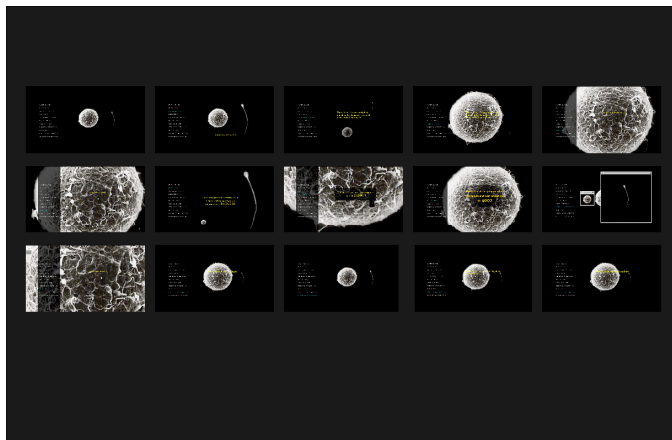


E90.2952 Advanced Projects in Digital Art W 12:30 - 3:50.
**Environmental Art Activism and Social Networking
Platforms:**

How does the social movement around environmental change happen?
How do cultural ideas interact with technical, material and economic
constraints to develop the movement around new environmentalism? How
can we reimagining our relationship to natural systems?

Syllabus



Course Description

This class is an engagement with various new technologies and the opportunity they present for change, social change. Popularly we understand that new technologies are associated with social and cultural change, and in fact, we often approximate social change as technological change. Yet we know that technology is not the driver of social change, and that, bc it is resources intensive it is more often used in the support of resource rich--read conservative--social forces, as a rule of thumb. In

this class we will describe the technological opportunity for social change presented by contemporary information technology in terms of the structures of participation. That is, we will analyze and respond to the transformations we are living through—as the opportunity to restructure participation in the production of knowledge.

This is a practicum, i.e. studio driven class, that will involve producing work in and for a number of digital platforms including social networking software: artcloud.com ; howstuffismade.org ; the environmental health clinic.

TOPICS

Environmental Art Activism, Social Networking, Web 2.0, Environmental real-time, distributed, remote and biomonitoring,

Projects

- 1) Me++: ArtCloud and other social networking platforms
- 2) Where++: Environmental Health Clinic NoPark
- 3) Them++: HowStuffisMade
- 4) How++: Environmental Health Clinic: Feral Robot Release Sites
- 5) When++: Environmental Health Clinic : Biomonitoring, Indicators, Realtime Monitoring

Class Information

Class lectures be held on Mondays 12:30 – 1:30

Lab sessions immediately thereafter 1:30 – 3:50

In addition you will be required to attend other lectures, exhibitions and site visits.

Contact Information

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xdesign: Environmental Health Clinic and Lab

- * Email:nat@cat.nyu.edu
- * Clinic Hours, Fall, 2007: Mondays 9:30-10:30 PM and at other times by appointment in room 402b of Barney Building.
- * Course mailing list: TBA
- * Course grading account (for submitting homework) - TBA
- * NYU Academic Calendar: 2007-8

Course Requirements

Homeworks will include several small programming assignments (40% of the total grade) as well as a midterm exam (20% of the final grade) and a final research project (at 40% of the final grade in lieu of a final exam). Projects will be web-based. The final research project will be presented to the class. As Computing in the Humanities and the Arts encompasses such a wide variety of topics - in literature, history, music and the arts - students will be encouraged to build models and sites based on content in the field of their choice.

Course Materials

Computer Resources:

The new Digital Studio is the primary resource and workshop space; however some research offsite, and with special purpose Env. Health Clinic in addition to digital camera; video and your own laptop and production

Books:

Toxic Exposures: Contested Illnesses and the Environmental Health Movement

By Phil Brown
Columbia University Press, 2007

In the Bubble:
John Thackara
The Next Catastrophe
Reducing Our Vulnerability to Natural, Industrial and Terrorist Disasters
By Charles Perrow
Princeton University Press, 2007

Additional books will be on reserve at the Bobst Library.

Readings from both texts and on-line sources are posted to the Readings page on this site.

Readings:
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/20516610/site/newsweek/>
Art, Technology and Death: A Love Story

Theresa Duncan created acclaimed videogames. Jeremy Blake was a digital-art pioneer. They were talented, successful and in love. And then they committed suicide. How the technology that infused their work helped destroy them.

A NEWSWEEK EXCLUSIVE
By Tony Dokoupil
Newsweek
Updated: 12:51 p.m. ET Sept. 1, 2007