions. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Access Center website to follow published procedures to request accommodations:

<https://studentaffairs.vancouver.wsu.edu/access-center>. Students may also call or email the Access Center to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor; Phone: 360-546-9238; Email: [van.access.center@wsu.edu](mailto:van.access.center@wsu.edu). All disability related accommodations **MUST** be approved through the Access Center. If you have a disability and need accommodations, we recommend you begin the process as soon as possible. It is a university expectation that students with approved accommodations visit with instructors (via email or Zoom) within two weeks of requesting their accommodations to discuss logistics.

### **Recording Sensitive Topics**

In this class, students are encouraged to both express and evaluate multiple points of view. A key aspect of a college education is exposure to and engagement with the complexity of various issues. Therefore, it is important that we listen and respect one another. We do not have to come to consensus, but we do need to agree to honor the privacy and educational processes of our classmates. Because this class is virtual, that commitment includes digital privacy, meaning that students are not allowed to make, remix nor share or post course recordings, nor in any way capture, manipulate, or circulate the likeness of a classmate.

### **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of higher education. As such, all members of the university community share responsibility for maintaining and promoting the principles of integrity in all activities, including academic integrity and honest scholarship. Academic integrity will be strongly enforced in this course. Students who violate WSU's Academic Integrity Policy (identified in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 504-26-010(3) and -404) will receive [*insert academic sanction (e.g., fail the course, fail the assignment, etc.)*], will not have the option to withdraw from the course pending an appeal, and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism and unauthorized collaboration as defined in the Standards of Conduct for Students, WAC 504-26-010(3). You need to read and understand all of the definitions of

cheating: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=504-26-010>. If you have any questions about what is and is not allowed in this course, you should ask course instructors before proceeding. If you wish to appeal a faculty member's decision relating to academic integrity, please use the form available at <https://studentaffairs.vancouver.wsu.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct>. If you have any questions about the process on the Vancouver campus, please call Eric Scott at 360-546-9530.

### **COVID-19 Policy:**

Students are expected to abide by all current COVID-19 related university policies and public health directives, which could include wearing a cloth face covering, physically distancing, self-attestations, and sanitizing common use spaces. All current COVID-19 related university policies and public health directives are located at <https://wsu.edu/covid-19/>. Students who do not comply with these directives may be required to leave the classroom; in egregious or repetitive cases, students may be referred to the Center for Community Standards for university disciplinary action.

### **Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment** (Executive Policy 15)

This policy expresses WSU's commitment to maintaining an environment free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, or others having an association with the University.

Discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct (including stalking, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence) is prohibited at WSU (See WSU Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment (Executive Policy 15) and WSU Standards of Conduct for Students).

If you feel you have experienced or have witnessed discriminatory conduct, you can contact the WSU Office of Civil Rights Compliance & Investigation (CRCI) and/or the WSU Title IX Coordinator at 509-335-8288 to discuss resources, including confidential resources, and reporting options. (Visit [crici.wsu.edu](http://crici.wsu.edu) for more information).

Most WSU employees, including faculty, who have information regarding sexual harassment or sexual misconduct are required to report the information to CRCI or a designated Title IX Coordinator or Liaison. Visit <https://crici.wsu.edu/reporting-requirements/> for more information.

### **Accommodation for Religious Observances or Activities:**

Washington State University reasonably accommodates absences allowing for students to take holidays for reasons of faith or conscience or organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or religious organization. Reasonable accommodation requires the student to coordinate with the instructor on scheduling examinations or other activities necessary for course completion. Students requesting accommodation must provide written notification within the first two weeks of the beginning of the course and include specific dates for absences. Approved

accommodations for absences will not adversely impact student grades. Absence from classes or examinations for religious reasons does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of absence. Students who feel they have been treated unfairly in terms of this accommodation may refer to Academic Regulation 104 – Academic Complaint Procedures.

### **Safety and Emergency Notification**

Please sign up for emergency alerts on your account at MyWSU. For more information on this subject, campus safety, and related topics, please view the FBI's Run, Hide, Fight video and visit the classroom safety page <https://provost.wsu.edu/classroom-safety/>.

### **Emergency Closure/Adverse Weather Bus Information for WSU Vancouver**

#### **Campus:**

- WSU Vancouver VanCoug ALERTS: [www.vancouver.wsu.edu/alerts](http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/alerts)
- Weather Closure Media Web Sites: <http://www.oregonlive.com/>
- During adverse weather conditions when C-Tran is operating on snow routes, the WSU Vancouver campus will not be served as the snow route ends at 20th Ave. For more information on bus routes and C-Tran scheduling, please visit their website at:  
<http://www.c-tran.com/>

#### **WSU Vancouver Home Page (Announcements and Alerts):**

- <http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/>

#### **WSU Vancouver Police:**

- <http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/police>
- Police Services
- Campus Safety Plan: <http://admin.vancouver.wsu.edu/clery-act/annual-security-report>
- Campus Alert Information

#### **Emergencies:**

##### **Hostile Intruder:**

- Campus Lock Down – Exterior doors will lock
- Apply “RUN-HIDE-FIGHT” personal safety protocol  
If sheltered or hiding; silence electronics, turn out lights, stay away from windows, barricade or lock doors, make a plan to fight if necessary  
**Active Shooter Training links:** <https://oem.wsu.edu/emergency-procedures/active-shooter/>  
[https://oem.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1081/2015/10/active-shooter-training-2016.mp4?\\_id=1](https://oem.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1081/2015/10/active-shooter-training-2016.mp4?_id=1)
- WSU Vancouver VanCoug ALERTS: [www.vancouver.wsu.edu/alerts](http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/alerts)
- Mass notification system: WSU Vancouver Home Page – **myWSU (under the PROFILE Tab) to update info**

**Cougar Food Pantry:** We know that it can be hard to make ends meet when you're paying for college and living on a tight budget. If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family, the **Cougar Food Pantry** can help. The pantry provides free, nonperishable food items for WSU Vancouver students in need. The process is simple, anonymous and

judgement-free. Learn more and request food at **[vancouver.wsu.edu/fooddrive](https://vancouver.wsu.edu/fooddrive)** or stop by the Cougar Center in the Student Services Center. Help your fellow Coug; refer a friend in need!