Day: Tuesday
Time: 8:30-11:20am
Room: Alvin Woods 3-103

Instructor: Jeremy Hunsinger
email:jhunsinger@wlu.ca
im:jhunsinger@mac.com
Office: 2-133
Office Hours: Tuesday 1-3pm and by appointment

Calendar Description
Making as communication investigates making and maker culture as modes and systems of communication respectively. Instead of writing a final paper, students will make a project using technologies that can be bought from Adafruit, MakerShed, or similar places. The project will emphasize what they've learned in communication studies and in this class. The project will also have a professional ekphrasis which describes the relationships of the project to communication studies and this class.

Readings:
Zero to Maker: Learn (Just Enough) to Make (Just About) Anything David Lang
Shaping Things, Bruce Sterling
Making is Connecting, David Gauntlett
Weekly articles

Grading:

Participation in seminar	20 points
Weekly Reading Reviews:	18 points
Project proposal	5 points
Paper Annotated Bibliography	10 points
Project Prototype	10 points
Project Final Project/Presentation	25 points
Project Ekphrasis	12 points
Total	100 points

Weekly Assignment Reviews:
Each week by Monday at 9pm, you will turn in a review of the work that you have read for class that week.   Each one is worth up to 2 points.   You should strive to do two tasks in this review: first demonstrate that you have read the materials and second you should relate the material to your own life and experiences or to other ongoing courses or courses you've taken.   You may, though it is not recommended, miss one of these without penalty.

Project:
The project assignment is divided into: the proposal, the annotated bibliography, the prototype, and the finished project. The project must either be a physical thing that uses some sort of electronic or mechanical system to perform its task, or it must be something like an app or digital game. The orientation of the project should be to 'scratch an itch' that you have developed an interest in during your scholarly career in communication studies. The project must be portable and transportable, in that you will be carrying it to and from the classroom most classes. The goal of this project is to make something.

The proposal is a 250 word description of the 'itch' that you'd like to 'scratch'. It should define as clearly as possible the problem or condition that your project addresses. It should clearly and concisely provide an idea of the object that you will make.

The annotated bibliography is no fewer than 20 high quality scholarly resources that document the issues around your project. You should also include at least 5 tutorial-type sources that will enable you to build your project. The annotation should be two to four sentences describing how you think this resource will help you understand and build your project.

The prototype must show significant progress toward a completed object. It may not be finished, but it should be clearly be a solid attempt though it may still have problems that need to be resolved.

The final project is finished. It is complete and as professionally produced as possible. It should to the extent possible be working. You give a 15 minute presentation to present it.

The ekphrasis is a written description of the project, its process, what you have learned, and the emotional/intellectual effects it may or may not have produced within you. It is about 2000 words long and is a reflective writing based on your experiences on the project. It should be written as professionally as you can, with proper citation, bibliography, and referencing. This is where you contextualize your project in relation to scholarship.

Calendar:

Week 1   Introduction, Expectations, and basic readings
Class 7 January
Read   E.M. Forster The Machine Stops
        http://archive.ncsa.illinois.edu/prajlich/forster.html
        A Few Arguments for Humanistic Fabrication
        http://digitalhistoryhacks.blogspot.ca/2008/11/few-arguments-for-humanistic.html

Week 2
Class 14 January
Reading review due the 13th
read: Zero to Maker: Learn (Just Enough) to Make (Just About) Anything David Lang chapters 1-5
        Tinkering Makes Comeback Amid Crisis:
        http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB125798004542744219

Week 3
Class 21 January
Reading review due the 20th
Read: Zero to Maker: Learn (Just Enough) to Make (Just About) Anything David Lang chapters 6-10
watch: http://longnow.org/seminars/02013/feb/19/makers-revolution/

Week 4   Aprototypical Prototypes w/ Prof. Jason Nolan
Class 28 January
Reading review due the 27th
Read: "Making and Playing with Models: Using Rapid Prototyping to Explore the History and Technology of Stage Magic" William J. Turkel and Devon Elliott
        Reconstructing Technologies as Social Practice Lucy Suchman et. al
Proposal Due Friday by 5pm

Week 5   Designing and Designs
Class 4 February
Reading review due the 3rd
Read Bruce Sterling Shaping Things   ch. 1-9
        http://laboratorio.us/misc/Shaping_Things.pdf
        Watch: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgMH-VAqlTM

Week 6
Class 11 February
Reading review due the 10th
Read Bruce Sterling Shaping Things   ch. 10-end
        http://laboratorio.us/misc/Shaping_Things.pdf
Bibliography Due start of class

Reading Week

Week 7   Making is connecting
Class 25 February
Reading Review due the 24th
Read: Making is Connecting Gauntlett 1-4

Week 8   Making is Connecting
Class 4 March
Reading review due the 3rd
Read: Making is Connecting Gauntlett Ch 5-9

Week 9   Discuss prototypes
Class 11 March
Reading review due the 10th
Read: Will assign based on projects, 2-3 articles/short films
Prototype Due

Week 10
Class 18 March
Reading review due the 17th
Read: Will assign based on projects, 2-3 articles/short films

Week 11   Final Projects and Presentations
Class 25 March

Week 12   Final Projects and Presentations
Class 1 April

Ekphrasis due 8 April

Paper final draft due during final exam period.

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note well
Grades are given in whole points, not half or partial points.

Any assignment with more than ten spelling, grammar, or logic mistakes will be returned with a grade of a 0, as that is unacceptable. Please proofread your documents as if your job depended on it.

There are no rewrites, however rough drafts may be reviewed prior submission during office hours in the weeks prior to the submission date.

Grades are, unless there is a clear mistake, final.

Late work is not accepted without university acceptable excuse.

Students will be treated and should treat each other fairly, equitably, and with respect.

Notes

1.   Students with disabilities or special needs are advised to contact Laurier's Accessible Learning Office for information regarding its services and resources. Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.

2.   Students are expected to be aware of and abide by University regulations and policies, as outlined in the current Undergraduate and Graduate Calendar.

3.   Students must reserve the examination period as stated in the Undergraduate Calendar under Academic Dates. If you are considering registering for a special examination or event, you should select a time outside the examination period. Consult with the Undergraduate Calendar for special circumstances for examination deferral. (Applicable to Undergraduate students only.)

4.   The penalties for plagiarism or any form of academic misconduct are severe and enforced at all times. The Student Code of Conduct and Discipline, and the procedures for investigating and determining appropriate disciplinary measures for breaches of the Code are given in the current Undergraduate and Graduate Calendar.

      Please note: submitting the same work to two different courses, or to different sections of the same course, is academic misconduct and will be addressed according to the procedures outlined in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendar. Students who are repeating a course are not permitted to re-use essays or assignments from the previous course.

      Wilfrid Laurier University uses software that can check for plagiarism. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form and have it checked for plagiarism.

5.   Students are to adhere to the Principles in the Use of Information Technology. and the Policy on the Classroom Use of Electronic Devices. These Principles and Policy, and resulting actions for breaches are stated in the current Undergraduate and Graduate Calendar. Please see the Policy on the Classroom Use of Electronic Devices.

6.   Students' names may be divulged in the classroom, both orally and in written form, to other members of the class. Students who are concerned about such disclosures should contact the course instructor to identify whether there are any possible alternatives to such disclosures. Additional information on the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act at Laurier is available at the Privacy Coordinator Office.

Foot Patrol walk home service | 519.886.FOOT (3668)
Foot Patrol is a volunteer operated walk-home service, available daily during evening hours. Male-female, radio-dispatched teams trained in Emergency First Aid are available on request to escort students to and from campus as well as to off-campus destinations, either by foot or by van.

Counselling Services & Peer Help Line | 1-866-281-PEER (7337)
Counselling Services are available to help students deal with emotional, psychological and social challenges of university. Counselling, consultation or referral are available on the 2nd floor of the Student Services Building (across from Health Services), Monday-Thursday 8:30am-8:00pm, Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. Peer Help Line, a confidential listening, referral, information and support line, is available during evening hours to provide support.

Student Food Bank
All Laurier students are eligible to use the Student Food Bank. Anonymous requests can be made online at WLUSU.COM under the Services tab. All dietary restrictions are accommodated, and food hampers typically last up to a week.

For more information visit WLUSU.com