UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND ART HISTORY
ART 311.14 – Topics in Art (Interactive Storytelling)
Spring 2021

Course Delivery Format:	**Online, hybrid** synchronous and asynchronous activities
Instructor: **Office:** **Email:** **Office Hours:**	Kathryn Blair Via zoom (link will be posted in D2L) kathryn.blair@ucalgary.ca Monday 3-5 PM (online) or by appointment.
Day(s), time(s) and location of class:	Monday and Wednesday, 12:00 – 14:45 (12:00-2:45pm), online
Course description:	Topics related to contemporary studio and curatorial practices such as spirituality, exhibitions, digital storytelling, new media, or public art. This course may be repeated for credit. This course explores the techniques, structures, and possibilities of storytelling in which the reader / viewer can make decisions which impact the story itself. The course focuses on interactive storytelling as implemented in digital platforms such as video games, the internet, interactive fiction and film, and augmented / virtual reality. We will also discuss some examples of interactive storytelling in non-digital media. Students will learn concepts relevant to interactive storytelling, consider examples in a variety of genres, and complete assignments leading to the generation of an interactive story using tools appropriate for beginners.
Prerequisites and/or co-requisites:	None
Course Objectives:	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Students will gain an understanding of interactive storytelling as a unique artistic form. 2. Understand the affordances of digital vs traditional media for interactive storytelling, including how storytelling changes with the addition of interactivity. 3. Students will understand basic principles and considerations of interactive fiction and use them to analyze interactive fiction works. 4. Create and implement their own interactive stories using accessible tools.
Required Textbooks or Readings:	There is no textbook that students need to purchase. We will refer to several readings and videos (both conceptual and specific works of interactive storytelling) throughout the course, some of which will be chosen by students. All will be shared with students via D2L / course blog and will be accessible via the University of Calgary library online access or available freely on the internet. If students wish to do some reading to prepare for the course, many will be drawn from Miller, Carolyn Handler. *Digital Storytelling a Creator's Guide to Interactive Entertainment*. 2014. Web. The book can be accessed online via the UCalgary Library at https://ucalgary-primo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/13e4ecq/01UCALG_ALMA5164307899000 4336

Course Schedule

Week	Class (12pm-2:45 pm)	Activities
1	Wed May 5	Introduction, setting norms, setting up sketchblogs, admin
2	Mon May 10	IFstravaganza working session

	Wed May 12	IFstravaganza working session
3	Mon May 17	Topic: Structures of Interactive Fiction Collaborative IFStravaganza due
	Wed May 19	Topic: Interactivity in Fiction Interactive Story Proposal due Friday May 21.
4	Mon May 24	VICTORIA DAY -- No in-class activities
	Wed May 26	Interactive Storytelling Presentation & Discussions
5	Mon May 31	Interactive Storytelling Presentation & Discussions
	Wed Jun 2	Interactive Storytelling Presentation & Discussions
6	Mon Jun 7	Topic: Agency, Character, and Emotion Interactive Story Analysis due
	Wed Jun 9	Topic: Interactive Storytelling across Media Interactive Story In-Class Workshopping
7	Mon Jun 14	Implemented Interactive Story sharing sessions
	Wed Jun 16	Implemented Interactive Story sharing sessions
	Mon June 21	Implemented Interactive Story Due (no class meeting)

Specific reading or viewing materials for each class will be posted on D2L and on the course blog at the beginning of the semester. All will be either accessible for free online, or accessible via the UCalgary Library.

Time for breaks will be built into the class schedule.

Assignments & Evaluation

Assignment / Evaluation	Description	Due Date	Worth
Participation	This mark will be assigned based on the extent to which you constructively participate in in-class activities, discussions, and critiques.	Assessed week of May 24, reassessed week of June 21.	20%
Sketchblog	We will have a class blog on the UCalgary Blogs platform that we'll use to share digital sketchbooks. Your section of the blog is a place you can work out your ideas – visual, narrative, and conceptual – as you work throughout the course. You will also be commenting on each other's sketchblog posts.	Assessed week of May 24, reassessed week of June 21.	20%
Collaborative IFstravaganza	Collaborative interactive story built together using our UCalgary blog.	Mon May 17	10%
Interactive Story Proposal	A proposal for an interactive story, laying out the concept, characters, and interaction elements.	Friday May 24	15%
In-Class Presentation and Discussion	Present on an example of interactive storytelling of your choice and lead a discussion on it.	May 26 – June 2, depending on schedule	10%
Interactive Story Analysis	A written analysis of the interactive storytelling example you presented on, formatted as a blog post and reflecting on the meaning of the work as a whole.	June 7	5%
Implemented Interactive Story	An interactive story that you have authored and implemented. Likely be based on your proposal but can also be an alternative idea.	Shared in class week of June 14, Due June 21.	20%

Assessment expectations:	Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:
	Assignments will be posted to your sketchblog by 11:59 pm on the deadline, with a link to your post submitted to a D2L dropbox, with the exception of the presentation which will be completed synchronously during class.
	Missed or Late Assignments:
	Failure to submit assignments will result in a partial letter grade reduction (IE from a B+ to a B) per day on the assignment unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor. Submitting any element of the sketchbook late at the end of the semester will result in an equivalent penalty. Late submission of the sketchbook for interim feedback will result in a partial letter grade reduction per day on the student's overall participation grade.
	Expectations for Writing:
	Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.
Additional Costs and Information:	There are no expected additional costs expected, and none will be required. Students may choose to purchase tools or assets to create their interactive story if they wish or may wish to purchase access to specific examples of interactive stories, but this is not required.
Portfolios and Assignments:	The Dept of Art and Art History will not assume responsibility for lost or stolen portfolios or course work given to instructors for grading.

Other Important Dates

Last day to drop course without financial penalty	Tuesday, May 11 2021
End of refund period	Tuesday, May 11 2021
Last day to add/swap course	Tuesday, May 11 2021
Tuition and fee payment deadline	Friday, May 14 2021
Last day to withdraw from course	Thursday, June 17 2021

Grading Method and Grading Scale

Percentage	Grade	G.P.V.	Grade Definition
96-100	A+	4.0	Outstanding
90-95	A	4.0	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
85-89	A-	3.7	
80-84	B+	3.3	
75-79	B	3.0	Good – clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
70-74	B-	2.7	
65-69	C+	2.3	
60-64	C	2.0	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter.
55-59	C-	1.7	
53-54	D+	1.3	
50-52	D	1.0	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
0-49	F	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Learning Technologies and Requirements:	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (d2L.ucalgary.ca). To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology: • A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates • A current and updated web browser • Webcam (built-in or external) • Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone • Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled • Broadband internet connection
Campus Mental Health Resources:	SU Wellness Centre and the Campus Mental Health Strategy Counselling and mental health support services are offered through Student Wellness Services. During COVID-19, you can access counselling services remotely via Skype for Business, Microsoft Teams and telephone. Single Session Counselling appointments are available on a bookable basis. Book an appointment online or call 403-210-9355.For access to mental health support, email sar@ucalgary.ca. If you are a student in immediate distress, please contact the centre's after-hours partners: The Distress Centre: • Call 403-266-4357, available 24/7. • Visit the Distress Centre website to access online chat from 3–10 p.m. on weekdays and 12–10 p.m. on weekends. For additional crisis support from Wood's Homes Community Support Team: • Call 403-299-9699 or 1-800-563-6106, available 24/7. • Text 587-315-5000 between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. • Visit Wood's Homes website for live chat between 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Academic Standing:	For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html
Academic Accommodation:	It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/
Academic integrity, plagiarism:	Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism;

| | unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html or http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity |
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| Internet and electronic communication device: | The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time.

Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf |
| Deferral of Term work and exams | For more information about deferring a final exam go to https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams

For more information about deferral of term work go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html https://www.ucalgary.ca/live-uc-ucalgary-site/sites/default/files/teams/14/deferred_termwork-feb-2020_revised.pdf |
| Intellectual Property & Copyright: | All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including presentations, textbooks, posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams).

Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html |
| Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy: | Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

For more information go to https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/student-centre/privacy-policy |
| Ethics | Whenever you perform research with human participants (i.e., surveys, interviews, or observation) as part of your university studies, you are responsible for following university research ethics guidelines. Your instructor must review and approve of your research plans and supervise your research.

For more information go to http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html or https://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/chreb |

Additional Student Support:	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising	Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca.

You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns. |