

Building a Digital Identity: An Introduction to DreamWeaver, iMovie, GarageBand, and Blogs

Course for Upward Bound (Summer 2007)

Instructor: Erin Dietel-McLaughlin

Summary

In this course, each of you will use technology to construct a Web presence that you may choose to put online at a later date. You will create original video and audio compositions using iMovie and GarageBand software, will create a digital Web portfolio (website) using DreamWeaver, and will also use blogs as a journaling/creative writing space throughout the semester. Ultimately, the course will ask you to consider how digital media impact the way that messages are constructed and received, and how such responses shape the ways we perceive ourselves and others in digital spaces.

Assignments

Your *Digital Web Portfolio* will be your final project for the course. This portfolio will be comprised of several smaller assignments:

- 1) The Web site framework itself (using Dreamweaver) – 15 points
- 2) Technology Autobiography – 10 points
- 3) iMovie video – 15 points
- 4) podcast – 15 points
- 5) Reflective essays (midterm and end-of-course) – 20 points (10 points each)

You will also be asked to create and maintain a *blog*, which you will use as a daily journaling, reflecting, and planning space. I will periodically check to see that you are staying on track with the in-class journaling assignments and are writing thoughtful entries. I will deduct points for missing entries.

Participation is a fundamental component of this course. You will be required to participate in face-to-face and online class discussions. You will be also required to offer feedback to your peers. Your opinions and ideas matter, and your classmates are depending on you. For this reason, it is vital that you be in class, on time, every day, ready to participate. I will deduct points for each absence and for failure to participate/stay on task.

Total points possible for Web portfolio: 75

Total points possible for blogs/attendance/participation: 25

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TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE FOR THE COURSE: 100

Grading

Note: Since we are all at different levels of technological ability, and since this class is about the *process* of learning how to construct a digital identity, you will not be graded on how flashy, professional, or “perfect” your work is. Instead, you will be graded on *how well your project fulfills the requirements of the assignment and on how much work you accomplished toward achieving your overall concept*. In other words, don’t be afraid to take some risks and try new things. That’s part of the goal of this class – even if your project doesn’t turn out exactly the way you’d hoped, you will have learned something in the process, and that’s the whole point!

A = 90-100 points

B = 80-89 points

C = 70-79 points

Tentative Schedule

Week 1

M June 25: Intro class; set up buddies; get-acquainted activity

T June 26: Finish introductions if necessary; discuss schedule and requirements, grading; intro to digital identities

W June 27: Discuss blogs; set up blogs and blog groups; first assignment (technology autobiography)

R June 28: Studio time to work on technology autobiography

F June 29: Scavenger hunt for digital identities; share findings; blog responses. Discuss ideas for digital portfolio. Introduce assignment 2 (Dreamweaver website)

Week 2

M July 2: HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

T July 3: HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

W July 4: HOLIDAY – NO CLASS

R July 5: Student Tech workshop: Intro to Dreamweaver

F July 6: Student Tech workshop, part 2: Intro to Dreamweaver

Week 3

M July 9: Studio time with Dreamweaver; assignment 3 (iMovie)

T July 10: view sample videos; brainstorm ideas for video; discuss storyboarding; in blogs write rough storyboard for video to determine what kind of footage should be shot

W July 11: Student Tech tutorial on using digital video equipment

R July 12: spend class period filming footage for video (work in pairs)

F July 13: wrap-up filming; download video

Week 4

M July 16: Student Tech tutorial: Editing with iMovie HD (50 mins)

T July 17: Studio time to work with iMovie and/or Dreamweaver

W July 18: Studio time to work with iMovie and/or Dreamweaver – try to “finish”

R July 19: Studio review (share/discuss projects); blog responses

F July 20: Assignment 4 (reflective essay #1); complete in class

Week 5

M July 23: Large group discussion of Friday’s responses; move into discussion of audio only

T July 24: Assignment 5 (podcast); Intro to podcasting and GarageBand; scavenger hunt for podcasts; blog about discoveries

W July 25: generate podcast story idea in groups; spend class period individually drafting a script for podcast

R July 26: Groups review each other’s drafts; collaboratively develop final script for podcast; start recording; GarageBand basics

F July 27: Recording/working with GarageBand

Week 6

M July 30: “podsafes music” and incorporating music files; continue working on podcasts

T July 31: finish podcasts; studio review of podcasts; blog responses; final touches on Web portfolios

W Aug. 1: Final assignment (reflective essay #2)

R Aug. 2: wrap-up; burn projects to disc