

COURSE TITLE**New Media in Theory and Practice****COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course takes both a hands-on and a theoretical approach to the topic of new media, looking in particular at the ways in which new media transforms text, image, sound, and performance. We will begin by exploring the concept of media and mediums and the difference between old and new media.

Throughout the semester we will consider how new media changes the way we experience our own identity and the world. In addition to classroom discussion and activities, students will also work on semester-long projects creating and reflecting on new media in the form of blogs and podcasts.

TEXTS

William Shakespeare, *Pericles*.

All other texts will be made available on e-reserve unless otherwise noted.

REQUIREMENTS**New Media Projects**

You will be working on two different new media projects – a blog and a podcast – throughout most of the semester. Together they count for a significant part of your grade. Just as the kind of writing you find outside a classroom would often fall far short of the scholarly expectations of a university, so too with these now popular media. Both projects require the same rigor and intellectual approach expected of any work in a university, in some cases more since you have to learn new technology and methodology while resisting the norm that these mediums sometimes convey. Both projects will be explained in detail in separate handouts. Briefly, you must create a purposeful blog and post 2 posts per week in your blog (one following the assignment, one “free blog”) and create a podcast that will focus on the Theater Studies production of *Pericles* this semester. You will also be required to help create an online dictionary of terms for the class.

Class Participation

Students are expected to participate in class discussions and to complete assignments on a regular basis. Each of these activities are equally weighted with respect to grading. Also, attendance is expected at all classes, media training sessions, and the performance of *Pericles* November 28-December 2 (8pm). You will also be expected to seek out individual help from tech support where necessary.

GRADES**Grade Distribution**

Podcast	40%
Blog	25%
Class Participation	20%
New Media Dictionary:	15%

SCHEDULE**I. Concept**

TUE. AUG. 28

Introduction to the Course

THU. AUG. 30

-Lev Manovich, “What is New Media?” in *The Language of New Media*, 18-61

TUE. SEP. 4

-Lev Manovich, “What is New Media?” in *The Language of New Media*, 18-61

-Andrew Keen, “Introduction” in *The Cult of the Amateur: How Today’s Internet is Killing our Culture*

-“The Case Against Drama”

THU. SEP. 6

Introduction to scholarly research techniques and resources: meet in Bostock 023 at 12:00

II. Word

TUE. SEP. 11

-Dennis Joseph Enright, “The Typewriter Revolution,” in *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter*, 230-1.

-Carl Schmidt, "The Buribunks: A Historico-Philosophical Meditation," in *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter*, 231-42.

Due: 500-800 word entry for our new media dictionary (see separate assignment sheet)

THU. SEP. 13

-Danah Boyd, "Broken Metaphors"
Introduction to blogging

TUE. SEP. 18

Introduction to rare books and physical archives: meet in Perkins

Due: Set up your blog account

III. Performance

THU. SEP. 20

Shakespeare, *Pericles*

TUE. SEP. 25

Shakespeare, *Pericles*

THU. SEP. 27

Listen to audio recording of Shakespeare's *Pericles*

IV. Sound

TUE. OCT. 2

Audacity training: meet in computer lab

THU. OCT. 4

Introduction to the podcast project with in-class activities: bring your iPod
Audio texts: Links on Blackboard

TUE. OCT. 9

No class: Fall Break

THU. OCT. 12

-Salamo Friedlander, "Goethe Speaks into the Phonograph," in *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter*, 59-68.

TUE. OCT. 16

-Thomas Y. Levin, "'Tones Out of Nowhere': Rudolf Pfenninger and the Archaeology of Synthetic Sound," in *New Media/Old Media: A History and Theory Reader*, 45-81.

-Charles Cros, "Inscription," in *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter*, 22.

THU. OCT. 18

-Ernst von Wildenbruch, "For the Phonographic Recording of His Voice," in *Gramophone, Film, Typewriter*, 79.

-Martin Spinelli, "Electric Line: The Poetics of Digital Audio Editing," in *New Media Poetics*, 99-121

V. Production

TUE. OCT. 23

Podcast production

THU. OCT. 25

Podcast production

TUE. OCT. 30
Podcast production

THU. NOV. 1
Podcast production

VI. Sight

TUE. NOV. 6

-Lev Manovich, "Generation Flash," in *New Media/Old Media: A History and Theory Reader*, 209-18.

THU. NOV. 8

-Mary Ann Doane, "Information, Crisis, Catastrophe," in *New Media/Old Media: A History and Theory Reader*, 251-64.

VII. Community

TUE. NOV. 13

-Friedrich Kittler, "Science as Open Source Process," in *New Media/Old Media: A History and Theory*

THU. NOV. 15

-Alan Filreis, "Kinetic Is as Kinetic Does: On the Institutionalization of Digital Poetry," in *New Media Poetics*, 123-40.

TUE. NOV. 20

No class: Thanksgiving Break

THU. NOV. 23

No class: Thanksgiving Break

TUE. NOV. 27

-Vincente L. Rafael, "The Cell Phone and the Crowd: Messianic Politics in the Contemporary Philippines," in *New Media/Old Media: A History and Theory Reader*, 297-313.

VIII. Conclusions

Attend performance of Pericles: November 28-December 2 (this is in lieu of class on November 20)

THU. NOV. 29

Be prepared to discuss *Pericles* in in text, live performance, and in an audio recording

TUE. DEC. 4

Final chance to work on podcast in class

Completed podcast files posted to Blackboard by 11:59pm, Tuesday December 4

THU. DEC. 6

Conclusions and Class Demonstrations

Due in class: Self-evaluation sheets for blog and podcast