



Current Issues in Graphic Technology

University of Houston • College of Technology
GRTC 4390 -- Course Syllabus Fall Semester, 2008

INTERNET BASED CLASS: Start Date: 08/24/2008 • End Date: 12/16/2008.

Instructor: Lloyd Schuh

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Office Hours: by appointment.

Lloyd Schuh's Web Portal: <http://www.classes-on-line.net>

As part of our communications tools, we will be using WebCT. It is an online course shell that provides a framework and tools for instructors to put course material and activities online.

Registered students are loaded into WebCT courses from the registration system. Starting a few days before classes start, registered students are loaded automatically into courses based on section numbers provided by instructors. Students who register late should allow at least 1-2 working days for their access to be enabled.

Unique WebCT user names for registered students are created by a central account management system, from the official registration rosters.

First-time student users of WebCT need to get their WebCT user name by using one of the following options:

- 1) Online at <http://www.uh.edu/webct> - click "Check User Name" to get a WebCT user name.
- 2) In person in Room 116-PGH on the main campus, Monday-Friday, 8 am to 8 pm.
- 3) By phone at 713-743-1411 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (except University holidays).

Once students have their WebCT user names, they can log on to WebCT Vista courses by going to <http://www.uh.edu/webct> and clicking the "WebCT Vista" button.

A student's initial password uses the format mmddyya! where mmddy is the student's birth date with a 2-digit year, and the letter 'a' is the first letter of the student's last name. The exclamation point is part of the password and must be entered. For example, new student Joan Smith born on April 1, 1984 would have an initial password of 040184s!. WebCT user names and passwords are case sensitive. Students must change their passwords the first time they log on to WebCT.

Support for students using WebCT is available in four ways:

- 1) Online at <http://www.uh.edu/webct> and "Student Help".
- 2) In person in Room 116-PGH on the main campus, Monday-Friday, 8 am to 8 pm.
- 3) By phone at 713-743-1411 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (except university holidays).
- 4) By sending email to support@uh.edu with the student's full name, course name and number, section number, instructor's name and a description of the problem.

You also have a protected grade sheet that reflects your current grade and the assignments that you have submitted. You will find this grade sheet at: <http://www.mygradebook.com>.

Grade Sheet ClassWord: **GRTC4390Fall08** (Please note that this classword is case sensitive)

Grade Sheet Password: **Your student id number**. Later in the semester, if it works properly, I may transfer your grades to the grade book that is built into the Vista program. I will let you know if that happens.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with a look at new technology in the graphics field and to provide experience in developing papers and presentations on these subjects.

Textbooks and software

For this course we will be using handout materials and information gathered from many different sources and posted on the Web. There is no textbook.

Course Policies

Class Withdrawal: The State of Texas has begun to impose penalties on students who drop courses excessively. That is, if you repeat the same course more than twice, you have to pay extra tuition. In addition, as of Fall 2007, students are limited to no more than SIX total course withdrawals throughout their educational career at a Texas public college or university.

In order to withdraw from your class, you MUST contact your professor and this must be done PRIOR to the withdrawal deadline to receive a “W” on your transcript. If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you have earned by the end of the semester. Zeros averaged in for required assignments/tests not submitted will lower your semester average significantly, most likely resulting in a failing grade.

The withdrawal deadline for withdrawing without receiving a “W” is Monday, September 8, 2008.

Plagiarism and Scholastic Dishonesty: A. definition of plagiarism is to pass off (the ideas of another) as ones own: use without crediting the source: present as new and original an idea derived from an existing source. This course adheres to the University’s policy on “Plagiarism and Scholastic Dishonesty” and will pursue and enforce disciplinary action regarding acts of plagiarism.

Assignments

Most of your semester will be doing research for your final paper/presentation. To do this you will either work individually or in teams. We will have most of our contact on-line. You will be required to keep a weekly blog of your group’s progress. Information regarding how to set up the blog can be found on the class Web site. You will be required to submit the following parts to your project:

- A Proposal prepared in the standard proposal format as explained on the Web site.
- A Review of Literature on the subject.
- A Final Paper and Presentation.

Grading

Your grades will be based on completion of the assignments in a timely manner, posts to your blog, your final paper and an on-site final presentation.

Grade Percentiles

Weekly Blog 14 at 10 points each	140 points
Proposal	100 points
Literature Review	200 points
Attendance at Monthly Review Sessions	60 Points
Presentation of Final Paper	150 points
<u>Final Paper Grading Matrix</u>	<u>350 points</u>
TOTAL	1000 points

Using these criteria, your work will be assigned letter grades, which will be averaged by using the following scale: A = 900-1000 points, B = 800-899 points, C = 700-799 points, D = 600-699 points F = below 600 points. Points are rounded to the next highest whole number in determining the letter grade.

