Media Arts and Design

Department Website: https://cms.uchicago.edu/undergraduate/why-study-media-arts-and-design/major-media-arts-and-design

Program of Study

As new media continue to permeate every aspect of our existence, there is now little debate about the extent digital technologies intervene in our lives. Culture is exponentially evolving within an ecosystem defined by screens, networks, interfaces, databases, and algorithms. The impacts of digital and networked media design extend beyond individual products, giving form to our politics, social organization, and cognitive patterns. Criticality and self-reflexivity with the media we consume and the processes by which they are designed is essential to understanding and navigating our realities.

The Media Art and Design (MADD) program at the University of Chicago has positioned itself to advance this reflexivity, decipher emergent technologies and cultures, and foster design strategies that blend artistic experimentation with ethical engagement and analytical rigor to creatively address real-world problems.

The MADD program focuses on the rapid developments in media and design that have fundamentally transformed contemporary life, opening these phenomena up to historical study, theoretical critique, and hands-on experimentation. Specialized clusters are central to the program, offering students focal points within this expansive discipline—spanning creative computing, digital sound and music, expanded cinema, games, and media performance. These clusters not only embody the program’s commitment to a comprehensive and interdisciplinary education but also showcase the diverse expertise of the artists, designers, and practitioners leading MADD classes.

The Media Arts and Design curriculum fosters discussion, presentation, and writing skills, as well as creativity and design, enabling students to approach today’s media environment and design-driven industries with critical, historical, and cultural perspectives. The program aims to cultivate graduates who are not only adept at navigating the ambiguity and complexities of the current media environment, but are also prepared to be nimble innovators, critical makers, and bold creatives capable of reshaping it.

Media Arts and Design Practice - General Education in the Arts

MADD 26210 Media Art and Design Practice allows students to explore the MADD program as a part of their general education in the arts requirement. Affiliated with the humanities general education sequence Media Aesthetics, this course introduces students to design fundamentals, iterative making, and critical engagement with technology.

This studio-based course explores the practice, conventions, and boundaries of contemporary media art and design. This can encompass areas as diverse as interactive installation, app design, and the Internet meme. Through projects and critical discussion, students engage with the problems and opportunities of digitally driven content creation. Fundamental elements of digital production are introduced, including basic properties of image, video, and the global network. Further topics as varied as—though not limited to—web production, digital fabrication, interfaces, the glitch, and gaming may be considered. Sections will vary based on the instructor’s fields of expertise.

This course meets the general education requirement in the arts. This course may not double count for general education requirements and the Media Arts and Design minor. However, it is a great way for students to explore a potential interest in these areas.

Major Program in Media Arts and Design

The Media Arts and Design major nurtures nimble makers and critical thinkers, blending theory with playful experimentation. MADD graduates excel in diverse fields, ranging from indie game design and creative technology to arts education and entrepreneurship. Their contributions across industries underscore the adaptability of the MADD curriculum and the wide-ranging potential of their expertise, bridging art and technology.

Major Distribution Requirements

The Media Arts and Design major is an in-depth program requiring 12 courses in total. This includes: two Media Theory courses, two Media History courses, two Media Practice and Design courses, four electives, and two Capstone sequence courses.

Students may choose their electives from any category, enabling them to customize their educational experience in alignment with their personal interests and academic trajectory. The only stipulation is that elective courses must originate from MADD or hold a MADD crosslist.
The program culminates with the two-quarter Capstone Sequence, emphasizing design methodologies, project realization, and portfolio development. Students publicly showcase their creative work at a Spring Quarter exposition, highlighting their aptitude in Media Arts and Design.

Major program courses cannot fulfill general education requirements. They must be taken for quality grades, with more than half bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

**SENIOR CAPSTONE SEQUENCE**

As part of the Capstone Colloquium, students will work on creating a culminating capstone project and a portfolio. This comprehensive two-part sequence spans the Autumn and Winter Quarters of their fourth year, encompassing Methodologies and Production.

Students declaring their MADD major as of Autumn Quarter 2024 will be required to take both capstone courses. For students who declared in Spring Quarter 2024 or prior, it is strongly recommended that they take the full sequence. However, if scheduling constraints arise, they can arrange a meeting with the Director of Undergraduate Studies to explore alternative options.

**Capstone I: Methodologies**

The Methodologies course is a cornerstone of the Media Arts and Design program, designed to equip students with essential skills and strategies for creative project development. This course explores the intricacies of ideation, effective research, goal setting, design, and project scoping. Students learn to adapt and adjust their approaches, tackle challenges, and embrace diverse methods, fostering an environment of nimble experimentation. Methodologies serves as the foundation for students to conceptualize and iteratively evolve their ideas, setting the stage for successful project execution and portfolio development.

**Capstone II: Production**

The Production course is the culmination of the Media Arts and Design program, offering students hands-on experience in bringing their creative concepts to life. In this course, students delve into practical project execution, guided by experienced instructors and equipped with state-of-the-art tools and technologies. From video game design to Internet art, this studio course provides the opportunity for students to apply their skills, refine their projects, and focus on craftsmanship and articulation, preparing students for the Capstone exhibition and beyond.

**Capstone Projects**

The major capstone project must include one substantive work or a constellation of smaller related pieces designed for public presentation. These works can take the form of a developed video game or software art, an interactive, generative, or networked object, a media performance, a series of video essays, or other hypertext or hypermedia works. It can be a revision of a project initiated in a previous Media Arts and Design course or a new endeavor. Given the collaborative nature of Media Arts and Design, students have the option to work collaboratively. In addition to the practice-driven project, students are also required to theoretically and historically contextualize their work through documentation and portfolio development.

**Exhibition**

Capstone projects will be shared at an exhibition that takes place at the Media Arts, Data, and Design Center. This dynamic event happens in the Spring Quarter of students’ final year and will include both a showcase and presentations, which will give students experience displaying and discussing their work.

**Portfolio**

To complete the major, students must prepare a portfolio of digital media artworks and/or historical and theoretical writing that includes an artist statement, a project statement, and any supportive media documentation of their work. This portfolio requirement applies even if a student collaborates with others on certain projects, as it should showcase their individual contributions and creative growth.

**CLUSTERS**

Students majoring in Media Arts and Design have the ability to specialize in a specific area while still exploring the broader field. They will join “clusters” that reflect their main interest, and these clusters will help them achieve depth in a specific area.

Students are free to take courses within their interests, but should be prepared to align their Capstone project with a particular concentration by their fourth year. They are welcome and encouraged to discuss their course planning and possible concentrations with a MADD advisor, especially during the major declaration process in their third year. Students should aim to take at least three courses pertaining to their cluster across their studies in preparation for the Capstone sequence. Sample study paths are available here (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/cms/prod/2024-02/MAAD%20Cluster%20Worksheet.pdf).

The Media Arts and Design program (MADD) is an interdisciplinary program and currently offers the following clusters:

#### Creative Computing

Do you want to expand your creativity to an infinite canvas? In this cluster students will explore the expansive possibilities of the “meta-media” of computing, learning to harness its capacity to merge text, images, sound,

#### Digital Sound and Music
Are you driven to discover new dimensions in sound and music? In the Digital Sound and Music cluster, students delve into the world of digital sound production, learning techniques to compose and score for nonlinear media such as video games. This cluster goes beyond traditional music-making, inviting students to redefine its boundaries, creating sound installations, algorithmic instruments, and other innovative auditory experiences that challenge and expand our understanding of sound. Courses in this cluster are often cross-listed with the Music Department which has an Electronic Music Studio that students can take advantage of for their projects. Key faculty to note include David Bird (http://davidbird.tv/), Nick Briz (https://nickbriz.com/), Paula Harper (https://paulacareharper.com/), Jennifer Iverson (https://music.uchicago.edu/people/jennifer-iverson/), and Takashi Shallow (https://takashishallow.com/).

#### Expanded Cinema
Are you eager to take moving images beyond the traditional theater screen and narrative forms? In this cluster, students push moving images outside their typical frames exploring an assemblage of contexts including mixed reality (VR/AR), transmedia storytelling, video installation, and AV performance. This cluster is a creative playground for filmmakers interested in experimental, participatory, hypermedia and other non-linear modes of storytelling that engage audiences in unprecedented ways. Key faculty in this area include Marc Downie (http://openendedgroup.com/), Ian Jones (https://intermittentmechanism.blog/), Tom LaMarre (https://ealc.uchicago.edu/people/thomas-lamarre/), Daniel Morgan (https://cms.uchicago.edu/people/daniel-morgan/), AE Stevenson (https://cms.uchicago.edu/people/ae-stevenson/), and Scott Wolniak (https://scottwolniak.com/).

#### Games
Are you passionate about creating worlds, puzzles, and experiences that captivate and engage? In the Games cluster, students explore the vast universe of game design and development. Beyond video games, the cluster also explores the intricate design of card games, the imaginative realms of role-playing games, and the innovative landscapes of alternate reality games. Here, students learn to craft not just games, but compelling experiences, mastering the art of storytelling, strategy, and design to create interactive adventures that resonate with a diverse set of audiences and themes. Key faculty for this cluster include Katherine Buse (https://www.katherinebuse.com), Chris Carloy (https://cms.uchicago.edu/people/chris-carloy/), Patrick Jagoda (http://www.patrickjagoda.com/), Ian Jones (https://intermittentmechanism.blog/), and Ashlyn Sparrow (https://ashlynsparrow.com/).

#### Media Performance
Are you intrigued by the fusion of theater, play, and cutting-edge media technologies? The Media Performance cluster offers a unique blend of traditional performance arts with the dynamic realms of digital media. In this cluster, students dive into the world of experimental audio-visual real-time performances, exploring how technology can augment and transform the theatrical experience. Key faculty for this cluster include Heidi Coleman (https://taps.uchicago.edu/people/heidi-coleman/), Patrick Jagoda (http://www.patrickjagoda.com/), Rasean Davonté Johnson (http://www.raseandavontejohnson.com/), John Muse (https://english.uchicago.edu/people/john-muse/), Jon Satrom (https://jonsatrom.com/), and Sandor Weisz (https://www.mysteryleague.com).

### SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS: MAJOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Media Theory Courses</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Media History Courses</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Media Practice and Design Courses</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Electives</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capstone Sequence: Methodologies and Production</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio and Capstone Exhibition</td>
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</tr>
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<td><strong>Total Units</strong></td>
<td><strong>1200</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### DECLARING A MADD MAJOR
In their second year, students interested in majoring in Media Arts and Design should schedule a meeting with either the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the Associate Director to collaboratively plan their future coursework. By the Spring Quarter of their third year, all students are expected to submit a major program worksheet (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/cms/prod/2024-02/MAAD%20Major%20Approval%20Form.pdf) to the department. This worksheet is designed to outline their proposed course of study and is not a binding contract. It will be reviewed and adjusted as needed.

Participation in the major must be declared to the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the subsequent approved paperwork should be sent to the student’s College adviser for official registration.
DOUBLE MAJORS WITH MEDIA ARTS AND DESIGN

Students double majoring in Media Arts and Design and another major can count a maximum of four courses towards both majors, pending approval from both departments. However, no part of the Capstone Colloquium Sequence may be replaced by an analogous course in the other major, given the uniqueness of the MADD Colloquium and its importance to community building. Thus, double majors may have to take multiple capstone courses to fulfill both program requirements.

MINOR IN MEDIA ARTS AND DESIGN

The Media Arts and Design minor complements any major by infusing it with critical digital literacy and creative skills. It equips students to blend their primary field of study with innovative media practices, enhancing their ability to navigate and contribute to the digital landscape. Through hands-on exploration and interdisciplinary coursework, students in the MADD minor learn to articulate complex ideas creatively, bridging art and technology. This approach not only diversifies their academic experience but also amplifies their professional value in a rapidly evolving world.

Distribution Requirement

The minor requires six courses in total. Students must complete one course each in Media Theory and Media History. Additionally, two courses are required in Media Practice and Design. The remaining two elective courses can be chosen from any category, enabling students to customize their educational experience in alignment with their personal interests and academic trajectory. The only stipulation is that elective courses must originate from MADD or hold a MADD crosslist.

Minor program courses cannot be double counted with other majors or minors and cannot fulfill general education requirements. They must be taken for quality grades, with over half bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

Portfolio

To complete the minor, students must prepare a portfolio of digital media artworks and/or historical and theoretical writing that they submit by the end of Winter Quarter of their final year.

Alternative Capstone Colloquium Sequence

MADD minors can selectively participate in the Media Arts and Design Capstone Sequence. The sequence begins with the Methodologies course, which delves into the technical aspects of creative project development. Students may choose to take this course on its own as an elective. Alternatively, those who complete Methodologies have the option to progress to MADD Production, a practice-focused course that builds upon the foundations laid in Methodologies. Upon completion of this sequence, students will have the option to exhibit in the Spring Quarter exposition.

The Capstone sequence can replace the following minor requirements: Methodologies will count as an elective, and Production will fulfill one of the practice requirements. Students not interested in doing the Capstone sequence will take the minor requirements as normal.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS: MINOR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>One Media Theory Course</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Media History Course</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Media Practice and Design Courses</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Electives</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>600</td>
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</table>

DECLARING A MADD MINOR

Students interested in declaring a minor in Media Arts and Design should fill out the Consent to Complete a Minor Program form (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent_Minor_Program.pdf) and email it to the Director of Undergraduate Studies or Associate Director. This form must then be returned to the student's College adviser by the end of Spring Quarter of the student's third year.

MINOR TO MAJOR AND MAJOR TO MINOR

Student circumstances change, and a transfer between the major and minor programs may be desirable to students who begin a course of study in either program. Students should consult with their College adviser if considering such a transfer and must update their planned program of study with the Director of Undergraduate Studies or Associate Director in Media Arts and Design.

ADVISING AND GRADING

In this choose-your-own-path program, academic advising plays a crucial role in helping students navigate the diverse clusters and combinations of practices. The Director of Undergraduate Studies, Associate Director,
and Program Manager support students in making informed choices that align with their individual interests, career aspirations, and creative goals. Advising sessions are an opportunity for students to explore the multitude of paths within the program and chart a course that is uniquely tailored.

All courses within the program must be taken for quality grades, reflecting a commitment to academic rigor and fostering the highest level of achievement.

**Course Petitions**

Students may find themselves in a situation where a non-MADD listed course aligns closely with MADD approaches or subject matter and they wish to include it in their course plan. To address such situations, students have the option to petition for the inclusion of non-MADD courses. To initiate this process, students are required to complete a course petition form (https://airtable.com/app544DiQ5UXnomll/shrLfMb4xfy84J7y/). Within the form, students should provide relevant course materials or coursework that demonstrates the alignment of the non-MADD course with MADD approaches. Each petition will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine its suitability for inclusion in the student’s program of study.

**Honors**

Program honors are awarded by the faculty in Media Arts and Design on the basis of a GPA of 3.5 or above and assessment of their Capstone project. Program honors are awarded only to the most exceptional projects from a given cohort, meaning that the majority of students may not receive this designation.

**Course Numbering Guide**

Each MADD course is given a unique number that corresponds to the requirement it fulfills.

- 10000–14999: Media Theory
- 15000–19999: Media History
- 20000–24999: Media Practice and Design
- 25000–28999: Electives or One-Off Courses

**Media Arts and Design Courses**

**MADD 10002. Discovering Anthropology: Culture, Technology, Mediation. 100 Units.**

This course introduces students to some of the major themes and theoretical questions posed in and by anthropology over the last century through the conceptual and experiential matrix of technology and mediation. Our intellectual journey will take us from techniques of magic through technologies of spatiotemporal organization, communication, and exchange. We will explore the formation of the body, social, individual, and mass as expressions of the culture of mediation and the mediation of culture. Readings from the course will cover a broad intellectual terrain that combines seminal anthropological texts with arguments from media theory and the philosophy of technology.

Instructor(s): M. Fisch Terms Offered: TBD
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 32145, ANTH 20002

**MADD 10006. Contemporary Art. 100 Units.**

This course will consider the practice and theory of visual art in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Among the subjects that will drive our narrative will be the rise of postmodernism, pop art, the aesthetics of the social movements of the 1960s, institutional critique, the relationship between reproductive media and Feminism, the concept of spectacle, conceptual art, the appearance of a global art industry after 1989, the connections between art school and art-making, "relational aesthetics," the fate of art in the age of the Internet, the art of the post-studio moment, and what happens to art when it engages with "everything".

Instructor(s): M. Jackson Terms Offered: Spring
Note(s): Students must attend first class to confirm enrollment. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 15800, ARTV 20006

**MADD 10110. Intro to Porn Studies. 100 Units.**

This course is a multi-media introduction to the Western history and study of the mode/label/genre of aesthetic production called pornography and its other appearances as "obscenity," "erotica," "porn," "filth," "art," "adult," "hardcore," "softcore," "trash," and "extremity." We will study how others have approached this form, how they have sought to control it, uplift it, analyze it, destroy it, take it seriously, or learn to live with it. This course is both an introduction to the academic field of "porn studies" and to its equal and opposite: the endless repository of historical and current attempts to get pornography out of the way, to keep it somewhere else out of sight, to destroy it, or to deem it unworthy of study. We begin with a conversation about what the stakes are and have been in studying porn and how we might go about doing it, and then move through history and media technologies beginning with the category of pornography's invention with regards to drawings from Pompeii. The course is meant to introduce students to various forms pornography has taken, various historical moments in its sociocultural existence, and various themes that have continued to trouble or enchant looking at pornography. The goal of this course is not to make an argument for or against porn wholesale, but to give students the ability to take this contentious form and its continued life seriously, intelligently, and ethically. (Theory)

Instructor(s): Gabriel Ojeda-Sague Terms Offered: Spring
MADD 10199. Digital Ethnography. 100 Units.

This methods course prepares students for ethnographic research in an online environment. We will discuss practical steps to put together a research project—from research design to data collection and analysis. We will cover epistemological, ethical, and practical matters in online ethnographic research, and read articles and books showcasing methods for the study of virtual worlds (both game and nongame). This is a hands-on methods course: you will be required to formulate a preliminary research question at the beginning of the course, and you will conduct a few weeks of ethnographic research in a virtual field site of your choosing. Each week you will be asked to complete short ethnographic assignments, and to produce field notes to be exchanged and discussed in class. As a final project, you will have a choice between a research proposal or a short paper based on your observations.

Instructor(s): Cate Fugazzola Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 23143, ENGL 10110

MADD 10245. Serious Play: Video Games and Global Politics. 100 Units.

This course approaches video games as cultural and political artifacts that can be studied to shed light on global political events and processes. Questions we will explore throughout the course include: How do we understand the relationship between video games and global capitalism? What can video games tell us about large-scale processes such as climate change, migration, war…? How do we understand issues of representation in gaming? What do video games have to do with international relations? We will approach video games from a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives, analyzing them as a form of entertainment but also as forms of art, as political objects, as reflections of social dynamics, and as channels for social critique and change. The course does not require any previous gaming knowledge nor experience, and it welcomes gamers and non-gamers interested in exploring the relationship between games and global politics.

Instructor(s): Caterina Fugazzola Terms Offered: Spring

Note(s): This course does not require any previous gaming knowledge nor experience and it welcomes gamers and non-gamers interested in explored the relationship between games and global politics

Equivalent Course(s): GLST 25245

MADD 10325. Setting Sound Standards: Music, Media, and Censorship in South Asia. 100 Units.

This course aims to introduce students to various musical and performance traditions in South Asia and their evolution within regimes of institutional, legal and media censorship. The course aims to understand how media environments and cultures of censorship are in some ways fundamental to shaping performance cultures in South Asia in the twentieth century. How do traditions of musical performance entrenched in the politics of caste, communalism, religion, sexuality and gender interact with regimes of censorship and new media? How do the latter remake and unmake said traditions? Be it the mid-century ban on film music by All India Radio to reflect the aspirations of a newly-emerging nation or the appropriation and urbanization of ‘folk’ musical practices within the recording studios in Nepal by upper-caste, upper-class male performers- censorship and media infrastructures have been integral to the current ontologies of diverse musical genres in South Asia. Through the analysis of a variety of primary and secondary texts on performance and musical aesthetics, media and music ethnographies, reception and production histories as well as critical listening/viewing exercises, this course seeks to complicate mainstream Euro-American narratives that tend to posit media-modernities as global and uniform. We will seek to understand how South Asian musical cultures and sound practices enter into a creative interplay with musical discourses and media-materialities emerging in the West.

Instructor(s): Ronit Ghosh Terms Offered: Autumn

Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 23322, SALC 25325, TAPS 20215

MADD 10430. Gender, Sexuality, Imagination. 100 Units.

This course explores the relationships between theories of imagination and those of gender and sexuality, with a particular emphasis on the relevance of this exploration to cinema and media studies.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 30430, GNSE 20430, GNSE 30430, CMST 20430

MADD 10440. Desiring Machines: Artificial Intelligence in Contemporary Media. 100 Units.

Artificial intelligence is a cross-disciplinary field that seeks to imagine and develop machines able to reproduce, automate and exceed the cognitive and sensorial capabilities of biological organisms. This course will trace the conceptual genealogies that inform contemporary AI, and it will interrogate the uses and abuses of AI within social, legal, medical and creative contexts. Course materials will include a diverse array of media and theory including: Soma, 2001: A Space Odyssey, Alien, Deus Ex: Human Revolution, Natural Born Cyborgs, Ex Machina, War in the Age of Intelligent Machines, Speculative Everything, A Natural History of the Enigma, etc… No prior familiarity with AI or computation is necessary. In lieu of a traditional midterm and final, this course will ask students to develop a series of speculative design projects that imagine new intelligent organisms and their worlds. (Fiction, Theory)

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 15440

MADD 10507. Gender, Race, and Horror. 100 Units.

This course will contend with the ways that horror as a film genre constructs and deconstructs notions of gender and race in society. We will attend to texts across decades and subgenres that will illustrate how gender and race are made and regulated through notions of confusion, fear, and repulsion. By attending to these universal human feelings, students will learn how emotions are evoked through the construction of the text, its portrayal...
of the disruption of gender norms and its construction of racial boundaries. Students will learn the necessary vocabulary and methodologies to be able to critically analyze (audio)visual texts. In order to do this, students will be guided through how to construct argumentative critical papers through proper utilization of grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. By the end of the course, students will be well versed in cinematographic terms such that they will be able to critically analyze texts to understand the impact of perspective, interpretation, and judgment. This course is meant to help students navigate and make sense of an increasingly scary world by learning to appreciate fear as a necessary human expression. Finally, and most importantly, students will be able to engage with the age-old notion of terror to be able lead a more ethical and intellectually richer life.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25507, GNSE 20132, CMST 35507

MADD 10513. Beyond Hashtags: Social Movements in Digital Society. 100 Units.
In today's global network society, the Internet permeates our lives, whether it be our jobs, politics, or relationships. You're probably reading this course description online, and perhaps next you'll check your email or social media accounts. Social movements, powerful drivers of social change, are no exception. Digital activism has transformed political and social protest over the past two decades, changing how events, protests, and movements are organized and generating alternative ways to build social movements. Students will receive an introduction to sociological perspectives on social movements and the Internet, and consider the influence of networked communication technologies on the mobilization of social movements throughout the globe, with particular emphasis on feminist, queer/trans, human rights, and racial equity movements.

Equivalent Course(s): SOCI 20513, GNSE 20513, CRES 20513

MADD 10523. Digital Media & Social Life: Contemporary Methods. 100 Units.
Digital and networked media include forms and social phenomena such as memes, social media, live-streaming platforms, video games, virtual worlds, electronic literature, and online communities. What methods taken from the humanities and social sciences enable the study of these digital media forms and cultures? In order to model a series of methods, this course runs one shared media object (this term, the video game Stardew Valley) through a series of research methods, one per week, taken from the humanities (e.g., close reading, critical theory, response theory, and critical making) and social sciences (e.g., interviews, digital ethnography, discourse analysis, and quantitative analysis) methods. At the end of the course, students will compose a research paper or create a digital project that uses one or more of these methods to analyze a digital or networked media case of their choosing.

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 20523, CMST 27808, GNSE 27808, SOCI 20523

MADD 10567. Introduction to Computational Sociology. 100 Units.
Advances in machine learning, high performance computing, and big data are opening exciting new ways of doing social science. This course introduces students to the burgeoning field of computational sociology, emphasizing both conceptual understanding and hands-on training. The course does not require any prior experience with coding, computer science, or statistics. The only requirement is that students have fluency in high-school mathematics (pre-calculus) and an interest in acquiring computational skills. Students will learn the basics of R and Python, and will gain practical experience with simulation modeling, computational text analysis, and neural networks. This course will pair a practical training in computational methods with a critical examination of how these technologies are being deployed in the real world and their roles in reproducing systems of power and inequality. This class is recommended for students who want a basic introduction to "data science" and who are seeking the conceptual knowledge necessary to participate in current debates over information technology in contemporary society.

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 20567, SOCI 20567

MADD 10603. What Is Animation? 100 Units.
This course will provide students with an introduction to the objects and theories of animation.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 35603, CMST 25603

MADD 10605. Queer and Trans Cinema and Media. 100 Units.
In this course we explore the history of queer and transgender cinema and media in an effort to situate new developments in queer and trans cinema and media making. We will consider relevant theories about gender and sexuality and their implications for our categories of film and media analysis.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 30605, CMST 26065, GNSE 30107, GNSE 20107

MADD 10871. Horror, Abjection, and the Monstrous Feminine. 100 Units.
This course explores cinematic and literary works of horror (the uncanny, gothic, sci-fi, paranormal, psychological thriller, killer/slasher, gore) from around the world. As a mode of speculative fiction, the genre envisions possible or imagined worlds that amplify curiosities, dreads, fears, terrors, phobias, and paranoias which simultaneously repel and attract. Horror frequently explores the boundaries of what it means to be human by dwelling on imaginaries of the non-human and other. It often exploits the markers of difference that preoccupy our psychic, libidinal, and social lifeworlds-such as race, class, gender, and sexuality, but also the fundamental otherness that is other peoples' minds and bodies. Interrogating the genre's tension between desire and fear, our course will focus on the centrality of abjection and the monstrous feminine-as both thematic and aesthetic tropes-to works of horror. Films and fiction will be paired with theoretical readings that contextualize the genre of horror while considering its critical implications in relation to biopolitical and geopolitical forms of power. Content Warning: Course materials will feature graphic, violent, and oftentimes disturbing images and subjects. Enrolled students will be expected to watch, read, and discuss all course materials.
MADD 10904. Media Wars. 100 Units.
Media practices and discourses evoking war or violence are common today, such as the “weaponization” of social media; “cyber warfare” and attacks; “online battlefields;” “guerilla” media tactics; “The Great Meme War” and “Infowars.com,” to name a few. In relationship with terms suggesting that we live in an age of “post-truth” dominated by “fake news” or “fact-challenged” journalism, the media wars of today may seem unique to the twenty-first century. But in fact, the history of the use of media to either combat or spread ideas dates back centuries to the earliest phases of mass media and communication. In this class, we will proceed historically, broadly conceiving of media to include print and visual, cultural, and artistic forms, cinema, television, and the internet. While we will explore how media have historically been used to construct or counter dominant systems of representation, we will also discuss how different media forms function formally, learning to analyze how they construct discourses of truth as texts (documentary; propaganda). This class will also function as a contemporary research laboratory where students will be asked to track, evaluate, and theorize contemporary or historical media that are taking part in a so-called “media war.”
Equivalent Course(s): CMLT 28904, CRES 19940, GNSE 19940

MADD 10906. Contemporary Cinematic Special Effects. 100 Units.
The highest-grossing films of the twenty-first century are, without exception, showcases for special effects. How did special effects become so central to mass-audience movies? What are the consequences of this shift? In this course, we will track the historical and stylistic development of contemporary effects-driven filmmaking, bridging practitioner discourse by effects industry workers with the theories of cinema and media scholars. While our screenings will primarily comprise narrative feature films, we will also explore how special effects draw upon diverse media forms and practices, including experimental cinema, installation art, amusement parks, television advertising, and, above all, digital technologies. Screenings will include Hollywood blockbusters (e.g., The Matrix [1999]), “failed” blockbusters (e.g., Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within [2001]), and effects-driven films from other national/regional cinemas (e.g., The Mermaid [China, 2016]).
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28906

MADD 10940. Reading Reality TV: How to Research Identity in Contemporary Culture. 100 Units.
This course examines the cultural politics of reality television with a focus on how these wildly successful shows, often perceived as guilty pleasures, have in fact been responsible for mediating important conversations around issues of race, gender, and sexuality. This course is also a survey of reality tv, conceived simultaneously as an artifact and an archive of pop culture and mainstream politics. We will start with the “first” reality tv show An American Family, which aired in 1971, and examine the emergence of reality tv from genres of documentary and cinema vérité (such as Andy Warhol’s Chelsea Girls, Grey Gardens, and Candid Camera). We will then analyze the advent of so-called unscripted television of the 1990s and early 2000s with special attention to shows like The Real World, Queer Eye, Laguna Beach: The Real O.C., Judge Judy, and The Apprentice. We will also consider more contemporary shows like Keeping Up with the Kardashians, RuPaul’s Drag Race, The Real Housewives, and 90 Day Fiancé. Student interest will factor into our selection. Above all, students will develop practical skills of research and methodology. In addition viewing shows and reading theorists of identity and media, students will craft individual research projects about specific shows throughout the term, culminating in a symposium.
(1830-1940, Theory)
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 19940, GNSE 19940

MADD 10950. Filth as Genre. 100 Units.
Is “filth” a genre? This course examines literary texts from antiquity to today that have been dismissed as smut, pulp, and/or trash in either their contemporary moment or reception, and it asks how we might develop as a class a theory of filth. Syllabus materials will range from Catullus’s sparrow poems to Richard Crashaw’s excremental poetry to Charlotte Brontë’s Jane Eyre-labeled a “naughty book” to contemporary objects such as: the romance novel (incl. the works of Melissa Blue, E.L. James, and Beverly Jenkins); film (John Waters’ Trash Trilogy, Mark Robson’s Valley of the Dolls); and online fanfiction databases. The course also provides an introduction to genre theory: we will explore established literary categories, with attention to intertextuality and periodization, and consider the construction of genre more broadly. (Pre-1650, Theory)
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 19950, ENGL 19950

MADD 10992. Metapictures. 100 Units.
This course is based on an exhibition that was first staged at the Overseas Contemporary Art Terminal in Beijing in the fall of 2018, and subsequently re-enacted at the Royal Academy in Brussels in the spring of 2020. The exhibition explores “pictures within pictures,” images that reflect on the nature of image-making, across a range of media and genres. A virtual version of the exhibition is available on the Prezi platform, and a physical installation, supported by the Smart Museum, will be installed in the Media Arts Data and Design Center (MADD). Visual materials for the course include paintings and drawings, diagrams, models of the visual process, image “atlases,” multi-stable images, cinematic and literary representations of images nested within narratives. The readings for the course will include Michel Foucault on Velasquez’s Las Meninas, Walter Benjamin on “dialectical images,” C. S. Peirce on iconicity, Nelson Goodman on analog and digital codes, and Georges Didi-Huberman on Aby Warburg’s Mnemosyne Bilderatlas. Students will be encouraged to explore traditional examples of metapictures such as the Duck-Rabbit (canonized by Gombrich and Wittgenstein) or to investigate newly emergent forms of self-reflective media. Guest lectures will be given by Patrick Jagoda on experimental...
games and Hillary Chute on comics and graphic narrative; these might be coordinated with the Media Aesthetics sequence in the fall term, which focuses on the question of the image.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 30022, ARTH 39992, ENGL 49992, CMST 27505, ARTH 29992, ENGL 29992, CMST 37505, ARTV 20022

MADD 11004. Afrofuturism. 100 Units.
This course focuses on audio-visual cultural productions that have been or might be considered under the rubric of "Afrofuturism," with particular attention to the aesthetic, social, political, and/or cultural contributions and interventions they make.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 21004

MADD 11005. Problems in the Study of Gender and Sexuality: Media Wars. 100 Units.
In our contemporary moment, we have become accustomed to terms such as 'counter-terrorism' that signal an effort to resist internal and external threats, and those suggesting that we live in an age of 'post-truth' dominated by 'corporate-media,' 'fake news,' and 'fact-challenged' journalism. Taking this platform as our starting place, this class explores how these terms and their use have been gendered; have situated both gender and sexuality as either weapons of resistance or objects of destruction. This class will be historically organized insofar as we will begin our discussion with ways that media - broadly conceived to include cinema, print and visual-cultural forms, television, and the internet - have aimed to 'counter' patriarchal, heteronormative, and hegemonic systems of representation of gender and sexuality.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 20400, CMST 40400, GNSE 11005, GNSE 31105

MADD 11015. Media, Culture & Society. 100 Units.
This course is a theoretical and ethnographic overview of past, current, and future directions of anthropological research on the mass media. We study issues as diverse as projects of media representation and cultural conservation among indigenous peoples, the relationship of mass media to nationalism across the world, the social life of journalism and news making in an era of new technologies and ownership consolidation, and current debates over the role of mass media.
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 21015

MADD 11314. Fluxus and the Question of Media. 100 Units.
The course investigates the international Fluxus network of the 1960's and 70's from a media perspective. Often identified with the concept of "intermedia" launched in a 1966 text by artist, writer and publisher Dick Higgins, Fluxus artists seemed at pain to distinguish their work from the multimedia or gesamtkunstwerk approaches of the Happening artists, seeking instead to formulate a mode of working between or even beyond media. Underpinned by a desire to pass beyond the work of art itself, this was a complex position that had profound implications for their approaches to technologies and practices such as film, video, computing, sound/music, theatre, poetry and image-making. We will try to map the various facets of this position, with particular emphasis on its relation to another key Fluxus concept: the work as event.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27804, ARTH 21314, CMST 37804, ARTH 31314

MADD 11315. Introduction to Art, Technology, and Media. 100 Units.
The course gives an introduction to the relationship between art, media, and technology, as articulated in art practice, media theory, and art theory/history. The key focus is the relationship between 20th-century art and so-called "new media" (from photography, film, radio, TV to computers and digital technologies), but older instances of art- and media-historical perspectives will also be discussed. The objective of the course is to give insight into the historical exchanges between art and technological development, as well as critical tools for discussing the concept of the medium and the relationship between art, sensation/perception, visuality, and mediation. The course will also function as an introduction to the fields of media aesthetics and media archaeology.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 31315, CMST 27815, CMST 37815, ARTH 21315

MADD 11320. Philippe Parreno's Media Temporalities. 100 Units.
In the 2013 exhibition "Anywhere, Anywhere Out of the World," the French artist Philippe Parreno (b. 1964) turned the monumental space of the Palais de Tokyo in Paris into a living, evolving organism, where music, light, films, images, and performances led visitors through a precisely choreographed journey of discovery, based on the idiosyncratic body of work that he had created since the early 1990s. This course is devoted to an in-depth study of Parreno's work and the highly original form of media thinking that informs it. Rather than focusing on the properties of distinct media or on multimedial forms or presentation, his works explore the new forms of life and social existence that result from the various ways in which 20th- and 21st-century media technologies store, manipulate, and produce time. This is a form of thinking and artistic creation that addresses the realities of formats, programs, and platforms rather than media apparatuses and messages, and that engages everything from architecture and design to social situations, natural worlds, and virtual beings. (The course will be taught in collaboration with Jörn Schafaff).
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 31320, CMST 23412, ARTH 21320, CMST 33412

MADD 12005. Filming the Police. 100 Units.
Filming the police as a research topic has been taken up in a range of disciplines and subfields from legal and information studies to surveillance and police studies. In film and media studies, the 1991 George Holliday video of the beating of Rodney King by the LAPD played an important and controversial role in the formation
of documentary studies as a subfield and in debates about indexicality, the nature of photographic evidence, and realism-issues at the core of the discipline. While this course will survey the topic of the filming of police from multiple perspectives, it aims to construct a specifically disciplinary framework for research on police violence. Topics to include dashboard and body cameras; surveillance, sousveillance, and the regime of visibility; investigative and citizen journalism; records management and archiving; evidence in court proceedings and in the public sphere; police, media, and ideology; the ethics and politics of looking at black suffering; art about police violence; filming the police in an international frame.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37005, HMRT 27005, CMST 27005, HMRT 37005

MADD 12043. The Aesthetics of Artificial Intelligence. 100 Units.

With the emergence of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, DALL-E, and Midjourney, the production of computer-generated content has become accessible to a wide range of users and use cases. Knowledge institutions are particularly challenged to find adequate responses to changing notions of authorship as the mainstreaming of ‘artificial’ texts, audio-visual artifacts, and code is transforming our paradigms of communication in real-time. This course offers a survey of scholarship from the nascent field of critical AI studies to investigate the impact of AI, machine learning, and big data on knowledge production, representation, and consumption. In addition to theoretical discussions, we will conduct research-creation experiments aimed at documenting and evaluating emerging methods of AI-augmented content creation across text, image, and sound. Prospective students should demonstrate a substantial interest in media art and design and its connections to digital humanities, critical theory, and pedagogy. Experience with artistic and/or engineering practice is a plus. Please submit a 300 word max statement of interest to uhl@uchicago.edu by 12/22 in order to be considered for enrollment.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 26043, CMST 36043, KNOW 26043, KNOW 36043, MACS 36043, ANTH 36043, CHSS 36043, HIPS 26043, CMST 26043

MADD 12079. Mass Media in Semiotic Perspective. 100 Units.

Mass media are commonly understood as channels for public information, expression, and debate. Yet, mass media technologies also serve governmental and corporate actors as instruments for shaping public opinion and behavior. In this undergraduate course, we will explore this and related problems from a semiotic perspective, with special attention to the dynamic relations between state, market, culture, and language at work in projects of mass communication. We will study several theories and empirical cases (both historical and contemporary) of mass mediation. Topics will include the role of mass media in nation-state formation and control; the role of mass media in cultural and linguistic assimilation; and group subjectivity and solidarity within media publics.

Instructor(s): Christopher Bloechl
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 22079, LING 22079

MADD 12151. Anthropology of Media. 100 Units.

This course follows a historical arc from the advent of analog media in the early 20th century to the rise of contemporary networked digital culture with the aim of introducing students to major themes and theoretical questions at the intersection of media theory and anthropology of media. We will pay particular attention to transformations of the body, social, individual, and warfare in expressions of the culture of mediation and the mediation of culture as we consider technologies of transportation, communication, production, consumption, distribution, and exchange. Readings from the course will cover a broad intellectual terrain that combines seminal anthropological texts with arguments from media theory and the philosophy of technology. We will also be exploring a number of films.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 22151

MADD 12208. Posthuman Becoming. 100 Units.

This course introduces recent developments and advanced approaches in critical posthumanist thought. We will explore emerging theories and practices that renegotiate the human condition through critical inquiry into posthuman desires and the complicated relationship between human and non-human ‘others,’ including animals, plants and micro-organisms, waste and toxins, artificial life, and hyperobjects. By engaging diverse viewpoints that map the stakes of a non-anthropocentric politics of culture, such as new materialism, object-oriented ontology, and speculative realism, but also eco-feminism, queer performativity, and Indigenous epistemology, we will explore emerging techniques of mediation, communication, and representation that surrender to the relational identities of a posthuman becoming. A central premise of this exploration is post-disciplinary ways of knowing that make such imaginaries visible: in addition to discussing a substantial body of contemporary scholarship from the arts, humanities, and humanistic social sciences, the course includes a studio module that introduces a variety of research-creation methodologies for experimentation with curatorial, artistic, and activist practices.

Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 32208, ENST 22207, ANTH 32208, ARTV 30702

MADD 12312. Virtual Theaters. 100 Units.

This course probes the nature and limits of theater by exploring a range of theatrical texts from various centuries whose relation to performance is either partially or fully virtual, including philosophical dialogues, closet dramas, drama on social media, remote online theater on platforms like Zoom, algorithmic and AI theater, mixed reality performance, and transmedia performance. One unit of the course attends to experiments in remote theater since the COVID-19 pandemic. (20th/21st)

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 32312, TAPS 32312
MADD 12320. Critical Videogame Studies. 100 Units.
Since the 1960s, games have arguably blossomed into the world’s most profitable and experimental medium. This course attends specifically to video games, including popular arcade and console games, experimental art games, and educational serious games. Students will analyze both the formal properties and sociopolitical dynamics of video games. Readings by theorists such as Ian Bogost, Roger Caillois, Alenda Chang, Nick Dyer-Witheford, Mary Flanagan, Jane McGonigal, Soraya Murray, Lisa Nakamura, Amanda Phillips, and Trea Andrea Russworm will help us think about the growing field of video game studies. Students will have opportunities to learn about game analysis and apply these lessons to a collaborative game design project. Students need not be technologically gifted or savvy, but a wide-ranging imagination and interest in digital media or game cultures will make for a more exciting quarter. This is a 2021-22 Signature Course in the College. (Literary/Critical Theory)
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 12320, GNSE 22320, CMST 27916, SIGN 26038

MADD 12350. Black Game Theory. 100 Units.
This course explores games created by, for, or about the Black diaspora, though with particular emphasis on the United States. We will analyze mainstream “AAA” games, successful independent and art games, and educational games. Beyond video games, we will take a comparative media studies perspective that juxtaposes video games with novels, films, card games, board games, and tabletop roleplaying games. Readings will be drawn from writing by Frantz Fanon, Noah Wardrip-Fruin, Lindsay Grace, Saidiya Hartman, Sarah Juliet Lauro, Achille Mbembe, Fred Moten, Frank B. Wilderson, and others.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 22352, RDIN 22350, ENGL 32352, CDIN 32350, RDIN 32350, CMST 22350, CMST 32350

MADD 12351. The Sonic Image. 100 Units.
The Sonic Image offers a unique opportunity to work with three senior researchers exploring the bridge-making and sense delimiting articulations of sound & sight together. We will examine the potency of sound in a world largely understood through its visualization as a world picture. Readings in sound studies, visual studies & media studies explore sound, sounds that evoke pictures, the forensics of sound, sound art, & films including The Conversation, Blow Out & Amour. Each faculty collaborator brings distinct interests to the course. WJT Mitchell’s renowned theorization of images naturally extends to his theorizing the possibility of the sonic image. Artist Lawrence Abu Hamdan’s commitment to the value of earwitnessing asks the listener to extend forensic knowledge to the very core of what it means to be a human being in the world. For the course, Hamdan will develop a workshop comprising a series of practical exercises that experiment with the conditions of testimony or claim making, enabling an exploration of how the law come to its truths and how can we use sonic imagination to trouble & contest established modes of enacting justice. Performance scholar, Hannah B Higgins, examines how musical notation, performance & sound bear on the relationships between sound & vision in recent art practices. An intervention from composer Janice Misurell-Mitchell will add a dimension of musical testimony to our investigation.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20351, CMLT 22351, TAPS 22351, TAPS 32351, ENGL 42351, CMLT 42351, ARTH 32351, ARTV 40351, ARTH 22351, ENGL 22351

MADD 12355. Sounding Bodies. 100 Units.
This course will situate sound studies and social aesthetics in the corporeal techniques of expanded listening, particularly when the artistic medium of sound crosses the boundaries of the brain, body, architectural space, and material objects. As auditory culture has moved from the concert hall and music venue into galleries, museums, outdoor public spaces, and digital contexts, cultural practitioners have been prompted to ask how bodies perceive, understand, and evaluate the sounds they encounter. With a rich literature on sound, space, and embodiment, this course will not only survey sonic works in music and the gallery arts but also the ways that technological advancements have changed performance, exhibition, and the perceptual capabilities of bodies.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 18355

MADD 12360. Introduction to Video Game Music Studies. 100 Units.
This course will offer an overview of current studies in video game music, a relatively new and interdisciplinary academic field. Through reading, listening, and playing, students will explore how and why music is incorporated into video games, as well as the relationship between games and other kinds of musical multimedia. Students will also have the opportunity to compose their own music. No background in music is required. This course counts towards the Media Theory requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 12422. Hearing Popular Music. 100 Units.
For decades, popular music has been the soundtrack to many Americans’ lives. This class explores the structure, function, and impact of a range of vernacular musics from the 20th and 21st centuries. Our approach to popular music will be by turns historical, analytical, and sociological. Students will learn about formal designs of pop songs, from verse-chorus to much more elaborate structures, along with antecedents in the Great American Songbook tradition. Students will learn to analyze the harmonic and melodic conventions in various genres, and also spend significant time with groove analysis and design. Finally, the class will interrogate the sociological relevance of vernacular musics, weaving in discussions of relevant social issues from radio play to popularity, and from subcultural appeal to racial identity. This class is open to anyone who listens carefully and with passion, and who wants to grow their ability to write about music. Experience as a practitioner of any type of music and/or a passing knowledge of music theory will be helpful, but it is not necessary to read notated music for this course.
MADD 12500. Video Games and Language. 100 Units.
Video games are written in code. They are inscribed into a computer’s memory. Critics, designers, and enthusiasts alike refer to their mechanics as "verbs," like Super Mario's JUMP or Minecraft's BUILD. Sometimes, like other kinds of media objects, video games themselves are referred to as "texts." Starting from these premises, this course will investigate why it makes sense to use this linguistic vocabulary to describe video games. We will consider what theories of language have to teach us about video games, and what video games have to teach us about language itself and the worlds it reveals to us. Readings will include philosophers of language like Ludwig Wittgenstein and Jacques Derrida, digital media scholars like McKenzie Wark and Bo Ruberg, and literary writers like Jorge Luis Borges and Clarice Lispector. This will be a reading- and writing-heavy course: class meetings will consist of discussion of readings, and assignments will generally take the form of written responses and critical essays. Video games (or recorded video game playthroughs) may be assigned alongside films, video clips, and podcasts at low or no cost to students. This class does not require any special knowledge of video games or gaming culture! An interest in the topic is all that’s needed to succeed.

MADD 12800. Theories of Media. 100 Units.
This course will explore the concept of media and mediation in very broad terms, looking not only at modern technical media and mass media, but at the very idea of a medium as a means of communication, a set of institutional practices, and a habitat in which images proliferate and take on a "life of their own." The course will deal as much with ancient as with modern media, with writing, sculpture, and painting as well as television and virtual reality. Readings will include classic texts such as Plato’s Allegory of the Cave and Cratylus, Aristotle’s Poetics, and modern texts such as Marshall McLuhan’s Understanding Media, Regis Debray’s Mediology, and Friedrich Kittler’s Gramophone, Film, Typewriter. We will explore questions such as the following: What is a medium? What is the relation of technology to media? How do media affect, simulate, and stimulate sensory experiences? What sense can we make of concepts such as the "unmediated" or "immediate"? How do media become intelligible and concrete in the form of "metapictures" or exemplary instances, as when a medium reflects on itself (films about films, paintings about painting)? Is there a system of media? How do we tell one medium from another, and how do they become "mixed" in hybrid, intermedial formations? We will also look at recent films such as The Matrix and Existenz that project fantasies of a world of total mediation and hyperreality. This course includes a weekly screening and discussion section.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37800, ENGL 32800, ARTV 20400, AMER 30800, ENGL 12800, CMST 27800, ARTH 25900, ARTH 35900

MADD 12830. Indigenous Media and the Politics of Representation. 100 Units.
This undergraduate seminar explores popular representations of Indigenous nations and issues across various modes of media such as film, photography, digital platforms, and museum installations. With a particular focus on media forms produced by Indigenous artists, filmmakers, and curators we will analyze these narratives through frameworks of self-determination, resistance, visual sovereignty, and relational futures. Throughout the course, we will consider Indigenous media production(s) in relation to the broader social, historical, and cultural contexts in which they circulate in North America and beyond. The material covered in this course will acquaint students with an introduction to the contemporary debates surrounding Indigenous media and representation as they intersect with the larger fields of visual anthropology and Indigenous Studies.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 23830, ANTH 22830

MADD 12904. Ethics in the Digital Age. 100 Units.
An investigation of the applied ethics of technology in the 21st century. Fundamental debates in applied ethics are paired with recent technological case studies. Topics covered include moral dilemmas, privacy, consent, human enhancement, distributed responsibility, and technological risks. Case studies include self-driving cars, geo-engineering, Internet privacy, genetic enhancement, Twitter, autonomous warfare, nuclear war, and the Matrix. (A) (I)
Equivalent Course(s): PHIL 29904, PHIL 39904, PARR 21900, SIGN 26071

MADD 12910. Virtual Ethnography: Encounters in Mediation. 100 Units.
From everyday social media platforms like Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, and WeChat, to more complex real-time immersive social and gaming sites, virtual realms are propagating at a fantastic rate while transforming what it means to live and interact in the physical world. As such virtual world, communities, and spaces increasingly command our attention, time, and money, scholars from various fields have begun to tackle questions concerning the ethics, logics, patterns, and social specificity of the virtual through experimental forms of virtual ethnography. This advanced undergraduate course introduces students to some of these recent ethnographies and corresponding theoretical interventions into the nature of collective techno-life within virtual realms. Students will build on this material in order to develop an ethnographic inquiry into a virtual world of their choosing. In so doing, they will work individually and as a class through the processes of pre-field planning, fieldwork, and post-field analysis and writing.
Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 27910, EALC 27910, CMST 27910, CDIN 27910

MADD 13012. Caricature. 100 Units.
Though usually traced to Renaissance experiments with drawing deformed heads, caricature as a mode of parody, humor and inventive has various roots, in ancient comedy, ancient modern physiognomy and psychology, the literature and (pseudo)science of social types, and above all in the rise of a public sphere of
newspaper readers and broadsheet buyers avid for the ridiculing of public figures, beloved or otherwise. We approach caricature broadly, considering its inverse relation with a neoclassical aesthetics of the ideal body, its theorization around historically significant moments like 1848 and 1939, its relation to technological developments like the newspaper comic and the animated cartoon, and most recently, the viral meme.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 35012, SCTH 35012

MADD 13020. Opera Across Media. 100 Units.
Open to all undergraduates. Over the course of the last hundred and twenty years, opera and cinema have been sounded and seen together again and again. Where opera is commonly associated with extravagant performance and production, cinema is popularly associated realism. Yet their encounter not only proves these assumptions wrong but produces some extraordinary third kinds-media hybrids. It also produces some extraordinary love affairs. Thomas Edison wanted a film of his to be “a grand opera,” and Federico Fellini and Woody Allen wanted opera to saturate their films. Thinking about these mutual attractions, "Opera across Media" explores different operatic and cinematic repertoires as well as other media forms. Among films to be studied are Pabst’s Threepenny Opera (1931), Visconti’s Senso (1954), Powell and Pressburger’s Tales of Hoffmann (1951), Zeffirelli’s La traviata (1981), De Mille’s Carmen (1915), Losey’s Don Giovanni (1979), Bergman’s The Magic Flute (1975), and Fellini’s Il sole nero (1983). No prior background in music performance, theory, or notation is needed. Students may write papers based on their own interests and relevant to the course. Required work includes attendance at all screenings and classes; weekly postings on Canvas about readings and viewings; attendances at a Met HD broadcast and a Lyric Opera live opera; a short “think piece” midway through the course; and a final term paper of 8-10 pages.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24617, GNSE 25020, ITAL 25020, SIGN 26058, MUSI 25020, TAPS 26516

MADD 13044. Generations, Gender, and Genre in Korean Fiction & TV Drama. 100 Units.
The seminar analyzes the issues of generations, gender, and genres that arise from a selection of popular literary and television dramas from modern and contemporary Korea. The selection for the course is marked by the creative contributions of Korean women as novelists, scriptwriters, directors, among others. It includes prose fiction by renowned authors such as Park Wan-sō (1931-2011), Han Kang (1970- ), and Cho Nam-joo (1978- ), as well as television series like Mr. Sunshine (2018; scripted by Kim Eun-sook), The Red Sleeve (2021; dir. by Chöng Chi-in; adapted the 2017 novel by from Kang Mi-kang), and My Liberation Notes (2022; written by Park Hae-yeong). Through a blend of close textual analysis and historical contextualization, the course aims to uncover the ways in which the gendered and generational identities of these creators might have helped certain configurations of concerns, needs, and aspirations saliently emerge in response to social, cultural, historical, and political currents of their time. [Consent Required; No prior knowledge of the Korean language is necessary]

Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 20136, EALC 33044, GNSE 30136, EALC 32044

MADD 13133. Queering Visual Culture in Modern India. 100 Units.
This course will examine the process of queering visual cultures in modern India, whereby it interrogates how popular visual cultures (primarily film and advertisements) have upheld normative regimes of gender/sexuality as well as how they have subverted, and ‘queered’ these regimes. It also asks how expressions of gender and sexuality have been shaped by the contingent and contentious politics of postcolonial India. This course will map three kinds of gender/sexuality visualities in Indian popular culture—ideal woman/femininity, men and masculinities, and queer identity and sexuality. We will pay particular attention to the ways in which films intervene in and shape histories of gendered representation, notably with regard to the figure of the courtesan or 'tawa'f as mediated through blockbuster films. Similarly, we will look at how specific political and social moments construct particular gendered or sexualized representations. These include: the figure of the “mother” during India’s nation-building years (1950s); the trope of the “angry young man” set against the country’s emergency-era politics and massive unemployment (1970s); and the sexualized male hero, as expressed by the superstar Shah Rukh Khan in his films and adverts (2000s). For the final part of the course, we will consider queer visualities, and explore how gay and trans characters and identities have been represented in a more contemporary sense.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 21133, SACL 23133, GNSE 23133

MADD 13238. Documenting State Violence. 100 Units.
Visual media have become central to activism against state violence. Throughout the past century, activists have deployed new technologies to bear witness to atrocity, record evidence, raise awareness, and promote justice. At the same time, media consistently fail to deliver lasting transformations and can even enable violence rather than counteracting it. In this class, we will explore how media practices support, undermine, and complicate efforts against state violence. How have activists employed documentary evidence? What assumptions have they made about communication, truth, difference, and justice? How do media frame what counts as violence? What are the politics of recording, seeing, and showing harm? What are the possibilities and limitations of emerging digital technologies? We will explore these issues across a range of media—such as photography, documentary film, comics, holograms, satellite and drone imagery, virtual reality experiences, social media platforms, and artificial intelligence—and case studies, including the Holocaust, the Cambodian genocide, the U.S. War on Terror, the Syrian civil war, the Movement for Black Lives, Indigenous resurgence in North America, and environmental violence in Guatemala. Students will be encouraged to think critically and creatively through assignments involving media analysis and media production.

Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 25238, CRES 25238, CMST 25238
MADD 13275. Justice: Race, Digital Media, & Human Rights Activism. 100 Units.
How have digital media platforms influenced and motivated recent developments in human rights activism? Can literature, art, and film contribute to political debate and systemic change as much as on-the-ground protest? In this interdisciplinary seminar, we will explore a variety of ways that grassroots activists, writers, artists, and filmmakers have made inventive use of digital media to aid in political struggles for refugee rights, gender equality, environmental justice, police abolition, data protection and privacy, and an economy founded on fair labor practices. We will be especially attuned to how their practices advocate for communities of color and other marginalized groups, who are disproportionately impacted by regimes of surveillance, state violence, and background in artificial intelligence (AI) and digital expansion. In addition to resources and tools created by digital transparency activists, we will examine how cultural practitioners make political interventions and claims with literature, art, media, and other nontraditional forms of engagement. These cultural case studies will include films produced with iPhones and drones that document the global refugee crisis, digital poems concerning discrimination against immigrants, new media art installations that critique algorithm-driven predictive policing, and border-crossing robotic sculptures, among others.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 23275, HMRT 23275, CRES 33275, HMRT 33275

MADD 13303. Chris Marker. 100 Units.
Chris Marker (1921–2012) is one of the most influential and important filmmakers to emerge in the post-war era in France, yet he remains relatively unknown to a wider audience. Marker’s multifaceted work encompasses writing, photography, filmmaking, videography, gallery installation, television, and digital multimedia. He directed over 60 films and is known foremost for his “essay films,” a hybrid of documentary and personal reflection, which he invigorated if not invented with films like Lettre de Siberie (Letter from Siberia, 1958) or Sans Soleil (Sunless, 1983). His most famous film, La Jetée (1962), his only (science) fiction film made up almost entirely of black-and-white still photographs, was the inspiration for Terry Gilliam’s 12 Monkeys (1995). In 1990, he created his first multi-media installation, Zapping Zone, and in 1997 he experimented with the format of the CD-Rom to create a multi-layered, multimedia memoir (Immemory). In 2008, he continued his venture into digital spaces with Ouvroir, realized on the platform of Second Life. Marker was a passionate traveler who documented the journeys he took, the people he met, and revolutionary upheavals at home and afar. We will follow Marker’s travels through time, space, and media, during which we will also encounter artists with whom he crossed paths, with whom he collaborated, or who were inspired by his work.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 26303, FNDL 26102, ARTV 20032, CMST 36303

MADD 13450. Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms and Human Rights. 100 Units.
Algorithms and artificial intelligence (AI) are a new source of global power, extending into nearly every aspect of life. Recently, The High Commissioner for Human Rights called for states to place moratoriums on AI until it is compliant with human rights. This course will take the first steps towards developing a human rights-based approach for analyzing algorithms and AI. What makes an algorithm discriminatory, and is the algorithm the right place to look? Is algorithmic bias avoidable? Does human review of algorithm sufficient, and in what cases? Do predictive models violate privacy even if they do not use or disclose someone’s specific data? When does nudging violate political rights? How does algorithmic decision-making impact democracy? We will closely read Shoshana Zuboff’s Surveillance Capitalism on tour through the sociotechnical world of AI, alongside scholarship in law, philosophy, and computer science to breathe a human rights approach to algorithmic life. We will explore analytic toolkits from science and technology studies (STS) and the philosophy of technology to probe the relationship between worldmaking and technology through social, political, and technical lenses. No prior background in artificial intelligence, algorithms, or computer science is needed, although some familiarity with human-rights philosophy or practice may be helpful.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 10450, HMRT 23450

MADD 13517. Introduction to Critical Spatial Media: Visualizing Urban, Environmental, and Planetary Change. 100 Units.
This course introduces critical theories and techniques for visualizing interconnected transformations of urban, environmental, and planetary systems amidst the pressures of climate change, urbanization, and global economies of capitalism. Weekly lectures will introduce major themes and theoretical debates, paired with hands-on lab tutorials exploring a selection of methods in conventional and experimental geographic visualization. Thematically, the course will be organized around critical interpretations of the Anthropocene, a concept designating the epoch in which anthropogenic activities are recognized as the dominant force of planetary climatic and ecological change. We will present these interpretations through modules structured around different conceptual paradigms and alternative epochal designations (e.g. the Urbanocene, the Capitalocene, the Plantationocene). Through weekly lab exercises and a final, synthetic project, the course will move from critically analyzing prevalent theoretical frameworks, geospatial data, and associated visualization techniques to creatively visualizing critical alternatives. Students will learn how to construct visual narratives through a variety of spatial media (e.g. maps, diagrams, visual timelines), scales (e.g. bodies, neighborhoods, landscapes, the planetary), and techniques/platforms (e.g. GIS, web mapping, basic programming language tools, and vector/raster visualization programs).
Equivalent Course(s): ARCH 23517, CEGU 23517, ENST 23517, ARTV 20655

MADD 14025. Computers, Minds, Intelligence & Data. 100 Units.
How are we co-evolving with our machines? How do we teach ourselves and our computers how to learn? What kinds of human intelligences do we promote in liberal education in comparison with artificial intelligence(s)?
Through our distributed cognition with tools of all kinds, as we engage in participatory culture using digital computers and networks, we provide information that generates the basis for big (and small) data. At the crux of our investigation-on the one hand into reading and conversation and on the other hand into algorithms and information theory—are issues about human action and the multifaceted agency of the universal Turing machine-as mobile phone, laptop, internet, robot.

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 25205, HUMA 25205

MADD 14109. Machine Learning at the Archive. 100 Units.

In "An Archival Impulse," Hal Foster describes the archive as "found yet constructed, factual yet fictive, public yet private." This is a hybrid seminar / workshop course that brings together making, researching and collecting with the goal of expanding the discourse around archives to address machine learning. Foster’s set of tangled binaries provide a foundation on which to build a formal and critical inquiry into the procedural, technological and institutional pressures involved in working with machine learning, particularly as an individual researcher or artist. Topics include: How do the datasets used for machine learning correspond to or differ from traditional physical archives? How does the speculative discourse around the potential for artificial intelligence inform data collection and usage? How has the archive's problematic history of informing and feeding on various "-isms" translated to the digital age and how do we respond to that situation? How can art be used to investigate or interfere with all of the above?

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 25204, HIPS 25203, TAPS 28452, LLSO 27801, HUMA 25202

MADD 14204. Media Ecology: Embodiment & Software. 100 Units.

Media ecology examines how the structure and content of our media environments-online and offline, in words, images, sounds, and textures-affect human perception, understanding, feeling, and value; or alternatively, media ecology investigates the massive and dynamic interrelation of processes and objects, beings and things, patterns and matter. At stake are issues about agency-human or material-and about determinism-how does society or culture interact with or shape its technologies, or vice versa? This course investigates theories of media ecology by exploring systems of meanings that humans embody (cultural, social, ecological) in conjunction with the emerging field of software studies about the cultural, political, social, and aesthetic impacts of software (e.g., code, interaction, interface). In our actual and virtual environments, how do we understand performing our multiple human embodiments in relation to other bodies (organism or machine) in pursuit of social or political goals?

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27110

MADD 14207. Mindfulness: Experience and Media. 100 Units.

How do we experience media (of all kinds) with (or without) awareness? Methods of mindfulness offer principles and practices of awareness focusing on mind, body, and embodied mind. Mindfulness (a flexible, moment-to-moment, non-judging awareness) is an individual experience and at the same time, practices of mindfulness can be a mode of public health intervention. Mindfulness involves social epistemologies of how we know (or don’t know) collectively, as we interact with immediate sensory experience as well as with mediated communication technologies generating various sorts of virtual realities (from books to VR). In addition to readings and discussions, this course teaches embodied practices of attention and awareness through the curriculum of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25204, HIPS 25203, TAPS 28452, LLSO 27801, HUMA 25202

MADD 14350. Videogame Level Design. 100 Units.

Level design is the process of creating interactive virtual environments and scenarios. Through the deliberate placement of game assets, a level designer can evoke emotions and a sense of flow for the player. Similarly, in architecture, considerations are made into how aesthetics and form impact the experience of built environments. In this course, we will explore the level design of 3D games through an architectural lens and investigate how these conditions incentivize gameplay. With a focus on theories and techniques, we will develop a language to examine and analyze virtual worlds and the purpose behind their design. Course materials include foundational architecture texts, writings on games, talks by practicing designers, and gameplay.

Equivalent Course(s): HUMA 25207, TAPS 20507, HLTH 25207, HIPS 25207

MADD 14355. True Crime and Infamy in Early Modern Japan. 100 Units.

The recent popularization of "true crime" in film, television shows, and podcasts has prompted critical discussions about the ethics of mixing documentary with entertainment and fact with fiction, as well as concerns about whose narratives are given public attention as others are ignored. Using these considerations as a starting point, this course examines some of the mainstays of the genre of "true crime"-scandal, violence, disaster, law, and the supernatural-in fiction and theater in early modern Japan in order to trace the fluctuating relationship
between news, fiction, and performance over the course of the Edo period. This course examines the many ways that works of literature and stage were already deeply invested in these tropes of rumor, scandal, sensation, spectacle, and documentary long before the advent of regularly circulating printed newspapers in Meiji Japan, as well as how these existing configurations of sense and sensationalism informed later developments in media and fiction. The goal of this course is for students to gain not only a breadth of knowledge about various literary and theatrical forms in early modern Japan but also a critical awareness of how early modern spectacles of infamy or violence intersected with categories of class, gender, sexuality, and disability to transform some figures into targets of sympathy and others into paragons of villainy or horror. All readings will be available in English.

Equivalent Course(s): EALC 24355, EALC 34355

MADD 14510. Kawaii (cuteness) culture in Japan and the world. 100 Units.

The Japanese word kawaii (commonly translated as “cute” or “adorable”) has long been a part of Japanese culture, but, originating from schoolgirl subculture of the 1970s, today’s conception of kawaii has become ubiquitous as a cultural keyword of contemporary Japanese life. We now find kawaii in clothing, food, toys, engineering, films, music, personal appearance, behavior and mannerisms, and even in government. With the popularity of Japanese entertainment, fashion and other consumer products abroad, kawaii has also become a global cultural idiom in a process Christine Yano has called “Pink Globalization”. With the key figures of Hello Kitty and Rilakkuma as our guides, this course explores the many dimensions of kawaii culture, in Japan and globally, from beauty and aesthetics, affect and psychological dimensions, consumerism and marketing, gender, sexuality and queerness, to racism, orientalism and robot design.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24510, ENGL 24510, GNSE 24511

MADD 14570. Special Topics: Animation Theory. 100 Units.

Due to the ubiquity and pervasiveness of animation in contemporary media ecologies, recent years have seen a surge of interest in animation theory. But animation theory presents a vast and turbulent domain of inquiry, because animation may be narrowly defined as a set of objects or techniques or broadly conceptualized to embrace questions about life and death, about more-than-human animals, artificial life, and animism, for instance. This topics course has two aims. The first aim is to provide an overview of the key problematics of and approaches to animation theory in a global and historical perspective. The second aim is to develop tools for doing animation theory in a more localized manner. To this end, course will highlight theories of character and characterization with an emphasis on how the inherent tension between individual and type in animation affects our understanding race and racism.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 14570, EALC 14570

MADD 14613. God of Manga: Osamu Tezuka’s "Phoenix," Buddhism, and Post-WWII Manga and Anime. 100 Units.

How can the Buddhist axiom "All life is Sacred" describe a universe that contains the atrocities of WWII? Osamu Tezuka, creator of Astro Boy and father of modern Japanese animation, wrestled with this problem over decades in his science fiction epic Phoenix (Hi no Tori), celebrated as the philosophical masterpiece of modern manga. Through a close reading of Phoenix and related texts, this course explores the challenges genocide and other atrocities pose to traditional forms of ethics, and how we understand the human species and our role in nature. The course will also examine the flowering of manga after WWII, how manga authors bypassed censorship to help people understand the war and its causes, and the role manga and anime have played in Japan’s global contributions to politics, science, medicine, technology, techno-utopianism, environmentalism, ethics, theories of war and peace, global popular culture, and contemporary Buddhism. Readings will be mainly manga, and the final paper will have a creative option including the possibility of creating graphic work.

Equivalent Course(s): HIST 34613, KNOW 24613, RLST 28613, FNDL 24613, HIST 24613

MADD 14723. Divas, Idols, Material Girls: Gender and Sexuality in Music Videos. 100 Units.

The stark black and white of Madonna’s "Vogue" and the pinks and sparkles of "Material Girl." The explosive surprise releases of Beyoncé’s BEYONCÉ and Lemonade visual albums. The lavish cinematic spectacle of Taylor Swift’s "Bad Blood" and the fanfatic intertextuality of SM Entertainment’s Aespa. Since MTV’s advent in 1981, hit music videos have made a number of pop songs inextricable from iconic imagery and choreography; ubiquitous digital devices and the rise of platforms like YouTube and TikTok have only increased pop music’s audiovisuality. Looking at and listening to female pop icons raises fraught questions of agency, representation, race, sexuality/sexualization, bodies, commodification, and capital. In this course, students will gain a vocabulary for talking about both the audio and visual parameters of music video, and they will use this vocabulary to embrace questions about life and death, about more-than-human animals, artificial life, and animism, for instance. This topics course has two aims. The first aim is to provide an overview of the key problematics of and approaches to animation theory in a global and historical perspective. The second aim is to develop tools for doing animation theory in a more localized manner. To this end, course will highlight theories of character and characterization with an emphasis on how the inherent tension between individual and type in animation affects our understanding race and racism.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24510, ENGL 24510, GNSE 24511

MADD 14805. Religion in Anime and Japanese Pop Culture. 100 Units.

How does Spirited Away reflect teachings of Japanese Buddhism and Shinto? Or what about Neon Genesis Evangelion? What can pop culture tell us about religion? In this course, we will consider what Japanese religions are (and are not) by looking at their representations in popular cultural forms of past and present. Sources are drawn from a range of popular cultural forms including anime and manga, but also literature, artistic performances, visual arts, and live-action movies. The course covers foundational aspects of Japanese religious
life through non-traditional sources like Bleach, The Tale of Genji, and Your Name. At the end of the course, students will be able to speak to the great diversity of religious practices and viewpoints in Japan, not only its centers but also its peripheries and minorities. Meanwhile, we will consider broader questions about the complex connections between religion and popular culture. No prior knowledge of Buddhism, Shinto, or Japanese history is expected.
Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28405, EALC 28405, CMLT 28405

MADD 14822. Video Game Music and Sound. 100 Units.
From 8-bit audio tracks to orchestral concerts of video game music, from the percussive clicks of keyboards and controllers to menu noises, sound is tightly tied to the experience of playing video games. In this course, we'll explore how game music and sound interact with narrative, the embodiment of play, and musical environments outside of the games themselves. Our engagement with game music and sound will be mostly analytical, but there will be an opportunity for a creative final project for those students who might be interested. No prior music courses are required, although some familiarity with musical terminology and experience playing video games may prove useful.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 24822

MADD 14865. Adaptation: Text and Image. 100 Units.
A course concerned with the marriage of image and text that explores films, illuminated manuscripts, comic books/graphic novels, children's picture books and present day (perhaps local) theater productions that deal at their core with the balance and dance between story and picture. Examples of work studied would be Chris Marker's La jetée, Alice in Wonderland and its many adaptations, the comics of Winsor McCay, Seth, Chris Ware, etc, and William Blake's engraved poems and images. The theatrical collaborations between the instructors themselves ("The Cabinet" and "Cape and Squiggle," both produced by Chicago's Redmoon Theatre) will be discussed as well.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28465, ARTV 20215

MADD 14900. Narratives of Investigation, Games of Investigation. 100 Units.
From Agatha Christie and Marie Rodel to Victor Shklovsky, Roger Caillois, and David Bordwell, popular authors and media critics alike have long posited the mystery story as a "game" or "puzzle," interactive exercises in guessing that are bound by certain rules and expectations of "fair play." Taking the implications of these authors' and critics' metaphors seriously, this class examines the mystery or detective story from the perspective of game design. Case studies will be drawn from literary examples going back to the birth of the detective story in the mid-19th century, through films, analog games and puzzles, and digital games, with an eye toward historical continuities. Course assignments will be a mix of analytical writing and creative projects.

MADD 14916. Yōkai Media. 100 Units.
This course centers on yōkai (monsters or fantastic creatures) and theories of the fantastic in cinema and media. Historically, it spans the range from medieval emaki and Edo chōnin culture through 20th and 21st century manga and anime. Inquiry into yōkai and the fantastic is intended to develop new strategies for putting cinema and media into dialogue with theories of political sovereignty and capitalism in the context of everyday life and its urban myths.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24916, CMST 34916, EALC 34916, EALC 24916

MADD 14920. Comparative Media Poetics: Horror. 100 Units.
Cinema, videogames, and VR: all moving-image media, which have at times exerted multi-directional aesthetic influences on each other. This course will investigate the raw materials and basic forms at the disposal of artists working in and across these media, with a special focus on horror as a genre. Along with fundamental questions regarding the social, psychological, and political uses (and abuses) of horror as a genre, this course will also look at how horror works across a variety of media. In what way do the possibilities available to game developers differ from those available to filmmakers, and vice versa? How are space, time, and action presented and segmented differently across moving images (cinema), interactive moving images (games), and fully-immersive virtual environments (VR)? How do techniques ranging from psychological identification to jump scares work in each medium, and what aesthetic effects are open to one that are not open to the other? Course materials will include horror cinema, horror games (video and otherwise), VR experiences, and written horror literature.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 14920, CMLT 14920

MADD 14945. Digital Storytelling. 100 Units.
New media have changed the way that we tell and process stories. Over the last few decades, writers and designers have experimented with text, video, audio, design, animation, and interactivity in unprecedented ways, producing new types of narratives about a world transformed by computers and communications networks. These artists have explored the cultural dimensions of information culture, the creative possibilities of digital media technologies, and the parameters of human identity in the network era. This course investigates the ways that new media have changed contemporary society and the cultural narratives that shape it. We will explore narrative theory through a number of digital or digitally-inflected forms, including cyberpunk fictions, text adventure games, interactive dramas, videogames, virtual worlds, transmedia novels, location-based fictions, and alternate reality games. Our critical study will concern issues such as nonlinear narrative, network aesthetics, and videogame mechanics. Throughout the quarter, our analysis of computational fictions will be haunted by gender, class, race, and other ghosts in the machine.
MADD 15150. Histories of Technology in China. 100 Units.
According to Bruno Latour, “technology is society made durable.” In Francesca Bray’s words, “technologies are specific to a society, embodiments of its visions of the world and of its struggles over social order. [T]he most important work that technologies do is to produce people: the makers are shaped by the making, and the users shaped by the using.” This course looks at technologies in China since late imperial times and asks how technology both expressed and shaped visions of what Chinese society should be. We start with technologies of the body (how to sit on a kang, how to have healthy babies, how to become a deity, how to do a forensic investigation of a dead body), then move on to agricultural technologies and nutrition, to manufacturing (in sites ranging from the imperial palace to small paper workshops), and to communication technologies such as printing. Next, we look at Chinese worldviews and systems of classification and how they changed, partly due to growing exposure to views from Europe, Japan, and the Islamic world. In the last few weeks, we will look at the vernacular technologies of the Republican era, at Mao-era mass science and mass technology, and some of the contemporary uses of modern communication technology in China. All readings in English.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25945, ENGL 25945

MADD 15300. The Loop as Form. 100 Units.
This media historical course examines the loop as a narrative and non-narrative form throughout the the 20th and early 21st centuries, with examples drawn from science fiction literature, cinema, animation, electronic music, video art, and video games. Part of the course’s focus will be technological, examining the development and impact of walk cycles in cel animation, magnetic tape in analog music and analog video, and go to statements in computer programming. Another part will be sociological, examining the reverberations of Einsteinian relativity in physics, Taylorist scientific management in labor, and behaviorism in psychology had within media development, industry practices, and/or the popular imagination. Taken together, the class will be a thorough investigation both into the aesthetic possibilities of the loop, and into the cultural, technological, psychological, and economic reasons it appears as a form in media construction again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 15301

MADD 15310. Art and Technology Since World War I. 100 Units.
This seminar tracks the entanglements of visual art and “technology,” a term which took on an increasingly expanded set of meanings beginning in the early decades of the twentieth century. Focusing on the period between World War I and the present, we examine these expanded meanings and ask how the work of art fundamentally shifted with, extended, tested, or acted upon “technology.” We consider cases from the art historical avant garde, the impact of cybernetics and systems thinking on architecture and visual perception, midcentury collectives that sought to institutionalize collaborations between artists and engineers, as well as more subtle exchanges between art and technology brewing since the Cold War. Course readings drawn from art history and the histories of science and technology, as well as site visits to art collections on campus, will inform our investigation. Students will gain historical insights into the relation between visual art and technology; develop analytical tools for critically engaging with the present-day interface of art, science, and engineering; and consider the implications for the futures we imagine. Students will have the option to propose alternative final projects that incorporate or extend practices across visual art and the sciences on campus.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 15301

MADD 15312. Visual Art and Technology: From the Historical Avant Garde to the Algorithmic Present. 100 Units.
This course tracks the entanglements of visual art and “technology,” a term which took on an increasingly expanded set of meanings beginning in the early decades of the twentieth century. Focusing on the period between World War I and the present, we examine these expanded meanings and ask how the work of art fundamentally shifted with, extended, tested, or acted upon “technology.” We consider cases from the art historical avant garde, the impact of cybernetics and systems thinking on architecture and visual perception, midcentury collectives that sought to institutionalize collaborations between artists and engineers, as well as more subtle exchanges between art and technology brewing since the Cold War. We will conclude with a look at present-day practices that integrate visual art, design, and technology. Course readings drawn from art history and the histories of science and technology, as well as site visits to art collections and laboratories on campus, will inform our investigation. Students will gain historical insights into the relation between visual art and technology; develop analytical tools for critically engaging with the present-day interface of art, science, and engineering; and consider the implications for the futures we imagine.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25945, ENGL 25945

MADD 15416. 1990s Videogame History. 100 Units.
This course will trace developments in the videogame medium and videogame cultures in the final decade of the 20th century, discuss the unique possibilities and difficulties arising from the study of recent history, and put these discussions into practice through research-based assignments. Questions that will guide our study include: what was the relationship between technological innovations and stylistic changes in the videogame medium? How did the entry of new corporate and creative players into the business affect industrial structures and strategies? What do we make of “freedom,” “realism,” and other concepts that dominated videogame press coverage - and how were they connected to broader cultural discourses? How did understandings of what it
meant to play videogames, and the types of experiences that videogames could offer, change over the course of the decade? What was the relationship between developments in the videogame medium and other media - from film and fiction to virtual reality and the Internet? How has this decade been remembered, conceptualized, preserved, and repackaged in subsequent decades?

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27867, CMST 37867, MAPH 34516

MADD 15425. Censorship, Info Control, & Revolutions in Info Technology from the Printing Press to the Internet. 100 Units.

The digital revolution is triggering a wave of new information control efforts and censorship attempts, ranging from monopolistic copyright laws to the "Great Firewall" of China. The print revolution after 1450 was a moment like our own, when the explosive dissemination of a new information technology triggered a wave of information control efforts. Many of today's attempts at information control closely parallel early responses to the printing press, so the premodern case gives us centuries of data showing how diverse attempts to control or censor information variously incentivized, discouraged, curated, silenced, commodified, or nurtured art, thought, and science. This unique course is part of a collaborative research project funded by the Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society and is co-organized with digital information expert Cory Doctorow. The course will bring pairs of experts working on the print and digital revolutions to campus to discuss parallels between their research with the class. Classes will be open to the public, filmed, and shared on the Internet to create an international public conversation. This is also a Department of History "Making History" course: rather than writing traditional papers, students will create web resources and publications (print and digital) to contribute to the ongoing collaborative research project.

Equivalent Course(s): HIPS 25425, HREL 35425, CHSS 35425, KNOW 40103, HIST 25425, SIGN 26035, KNOW 25425, HIST 35425, BPRO 25425

MADD 15502. Mediating Korean History. 100 Units.

This course explores Korea's modern history through a variety of media, such as short stories, comics, magazines, films, and webtoons. Covering events ranging from colonization by Japan, mobilization during the second world war, the Korean War, to dictatorships, development, democratization, and the tensions on the peninsula today, our focus will be on examining selected media produced from the period under discussion paired with retrospective portrayals. By mixing past and present media together, the course tackles both historical events and historical memory, examining how history is created and remembered through different media.

Equivalent Course(s): EALC 14502, HIST 14502

MADD 15507. Margins of the Medium: Text/Image. 100 Units.

In this course, we will study nineteenth- and twentieth-century visual and written texts from primarily French photographic, literary, painterly, and cinematic traditions. These thematically interrogate spatial, cultural, geographic, social, and political margins. By also examining the long-standing and often fraught historical and theoretical relationship between text and image, we will simultaneously investigate the boundaries between divergent media practices (photography, literature, film, painting) in order to question the visual, narrative, and philosophic limits of representation.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 14507

MADD 15540. Comics at the Crossroads. 100 Units.

Mid-1985 to mid-1986 is the most important year in comics history. This course is an introduction to comics through the prism of this period with snapshots of comics "before" and comics "after"; major texts are Maus, Watchmen, Crisis on Infinite Earths, and The Dark Knight Returns, all of which were released (or released in accessible formats) in 85-'86. We will try to identify the various forces that made this remarkable year possible: changes in the comics business, in American politics and culture, and in the life cycle of the superhero. In the mid-80s the "high" and "low" of comics blended like it never had before. This course is designed for the newbie and aficionado alike, whether you're meeting these four of the greatest comics of all time, or rediscovering them within a new milieu. (Fiction)

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 15540

MADD 15620. Japanese Animation: The Making of a Global Media. 100 Units.

This course offers an introduction to Japanese animation, from its origins in the 1910s to its emergence as global culture in the 1990s. The goal is not only to provide insight into Japanese animation within the context of Japan but also to consider those factors that have transformed it into a global cultural form with a diverse, worldwide fanbase. As such, the course approaches Japanese animation from three distinct perspectives on Japanese animation, which are designed to introduce students to three important methodological approaches to contemporary media - film studies, media studies, and fan studies or cultural studies. As we look at Japanese animation in light of these different conceptual frameworks, we will also consider how its transnational dissemination and 'Asianization' challenge some of our basic assumptions about global culture, which have been shaped primarily through the lens of Americanization.

Equivalent Course(s): EALC 35620, SIGN 26070, EALC 25620, CMST 25620, CMST 35620

MADD 15630. Television in an Age of Change. 100 Units.

As streaming options proliferate, we think of television today as a medium in a moment of upheaval; but, since its beginnings, television has always been in flux. This course will provide an introductory overview of television theory and U.S. television history. We will watch and analyze a range of programming and explore ongoing
shifts in television’s relationship to audiences, technology, and other media forms in an effort to answer-and complicate-the question, “What is television?”
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28730

MADD 16001. Censorship in East Asia: The Case of Colonial Korea. 100 Units.
Looking into the intricate workings and profound impact of state publication control in the Japanese Empire during the first half of the twentieth century, this seminar examines how censorship influenced literary and other forms of publication within the Korean colony. Students analyze the manipulation of information and representation by engaging with a diverse array of primary sources, including literature, periodicals, police reports, censors’ documents, posters, and postcards, among others. Not only do they seek a nuanced understanding of censorship and its impact on cultural production engaging themselves with the original materials from colonial Korea, but also do they gain a broad historical knowledge of modern Korea under Japanese rule and further East Asia under Japan’s dominance and hegemony. Throughout the course, focus is placed upon manuscript (‘pre-publication’) censorship. [Consent Required; Proficiency in Korean or Japanese is not required.]
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 23001, RDIN 23001, EALC 23001, EALC 43000

MADD 16312. Reforming Religious Media: Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation. 100 Units.
The Protestant Reformation began with a carefully orchestrated media event, when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of a church in Wittenberg. Concurrently, he resorted to the still new medium of print to disseminate more widely his scathing critique of the Catholic Church’s use of indulgences to communicate God’s grace. This was only the beginning of Luther’s sweeping attack on the Church’s role as the sole mediator of salvation. No religious medium or communicational practice remained unquestioned, resulting in their comprehensive reform. Soon other reformers joined in, pushing the critique even further by questioning the need and validity of all religious mediation. Approaching the Protestant Reformation as a reform of religious media, this lecture course will give particular attention to the congenial alliance between Martin Luther’s religious message and the emerging technology of the printing press, the role of Scripture in legitimating Protestant theologies of communication, controversies around particular religious media, like images or the eucharist, and the role of direct inspiration in radical reformers. This research course will be a combination of lecture and discussion. The course will culminate in an exhibition at the Special Collections Research Center of Regenstein Library, which will first take the form of a virtual web exhibit and then an actual, physical exhibition in the Winter Quarter 2020. All students will contribute to the web exhibition.
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 22312, RLVC 32312, SIGN 26051, HCHR 32312, RLST 22312

MADD 16600. Chance in Performance. 100 Units.
The course will cover the historical, theoretical and practical issues surrounding the use of chance in artistic production, with an emphasis on how these techniques have been used in live performance. We begin with the historical avant-garde, particularly Dada and Duchamp, continue with mid-century experiments by Cage/ Cunningham and Fluxus artists, and finish with contemporary work like “No Dice” of Nature Theatre of Oklahoma and “Algorithmic Noir” by Eve Sussman. By creating performance projects using, or responding to, the techniques studied, students will have an opportunity to develop their own critical and practice-based point of view.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 32600, TAPS 22600

MADD 16718. Electronic Music: Approaches to Electronic Music. 100 Units.
Hand-built circuits, tape loops, feedback, filters, ring modulators, turntables, live-processing software environments, microphones, and human-machine interface designs. In this course, we will study current and historical approaches to the performative use of hardware and software environments in music, and will follow the practice as it continues to redefine music composition and improvisation in the 21st century. Study will be repertoire-based, drawing from the work of artists ranging from David Tudor to Herbie Hancock to Grandmaster Flash to Kaija Saariaho.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 36718, MUSI 26718

MADD 17010. Gaming History. 100 Units.
How do video games reflect, theorize, and alter history? This lecture course will draw on strategies from history, media, and game studies to understand the place of games in the history of knowledge and our knowledge of history. How have historical simulations, ensconced in media objects, represented scientific, social, and cultural processes? How do games invite players to perform and inhabit historically specific subjectivities? What is the role of digital media in the public understanding of history? By representing alternate and future histories, games articulate theories of historical change, suggesting and popularizing modes of political, economic, and social agency. We will consider how games represent the structure of time, causality, and choice, and how the hardware and software of video games constrain and enable certain representations of history. Through lectures, discussions, group play sessions, written and practice-based assignments, and theoretical readings, we will think about what it means to ‘game’ history and to historicize games.
Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 27010

MADD 17212. Sonic Cultures of Japan. 100 Units.
This course engages with the various techniques and practices associated with sound in Japanese culture, ranging from the 18th century through the contemporary era. The media covered will include literature, language reform movements, theater, cinema (both silent and sound), recorded music, radio broadcasting,
media manga, video games and anime. We will also read recent sound-oriented approaches to literary and cultural studies from scholars from both Japan and elsewhere. All readings will be in English.
Equivalent Course(s): EALC 17212, SIGN 26085

MADD 17304. Photo/Modernism/Esthetic. 100 Units.
The course presents the history of photographic practices in the United States, beginning in the late 19th century and extending into the 1980s, aimed at gaining an audience for photographs within museums of art. The issues under study include the contention over claims about medium specificity, notions of photographic objectivity, a peculiarly photographic esthetics, the division of photography into two categories-art vs. documentary-and the role of tradition and canon formation in the attempted definition of the photographic medium.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20704, ARTH 37304, ARTH 27304, ARTV 30704

MADD 17717. Opera in the Age of Its Mechanical Reproducibility. 100 Units.
Equivalent Course(s): GRMN 27717, CMST 38301, MUSI 34517, MUSI 24517, TAPS 38422, GRMN 37717, CMST 28301, TAPS 28422

MADD 17817. Sonic the Hedgehog. 100 Units.
In this course, we will use a single franchise - Sonic the Hedgehog - as an access point to study media history, aesthetics, social and cultural practice, and the relationships between games, film, and other artforms. Originally released in 1991 for Sega’s Genesis console, the Sonic series has spawned over three decades of games, cartoons, manga, novels, films, music, board games, action figures, fan art, cosplay, and merchandizing. Both the volume and the variety of these texts allow the Sonic corpus to be a focal point for questions with broader stakes for the study of games and media in general. Some of the questions we will be considering in this course include: What has been the relationship between particular videogame characters and franchises and the business practices and strategies of entertainment industries? What form does stardom take in the world of digital games, and is it an appropriate concept to apply to a mascot like Sonic? How have established game franchises responded to major technological and aesthetic shifts in the medium? How might we understand the concept and practice of adaptation as applied to the digital games, and what does it reveal about the medium specificity of and the relationship between games, film, comics, novels, and other forms? What can a game franchise that has taken a wide variety of generic forms (platforming, racing, fighting, and pinball, to name just a few) tell us about how genre works as concept and system in digital games?
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 37817, CMST 27817, CMST 37817

MADD 17880. Videogame Consoles: A Platform Studies Approach. 100 Units.
While videogames’ mix of art, play, and advanced technology gives game studies much of its vitality, the technological and computational aspects of the medium can be daunting for many would-be students and designers. And yet no approach to the study of videogames can be exhaustive without some consideration of the material and technological grounds that make games possible. With this in mind, this course will introduce approaches to videogame studies that emphasize the platforms - the hardware, operating systems, etc. - on which games are played, and is intended for students with all levels of familiarity with the technological side of videogames. How do the various components of game platforms, from computer architecture to controllers to the underlying code, affect how games look, sound, and feel, how they are played, who designs them and how, how they are marketed and to whom, and how they are preserved? How do platforms emerge from particular technological, industrial, social, and cultural contexts, and how do they in turn affect the course of game history and culture? Classroom lectures and discussions of readings will be accompanied by weekly gameplay sessions at the MADD Center, which will provide close, hands-on engagement with game platforms. Possible objects of study include the Atari 2600 (1977), ColecoVision (1982), Sega Game Gear (1990) and Genesis/CD/32X (1988-94), Panasonic 3DO (1993), Nintendo 64 (1996) and Wii (2006), and PlayStation 4/VR (2013-16).
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27880, CMST 37880, MAPH 37880

MADD 17887. The Platformer: History and Theory of a Videogame Genre. 100 Units.
This course will provide an introduction to genre history and theory in videogame studies through a focus on the "platformer." Though not a common name outside of videogame culture, the platformer has introduced or popularized some of the medium’s most recognizable figures (Mario, Sonic the Hedgehog, Donkey Kong) and gameplay mechanics (running, jumping, avoiding enemies, and collecting items). The genre has also been instrumental in and reflective of changes across the videogame medium. This course will cover two decades (roughly 1990 - 2010), emphasizing both historical details and theoretical questions, such as: How have game genres been defined? How do distinct genres emerge and change over time? How do broader trends (technological, formal, industrial, discursive, experiential, etc.) influence individual genres, and what roles do individual genres play in these broader trends? What resources and methodologies exist for studying videogame genres? Throughout the course we’ll see the platformer alternate between an emphasis on linear, acrobatic movement across two-dimensional spaces and the free exploration of three-dimensional virtual worlds; between providing mascots for the biggest game companies and becoming a marker of independent, small-team production; and between being hailed as “revolutionary” and epitomizing the retro-nostalgic. Classroom
lecture and discussion of readings will be accompanied by weekly gameplay sessions on original hardware at the MADD Center.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37887, CMST 27887, MAPH 37887

MADD 18000. Photography and Film. 100 Units.
This is a core course that serves as an introduction to the history of art by concentrating on some fundamental issues in the history of photography and film. The course is divided roughly in half between still photography and film. The central theme of the course concerns the way in which photographs and films have been understood and valued during the past 165 years. There have been profound changes in attitudes and beliefs regarding the nature of photographs throughout the history of photography (this is likewise true of film). The current range of views is very different from those held by the various audiences for photographs and films in the last century and the century before. For instance, photographs were originally conceived of as copies of things that can be seen, but the notion of copy was drawn from a long-established set of views about what makes a picture a work of art and copies were said to be incapable of being works of art. This view continues to haunt the writings of some critics and historians of photography and film. The course will concentrate on the work of photographers, theorists of photography and film, and on films by John Huston, Billy Wilder, and Roman Polanski.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 18000

MADD 18205. Feminist Documentary Filmmaking. 100 Units.
This course examines the ways that women-identifying documentary makers have given cinematic form to feminist thought. Drawing from film and media theory and history, we will focus on the formal and narrative techniques that have been employed by filmmakers to reflect on questions pertaining to gender and sexuality, with an emphasis on the specific ways that non-fiction filmmaking expanded feminist theoretical frameworks and research methodologies. Considering topics such as cinematic realism, film spectatorship, viewing pleasure, counter-cinema, and theories of intersectionality and diaspora, we will ask questions such as: What are the stylistic devices that feminist documentary films have mobilized, and for what purposes and ends? What is documentary’s relation to the history of fiction film, particularly of Hollywood cinema? How have women documentary makers understood cinema’s role in social processes of transformation? What are the possibilities and limitations of collaborative methods, appropriation strategies, and oppositional techniques? We will watch films with a critical eye and engage closely with academic and popular writings to survey the aesthetic, social, and political genealogies operating in the history of feminist documentary production. In this discussion-based course, we will cover a variety of non-fiction film and media forms: film diaries, docu-fictions, home-movies, video essays, auto-ethnographies, ethno-fictions, collage, and found-footage films.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28205, GNSE 23164

MADD 18306. Data History: Information Overload from the Enlightenment to Google. 100 Units.
The current era of “Big Data” is often described as a new paradigm in science: increasingly, in fields ranging from molecular genetics to particle physics to internet search analytics, knowledge is produced by processing massive electronic databases with digital algorithms that tell us who we are, what the universe is made of, and why we think and act the way we do. At the same time, the tools, techniques, and social implications of modern data culture have a deep history that stretches back well before the advent of digital computers. Understanding the world by collecting and analyzing large quantities of information has been a goal in the natural and social sciences for centuries, and this history has shaped our current fascination with data in important and surprising ways. This course will examine the long-term history of data in critical historical context. We will examine how data has been collected, managed, and analyzed in the sciences over the past few centuries - the emergence of various technologies and conventions for information processing - as well as why it has been such a central concern in so many disciplines - what was understood to be the goal of reducing the world to data. We will also consider what social and political consequences the history of data reveals, and we will discuss the ethical and epistemological concerns that have emerged as science has become increasingly oriented towards collecting and manipulating large quantities of data.
Equivalent Course(s): HIST 39523, HIPS 28306, HIST 29523, CHSS 38306

MADD 18500. History of International Cinema I: Silent Era. 100 Units.
This course provides a survey of the history of cinema from its emergence in the mid-1890s to the transition to sound in the late 1920s. We will examine the cinema as a set of aesthetic, social, technological, national, cultural, and industrial practices as they were exercised and developed during this 30-year span. Especially important for our examination will be the exchange of film techniques, practices, and cultures in an international context. We will also pursue questions related to the historiography of the cinema, and examine early attempts to theorize and account for the cinema as an artistic and social phenomenon.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 29300, ARTV 20002, ARTH 38500, MAPH 33600, ARTH 48500, CMLT 32400, CMST 28500, CMLT 22400, ENGL 48700

MADD 18600. History of International Cinema II: Sound Era to 1960. 100 Units.
The center of this course is film style, from the classical scene breakdown to the introduction of deep focus, stylistic experimentation, and technical innovation (sound, wide screen, location shooting). The development of a film culture is also discussed. Texts include Thompson and Bordwell's Film History: An Introduction; and works by Bazin, Belton, Sitney, and Godard. Screenings include films by Hitchcock, Welles, Rossellini, Bresson, Ozu, Antonioni, and Renoir.
MADD 18700. History of International Cinema, Part III: 1960 to Present. 100 Units. This course will continue the study of cinema around the world from the 1960s to the 2000s. The continued development of film style and form over this period - one of seismic changes in audio-visual aesthetics - will be one of the primary themes of the course. Additionally, lectures and discussions will wrestle with the rise of global film cultures, technological innovations and their effects on style (such as post-magnetic sound, and visual effects techniques), major international directors and the solidification of auteurism as both a commercial and aesthetic imperative, the increasing internationalization of Hollywood, and post-1970s genre reorientation elevating horror, science-fiction, and other genres to the highest levels of mainstream respectability, critical appraisal, and/ or commercial success. Screenings are mandatory and include work by filmmakers including Pedro Almodovar, Michael Bay, Kathryn Bigelow, Claire Denis, Federico Fellini, Hollis Frampton, Kiyoshi Kurosawa, Djibril Diop Mambety, Cristian Mungiu, and more, in addition to a selection of music videos.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28700, CMST 38700

MADD 18703. Video Art: The Analog Years. Theory, Technology, Practice. 100 Units. The course gives a critical introduction to early video and television art - from the proto-televisual impulses in the historical avant-gardes to the increasing proximity between analog and digital technologies in video art in the late 1970's and early 1980's. We will focus on the various technical aspects of analog video, as well as on artistic practice and early writings on the subject. Topics will include the techics and politics of time; video, feedback systems and ecology; the reconfiguration of the artist's studio; guerilla politics and alternative TV; video and autobiography; the relation between video and painting; the musical history of video; the invention of new machines; and video as a "television viewer".

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 31313, CMST 38703, ARTH 21313, CMST 28703

MADD 18740. Global and Transnational Television. 100 Units. The localized nature of broadcasting has meant that our understanding of television history and programming has often been localized as well. Looking at specific case studies, this course will disrupt that trend by exploring two separate but related topics: (1) the distinct histories of national television industries around the globe and (2) the industrial and cultural factors that allow programming to flow transnationally. Some topics that will be covered include public broadcasting in the UK, the cultural history of Netflix co-productions, and national identity through reality TV remakes. This course will build off of concepts covered in the course Television in an Age of Change.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28740

MADD 18801. Chicago Film History. 100 Units. This course will screen and discuss films made mostly by Chicagoans, concentrating on the period after WWII, until 1980 when Hollywood began using Chicago as a location. By examining various genres, including those not normally interrogated by academics, such as educational and industrial films, we will consider whether there is a Chicago style of filmmaking. Technological advances that enabled both film and video to escape the restrictions of the studio and go hand-held, into city streets and homes, will be discussed. If there is a Chicago style of filmmaking, one must look at the landscape of the city-the design, the politics, the cultures and labor of its people and how they live their lives. The protagonists and villains of Chicago stories are the politicians and community organizers, our locations are the neighborhoods, and the set designers are Mies Van Der Rohe and the Chicago Housing Authority. 

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 21801, CMST 21801, HMRT 25104, CMST 31801, ARTH 20750, HMRT 35104, ARCH 26750, ARTV 30750

MADD 18814. Theme Park America. 100 Units. Since the colonial era, Americans have obsessively created recreational themed spaces that manifested historical myths and memories in the built environment. This course considers the evolution, functions, and ethics of the American desire to visit the past as a form of leisure. Starting with early themed spaces such as world’s fairs, amusement parks, and cityscapes, we examine how scholars have read cultural phenomena for their radical contemporary significance. We then apply these tools to examine how Disneyland combined, redefined, and heightened its themed space antecedents and to what ends. We will learn how to decode Disneyland’s messages about race, gender, capitalism, and the American experience that are embedded within the park’s design, architecture, attractions, shows, sounds, and smells. How did such views of the past, present, and future speak to the social, political, and economic needs and wants of Cold War Americans, and why do they continue to resonate today? How should we understand themed spaces as a lens for U.S. history as experienced by contemporary Americans? By interrogating the themed space form, we will explore the nature of historical memory, the responsibilities of public history, and the ethics of constructing a recreational past. In doing so, we will learn how to take the seemingly frivolous matters of history seriously-and the dire stakes for doing so.

Equivalent Course(s): CHST 28814, HIST 38814, HIST 28814, MAPS 33550

MADD 20023. Composing for Intermedia. 100 Units. MUSI 45023: Composing for Intermedia highlights a range of practices in contemporary multimedia/intermedia composition. This course is designed for those who want to expand their creative toolset and covers various topics, including the implementation and synchronization of media such as sound, lighting, video, interactive
devices, etc. It should be of interest to composers, performers, visual artists, and choreographers who want to
develop a critical approach to integrating multimedia technologies into their practice.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 45023

MADD 20041. Digital Media I: Game Design with Unity. 100 Units.
Part one of a two-course sequence, this making-oriented course provides an introduction to the principles,
practices, and techniques of game design. Students will develop several small games, gaining hands-on
experience with C# and the Unity development platform. The course takes a “ground up” approach: starting
with the fundamentals of object- and component-oriented programming, then using those fundamentals to build
complex, interactive experiences. While the course focuses on Unity, an introduction to software design patterns
and an emphasis on a rapid feedback/iteration cycle will provide tools that translate to other game engines and
creative computing projects. Through critique and the close examination of case studies from prior art, students
will cultivate their critical eye and articulation, equipping them to discuss, assess, and refine games at various
stages of development.
Equivalent Course(s): DIGS 30041

MADD 20042. Digital Media II: Extended Reality with Unity. 100 Units.
Part-two of a two-course sequence, this course teaches students how to develop extended reality (XR)
environments using the Unity platform. The course emphasizes the creation of augmented reality (AR) and
virtual reality (VR) environments, allowing students to gain hands-on experience. Additionally, students will
discuss development with their instructor and peers, assisting them in refining their skills and ideas while
creating. By the end of the quarter, students will clearly understand the process of transforming ideas into final
products, equipping them with the necessary tools for future XR endeavors.
Equivalent Course(s): DIGS 30042

MADD 20230. From Theater Games to Gaming Theater. 100 Units.
Uniting methodologies and readings from media and performance studies, this interdisciplinary course explores
the historical and contemporary proximities between games and theater as interactive media. Each unit of this
course interrogates the generic boundary of “games,” seeing games as the content of, source of, medium for, and
engine behind compelling performances. Our course will make a study of “immersive” and game-like theatrical
works that provoke meaningful questions about audience agency, interactivity, and the role of technology in
our contemporary understanding of what it means to attend or take part in “play.” Students in this course can
expect to read theatrical scripts, attend and participate in performances, and perform game exercises in class.
Part of taking this class is “being game” - open to participating in the various forms of play we will explore
together. Students will watch contemporary works of gaming theater and participate in a hands-on gaming
theater workshop, in addition to attending live improv comedy and an escape room. In the midterm assignment
students will compose a performance game of their own, designing and testing the piece over three weeks. The
final assignment emphasizes the process of producing scholarly writing and asks students to apply performance
and game studies approaches to texts from our class.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 20230

MADD 20302. Bodies at Work: Art & Civic Responsibility. 100 Units.
Contemporary artists are quickly adapting their practices to be more inclusive, diverse, accessible and physically
safe. In particular, the rise of intimacy design and anti-racist work in theatre, film and television has opened up a
dialogue about how artists do their work responsibly. Through practice and investigation, this class will dive into
the responsibility of artists in contemporary artistic processes. We will explore both how the tools and capacities
of artists can transform civic practice and, conversely, how artists are grappling with the civic issues of body
safety, anti-racism and accessibility in arts practice. We will explore how centering the body can create respectful
engagement in the arts. We will look at the work of Enrich Chicago, Nicole Brewer, Sonya Renee Taylor, Not in
Our House and Intimacy Directors & Coordinators among others.
Equivalent Course(s): GNSE 26303, CHST 26302, TAPS 26302, RDIN 26302

MADD 20310. Introduction to Designing Interaction. 100 Units.
We are surrounded by interactive systems and designs, from the user interfaces for our computers and
smartphones to home appliances, doors, and furniture. This class will introduce basic techniques, theories,
and practices in designing interactive objects and systems. Specifically, it will introduce students to developing
user experience-centric perspectives on critically reflecting on existing (and future) interactive designs. It also
provides practices for students to ideate new design solutions and prototype them using design and engineering
methods. Centered in interaction design, the class covers broad topics touching human-computer interaction,
industrial design, user experience design, and communication design.
Prerequisite(s): CMSC 14200, CMSC 14300, or CMSC 14400.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 20310

MADD 20370. Inclusive Technology: Designing for Underserved and Marginalized Populations. 100 Units.
Creating technologies that are inclusive of people in marginalized communities involves more than having
technically sophisticated algorithms, systems, and infrastructure. It involves deeply understanding various
community needs and using this understanding coupled with our knowledge of how people think and behave
to design user-facing interfaces that can enhance and augment human capabilities. When dealing with under-
served and marginalized communities, achieving these goals requires us to think through how different
constraints such as costs, access to resources, and various cognitive and physical capabilities shape what socio-
technical systems can best address a particular issue. This course leverages human-computer interaction and the tools, techniques, and principles that guide research on people to introduce you to the concepts of inclusive technology design. You will learn about different underserved and marginalized communities such as children, the elderly, those needing assistive technology, and users in developing countries, and their particular needs. In addition, you will learn how to be mindful of working with populations that can easily be exploited and how to think creatively of inclusive technology solutions. You will also put your skills into practice in a semester long group project involving the creation of an interactive system for one of the user populations we study.

Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 30370, CMSC 20370

MADD 20380. Actuated User Interfaces and Technology. 100 Units.

The recent advancement in interactive technologies allows computer scientists, designers, and researchers to prototype and experiment with future user interfaces that can dynamically move and shape-change. This class offers hands-on experience in learning and employing actuated and shape-changing user interface technologies to build interactive user experiences. The class provides a range of basic engineering techniques to allow students to develop their own actuated user interface systems, including 3D mechanical design, digital fabrication (e.g. 3D Printing), electronics (Arduino microcontroller), and actuator control (utilizing different kinds of motors). Through multiple project-based assignments, students practice the acquired techniques to build interactive tangible experiences of their own.

Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 20380, CMSC 30380

MADD 20404. From Failure to Filter: S#bversions &amp; E/olutions in Glitch Art. 100 Units.

This course critically examines how the raw, unpredictable elements of Glitch Art-once symbols of digital rebellion-have evolved and assimilated into the mainstream. Charting vectors between avant-garde artistic movements and the commodification of cultural phenomena, we will delve into the lifecycles of radical subgenres, digital aesthetics, and their journeys from fringe to familiarity. Create projects through hands-on experimentation, leveraging artware tools, hacks, kludges, and quirky techniques developed by digital artists. Engage with the concept of 'failure' not just as a technical glitch but as a pivotal point of artistic and sociopolitical discourse. Is a glitch a glitch if it's anticipated and expected? This course provides a space for both creating and critically analyzing digital art, challenging us to navigate and contribute to our ever-shifting and perpetually unstable digital landscape.

MADD 20420. Painting with Light in Space. 100 Units.

This course explores projected imagery as a medium to paint ephemeral ideas in the real world through installation and theatrical design. Utilizing visual iconography, architectural forms, objects, and cinema, this course will explore the practical and theoretical applications of video on unorthodox objects and spaces. Using software as an instrument, students will investigate the visceral extents of images both historical and generative to create living light. The course will culminate in student presentations that illustrate and illuminate the ideas and techniques presented throughout the course.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20944, TAPS 27420, ARTV 30944

MADD 20455. Transmedia Theater, Live Experience Design, and Networked Performance: A Maker's Lab. 100 Units.

The recent pandemic has challenged live performance to consider alternatives in the creation of online spaces and the "pivot to digital," has frequently resulted in innovative approaches of adaptation of texts originally designed for the stage, yet as a result, remain rooted in a "broadcast" modality. Live Experience Design benefits from the exploration of pre-COVID forms including netprov, ARGs, online LARPs, interactive theater, and NFT games as well as popular social media forms including Instagram and Snapchat filters. This course invites directors, designers, and writers to innovate under the influence of networked media with an emerging genre at the nexus between theater, film, and video games to create short-form interactive original work through Zoom, Twitch, Twine, and Discord. Through a series of workshop assignments, lectures, and cross-disciplinary guest artist demonstrations, this immersive course will consider how we can use and build upon existing technologies to make impactful theater in a networked setting that not only creates a story that elicits an emotional but narrative that is dependent on audience interaction. Projects will draw from game mechanics and work across multiple platforms and will require no prior experience with coding or video production.

Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28455

MADD 20500. ARTGAMES. 100 Units.

This studio course playfully explores the methods, tools, and poetics of video games as art. Develop interactive new media art, machinima, and experimental 3D environments by using (and misusing) contemporary game engines. Projects will include hypertext adventures, walking simulators, abstract platforms, and metagames. By hacking, modding, and recontextualizing existing game assets, we will challenge the rules, mechanics, and interfaces of video games. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 25403

MADD 20505. Adaptation for the Screen. 100 Units.

This course introduces students to the rewards and difficulties of adapting literary material to the big screen. In addition to reading short stories and viewing the films that were made from these stories, all students will be given the same short story to adapt into a 50-60 minute film. Progress on these scripts will be addressed through
MADD 20600. AI + Art: artificial.horse. 100 Units.
Saddle up and ride into the untamed territories of human-AI co-creation. Much like how horses have been our trusty companions in transportation and labor, AI has become a powerful tool for us to navigate the computational era. This course presents a studio environment for performative and avant-garde approaches to experimenting with the newest interfaces and advancements in generative AI, like ChatGPT and Stable Diffusion, while examining predecessors like chatbots and early forms of automation. Technology is not simply an external tool that we use; it shapes our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Giddy up, as we playfully experiment with the creative, quirky, and unquantifiable human elements in AI-making media art projects as AI, for AI, and with AI. A diversity of artistic and technical backgrounds are welcome.

MADD 20602. Animation: Practices & Principles. 100 Units.
Sitting at the intersection of fine arts and filmmaking, animation has held a unique place in visual culture since its inception and has more recently become a ubiquitous presence in our society. Through a combination of workshops, screenings, and discussions, this course will examine the advantages and particularities that come with the art form as well as the diverse range of technologies and techniques that it can include. Students learn both analog and digital animation methods—including cut-out, hand-drawn, and stop motion, among others—to explore their own artistic voice through moving image, culminating with a final project in the medium of their choice. Works screened for discussion will range from the traditional and studio-based to the experimental and alternative. No previous drawing experience required.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20035, CMST 25602, CMST 35602

MADD 20610. Line, Trace, Motion: Computation and Experiment in Animation. 100 Units.
Interpreting what we mean by animation broadly, this course will investigate computational moving-image making through the lens of experimental animation. We will take as our point of departure the films of Rettinger, Ruttmann, Fischinger, McLaren, and Breer, but we will also draw upon artifacts and ‘animated lines’ taken from further afield: found footage films and algorithmic editing, dance drawings of Trisha Brown, kinetic sculptures of Bit International, early plotter art, avant-garde music notation, and contemporary techniques of motion and performance capture. This course will develop theoretical lines of inquiry that run in two directions: an excavation of a ‘pre-history’ of contemporary new media and a reinterpretation/re-invigoration of our understanding of early animation. Any film production, hand-animation or computer programming experiences are welcome - but none are perquisites for the course. Students will be expected to complete regular short creative “sketches” of techniques culminating in a final short animated project.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25610, CMST 35610

MADD 20620. Pivot to Digital: Adapting Performance Practices To Online Spaces. 100 Units.
How are performance-makers adapting their practices to online spaces? Many theater and live art makers are discovering new dimensions of their work as they ‘pivot to digital’, experimenting broadly with expressive form and audience engagement. In this course we will examine a set of case studies drawn from the current pandemic-inspired movement towards online performance, gamification, live/recorded hybrid models of performance, and socially distanced performance practices. We will look at the translation of theater design techniques such as scenery and sound design to digital platforms, audio-play forms, and at-home experience design, plus explore questions about the democratization of content available much more widely online than in conventional performance spaces. Students will be asked to adapt a theatrical work (play or devised project) to digital form as part of their work in class.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 25620

MADD 20623. Theories and Aesthetics of Remix. 100 Units.
Remix, mashup, bricolage, borrowing, sampling, collage - transformative creative techniques pervade 20th- and 21st-century musical and artistic practice. The spectrum of remixing spans virtuosically across hip hop and DJ culture, through classical and avant-garde composition, to the crudest deep-fried internet memory. Taking a topical approach, this course will use readings, texts, and practices of remix-in many guises-to explore questions of aesthetics, agency, economics, and politics. Topics under consideration include: intertextuality, aesthetics and form, technology and hardware/software affordances, genre and identity, AI, politics, appropriation and copyright, humor and value, memes and shitposts. Assessments will include hands-on creative projects using a spectrum of techniques, media, and software.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 27623

MADD 20624. New Forms in DJing. 100 Units.
This course will briefly explore the history of the media of DJing, then to invent a new form in the lineage through practice. Conventional history including disco, broadcasting, and Youtube, to name a few, and more experimental history including underground hip-hop, musique concrete, and contemporary performance art. The course will begin with student research and presentation on such topics followed by predictions about what may come next or brainstorming ways to deconstruct existing forms, then attempting to enact those ideas.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 27624
MADD 20700. Alternate Reality Games: Theory and Production. 100 Units.
Games are one of the most prominent and influential media of our time. This experimental course explores the emerging genre of “alternate reality” or “transmedia” gaming. Throughout the quarter, we will approach new media theory through the history, aesthetics, and design of transmedia games. These games build on the narrative strategies of novels, the performative role-playing of theater, the branching techniques of electronic literature, the procedural qualities of video games, and the team dynamics of sports. Beyond the subject matter, students will design modules of an Alternate Reality Game in small groups. Students need not have a background in media or technology, but a wide-ranging imagination, interest in new media culture, or arts practice will make for a more exciting quarter.
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 25970, BPRO 28700, ENGL 32314, ARTV 20700, CMST 25954, CMST 35954, TAPS 28466, ARTV 30700

MADD 20721. Performance Captured. 100 Units.
Technologies that turn human action, appearance and performance into data for storage, transformation and redisplay have a long history inside and outside of moving image arts. This class will look at the opportunities, aesthetics and politics of these approaches running through contemporary special effects, traditional and experimental animation, dance on camera and live performance at a moment when boundaries between these categories have become especially porous.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 67021, CMST 27021

MADD 20810. Sound / Image Mapping. 100 Units.
This class will examine the history and production of “hard” sound-image relationships through the lens of computational form. Through studying the range of digital and mechanical tools that have sought to couple the senses - from 19th century color organs and dreams of synesthesia, through music videos and contemporary new media installations, to recent advances in "machine listening" - students will complete a series of critical essays and sketches leading towards a final project using custom software developed in and for the class.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28010, ARTV 27922

MADD 20900. Computers for Learning. 100 Units.
Over time, technology has occupied an increasing role in education, with mixed results. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) were created to bring education to those without access to universities, yet most of the students who succeed in them are those who are already successful in the current educational model. This course focuses on one intersection of technology and learning: computer games. This course covers education theory, psychology (e.g., motivation, engagement), and game design so that students can design and build an educational learning application. Labs focus on developing expertise in technology, and readings supplement lecture discussions on the human components of education.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 30900, CMSC 20900

MADD 21006. The Zine as Art Theory and Practice. 100 Units.
The Zine as Art Theory and Practice is a seminar/studio hybrid that combines reading, thinking, and making. Embracing the vibrant history and short turn-around time of the artist magazine or zine, course readings are prompts for you to create your own magazines. Rather than slick glossy commercial pages, your projects will be in the lineage of the hand-drawn, the doodle, the monotype, the playbill, the Xerox, and the collage. Your magazines are a space for you to combine thoughts, images, questions, speculations, manifestos, ambivalences, rants, passions, characters and ideas.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 31006, ARTV 21006

MADD 21011. Experimental Captures. 100 Units.
This production-based class will explore the possibilities and limits of capturing the world with imaging approaches that go beyond the conventional camera. What new and experimental image-based artworks can be created with technologies such as laser scanning, structured light projection, time of flight cameras, photogrammetry, stereo raphy, motion capture, sensor augmented cameras or light field photography? This hands-on course welcomes students with production experience while being designed to keep established tools and commercial practices off-kilter and constantly in question.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37011, ARTV 37923, ARTV 27923, CMST 27011

MADD 21110. Imagining Futures: Speculative Design and Social Justice. 100 Units.
This experimental course seeks to disrupt dominant narratives about "the future": a monolithic concept that often comes from technologists and policymakers. Instead, we explore what alternative futures might look like when imagined by and with marginalized communities. Beginning with movements such as Afrofuturism, we will read speculative and science fiction across media, including short stories, critical theory, novels, films, transmedia narratives, and digital games. Rather than merely analyzing or theorizing various futures, this course will prepare students in hands-on methods of "speculative design" and "critical making." Instead of traditional midterm essays and final research papers, the work of the course will consist primarily of blog responses to shared readings, coupled with short-form, theoretically-founded, and collaborative art projects. These projects will imagine alternative futures of climate change, gender, public health, finance, policing, and labor. The work will be challenging, transdisciplinary, and will blur expectations about the relationship between theory and practice at every turn. As such, it is not a course for the craven; it is a course for students who wish to explore the complexities of collaboration and the sociopolitical possibilities of art. (B, H)
MADD 21111. Creative Coding. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to programming, using exercises in graphic design and digital art to motivate and employ basic tools of computation (such as variables, conditional logic, and procedural abstraction). We will write code in JavaScript and related languages, and we will work with a variety of digital media, including vector graphics, raster images, animations, and web applications.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 11111

MADD 21500. Metamedia. 100 Units.
Computers dynamically simulate the details of any other medium. This course looks past traditional media to engage with the computer as a "metamedium"; an environment with infinite degrees of representation. Relationships between form and content will be explored and exploited through deconstructing, augmenting, and experimenting with the data that makes up digital media. Studio time will be spent digitally improvising with expanded approaches to creating new media art. Topics surveyed will include: algorithms as art, metadata as content, and our digital shadows. In addition to making new media art, we will consider our relationship to contemporary media and the politics of digital agency in our connected world. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 25402

MADD 21900. Climate Change in Media and Design. 100 Units.
If meteorological data and models show us that climate change is real, art and literature explore what it means for our collective human life. This is the premise of many recent films, novels, and artworks that ask how a changing climate will affect human society. In this course, we will examine the aesthetics of climate change across media, in order to understand how narrative, image, and even sound help us witness a planetary disaster that is often imperceptible. Rather than merely analyzing or theorizing various futures, this course will prepare students in hands-on methods of "speculative design" and "critical making." Each Tuesday, we will study how art and literature draw on the specific capacities of written and visual media to represent climate impacts, and how new humanities research is addressing climate change. Each Thursday, we will participate in short artistic exercises that explore futures of each area. These exercises include future object design, bodymapping and story circles, tabletop gameplay, and serious game design. Throughout the quarter, guest speakers from across the humanities, sciences, and social sciences will visit the class to speak about how their disciplines are working to understand and mitigate climate impacts. The most substantial work of the quarter will be an ambitious multimedia or transmedia project about one of the core course topics to be completed in a team.
Equivalent Course(s): CRWR 12141, ARTV 25402

MADD 22141. Intro to Genres: Drawing on Graphic Novels. 100 Units.
Like film, comics are a language, and there's much to be learned from studying them, even if we have no intention of 'writing' them. Comics tell two or more stories simultaneously, one via image, the other via text, and these parallel stories can not only complement but also contradict one another, creating subtexts and effects that words alone can't. Or can they? Our goal will be to draw, both literally and metaphorically, on the structures and techniques of the form. While it's aimed at the aspiring graphic novelist (or graphic essayist, or poet), it's equally appropriate for those of us who work strictly with words (or images). What comics techniques can any artist emulate, approximate, or otherwise aspire to, and how can these lead us to a deeper understanding of the possibilities of point of view, tone, structure and style? We'll learn the basics of the medium via Ivan Brunetti's book Cartooning: Philosophy and Practice, as well as Syllabus, by Lynda Barry. Readings include the scholar David Kunzle on the origins of the form, the first avant-garde of George Herriman, Frank King, and Lyonel Feininger, finishing with contemporaries like Chris Ware, Emil Ferris and Alison Bechdel. Assignments include weekly creative and critical assignments, culminating in a final portfolio and paper.
Equivalent Course(s): CRWR 12141

MADD 22150. Lighting Design & Technology. 100 Units.
This course places equal emphasis on the theory and practice of modern stage lighting. Applying real world observations and research with practical applications students will learn the mechanical properties of lighting equipment; how to create, read, and execute a lighting plot; the functions of lighting in a theatrical context; color and design theory; and how to read a text as a lighting designer. Diverse perspectives in designing with light include rigorous practicum requirements in group projects and exposure to various designers and philosophies.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28150

MADD 22322. Introduction to Game Design. 100 Units.
This course introduces students to the theories and processes underlying game design through the creation of analog projects. We will be designing for forms that include board games, tabletop games, and live-action games. No prior design experience is absolutely required though some background with game studies will enable more innovative work. This course will be project-based and collaborative in nature.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 22322

MADD 22500. Computational Imaging. 100 Units.
This studio course introduces fundamental tools and concepts used in the production of computer-mediated artwork. Instruction includes a survey of standard digital imaging software and hardware (i.e., Photoshop,
scanners, storage, printing, etc.), as well as exposure to more sophisticated methods. We also view and discuss the historical precedents and current practice of media art. Using input and output hardware, students complete conceptually driven projects emphasizing personal direction while gaining core digital knowledge.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 32500, ARTV 22500, CMST 28800

**MADD 22502. Data and Algorithm in Art. 100 Units.**

An introduction to the use of data sources and algorithmic methods in visual art, this course explores the aesthetic and theoretical possibilities of computational art-making. Focusing on the diverse and ever-expanding global data-feed, we will craft custom software processes to create works investigating the visual transformation of information. Additionally, software programming may be deployed independently, without a connection to source material. While placing an emphasis on creating new work, we will also survey the history of this type of art practice.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 32502, ARTV 22502

**MADD 22506. Online Algorithmic Music. 100 Units.**

In this course, students will learn how to use JavaScript and web-based technologies to create algorithmic musical compositions and experimental web-based instruments. Through the use of the WebAudio API and JavaScript libraries like tone.js, students will learn how to programmatically generate and manipulate sound, creating interactive and generative audio works that can be shared online. Along the way, the class will also survey works by artists working in this field and will feature a visiting artist who will walk students through their own practice. Themes of generative art, randomness and chance, originality and machine creativity, and the cultural implications of influential musical algorithms will also be explored. This class is an intermediate level programming course. A beginner to intermediate level understanding of core programming concepts (ideally in JavaScript) is required. While a background in music can certainly be beneficial, it is not required for success in this course.

**MADD 22700. Devising Fundamentals. 100 Units.**

Devised theater is created from a multitude of sources but, importantly, not a preexisting script. Rather the ‘script’ (whether or not it eventually takes written form) is developed in rehearsal. This studio course engages students in methods of generating and crafting devised material, including but not limited to physical action, moment work, and verbatim text. Additionally we will focus on the generative power of ‘problems’ as a motor of creation, which draws from core principles of clowning. Through solo and collaborative projects, students will explore how devised theater wrestles with conventionally discrete roles in theater-making (writer, director, performer, dramaturg, and designer). Other considerations will include strategies for making disparate material cohere and more broadly, what constitutes a story. Select readings and case studies of artists working in devised theater will supplement the practice-based focus of the course.

Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 32700, TAPS 22700

**MADD 22800. 3D Modeling and Sculpting for Video Games. 100 Units.**

Digital Sculpting, 3D modeling and digital painting skills are essential components of 3D production. New software programs have unleashed advancements in the gaming industry because they are no longer subject to traditional polygonal modeling limitations. Now, artists have more freedom to create unique sculpts and textures that are then used for base polygon models. In this class, students will learn how to create high resolution 3D model concepts for the production of video games. High resolution sculpting is an integral part of today’s 3D production pipelines. This course aims to focus on this stage of the production pipeline, and its role in creating high quality games. While this class will focus on creating assets for video games, digital sculpting skills can be applied to a variety of other industries, such as architecture, fashion and jewelry, to name a few.

**MADD 22900. Color Theory and Practice. 100 Units.**

This course will introduce students to practical aspects of color mixing and the visual impacts of specific color combinations through a series of studio exercises and projects. Conceptual and theoretical investigations into optics, the science of color, and psychological and symbolic effects will contribute to an overall understanding of color in relation to visual culture and perception.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 21900, ARTV 31900

**MADD 22911. Augmented Reality Production. 100 Units.**

Focusing on experimental moving-image approaches at a crucial moment in the emerging medium of augmented reality, this class will explore and interrogate each stage of production of AR works. Students in this production-based class will examine the techniques and opportunities of this new kind of moving image. During this class we’ll study the construction of examples across a gamut from locative media, journalism, and gameplay-based works to museum installations. Students will complete a series of critical essays and sketches towards a final augmented reality project using a custom set of software tools developed in and for the class.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 27921, ARTV 37921, CMST 27911, CMST 37911

**MADD 22920. Art and Digital Fabrication. 100 Units.**

Digital fabrication practices are transforming the design and manufacture of the world of objects we interact with daily. Naturally, as those tools become more available to the public, artists have co opted and repurposed them to respond and intervene in that world. In this workshop course, students will develop individual creative projects as a means of developing technical familiarity with digital fabrication techniques (particularly laser cutting and 3d printing) and exploring the ways these processes have impacted the material, social, and economic spaces in
which we live. The course is primarily intended as an introduction to these techniques, software, and tools, so no prior experience is required.

**MADD 23020. Live Cinema. 100 Units.**
This production-oriented class will examine contemporary approaches to the performed digital moving image. Through studying the range of tools and conceptual frameworks that have sought to fuse live visuals in performance in contexts spanning theater, dance, music, installation and public art, students will complete a series of critical sketches leading towards a final project using custom software developed in and for the class. Film production, music composition, and computer programming experience are welcome (but none are prerequisites for the course). Students will be expected to ultimately use the techniques they learn in a final performance.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37020, CMST 27020

**MADD 23218. Surveillance Aesthetics: Provocations About Privacy and Security in the Digital Age. 100 Units.**
In the modern world, individuals' activities are tracked, surveilled, and computationally modeled to both beneficial and problematic ends. Jointly with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), this course will examine privacy and security issues at the intersection of the physical and digital worlds. Through both computer science and studio art, students will design algorithms, implement systems, and create interactive artworks that communicate, provoke, and reframe pervasive issues in modern privacy and security. The course will unpack and re-entangle computational connections and data-driven interactions between people, built space, sensors, structures, devices, and data. Synthesizing technology and aesthetics, we will communicate our findings to the broader public not only through academic avenues, but also via public art and media. The first phase of the course will involve prompts in which students design and program small-scale artworks in various contexts, including (1) data collected from web browsing; (2) mobility data; (3) data collected about consumers by major companies; and (4) raw sensor data. Students will receive detailed feedback on their work from computer scientists, artists, and curators at the Museum of Science & Industry (MSI). The course culminates in the production and presentation of a capstone interactive artwork by teams of computer scientists and artists; successful products may be considered for prototyping at the MSI.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 33218, CMSC 23218

**MADD 23220. Inventing, Engineering and Understanding Interactive Devices. 100 Units.**
A physical computing class, dedicated to micro-controllers, sensors, actuators and fabrication techniques. The objective is that everyone creates their own, custom-made, functional I/O device.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 23220

**MADD 23281. Topics in Human Robot Interaction. 100 Units.**
The field of human-robot interaction (HRI) is a new and growing field of research that explores the interface between people and robots. Applications of HRI research include developing robots to tutor elementary students, assist human workers in manufacturing contexts, provide museum tours, interact with families within their homes, and help care for the elderly. The field of HRI is highly interdisciplinary, incorporating methods and techniques from human-computer interaction, robotics, psychology, artificial intelligence, and other fields. The University of Chicago’s CMSC 33281 Topics in Human-Robot Interaction course exposes students to a broad range of recent and cutting-edge research in HRI. The topics covered in this course include nonverbal robot behavior, verbal robot behavior, social dynamics, norms & ethics, collaboration & learning, group interactions, applications, and future challenges of HRI. Course meetings will involve students in the class leading discussions about cutting-edge peer-reviewed research HRI publications. Throughout the quarter, teams of students in the course will also complete an HRI course project of their choosing where they will investigate an HRI research question of interest to them.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 33281

**MADD 23620. Internet Censorship and Online Speech. 100 Units.**
Information dissemination and online discourse on the Internet are subject to the algorithms and filters that operate on Internet infrastructure, from network firewalls to search engines. This course will explore the technologies that are used to control access to online speech and information, and cutting-edge technologies that can empower citizens in the face of these information controls. Students will learn about and experiment with technologies to control online discourse, ranging from firewalls that perform network traffic filtering to algorithms for content personalization and content moderation. We will also explore underlying technical trends, such as the increasing consolidation of Internet infrastructure and protocols, and the implications of consolidation for control over online discourse. Each course meeting will include a technical overview, reading discussion, and a hands-on laboratory activity.
Equivalent Course(s): PARR 33260, CMSC 33260

**MADD 23631. Internet Art I. 100 Units.**
This studio course examines the Internet as an artistic medium (computers, networks, and code), as an environment (media ecology), and as “the masterpiece of human civilization” (à la Virginia Heffernan). Our focus will be on producing creative contributions to this collaborative space by learning the core coding languages of the web, HTML, and CSS. While we will occasionally be discussing the contributions of self-identified artists (from the net.art movement of the 1990s, for example), we will generally be taking a broader cultural view, exploring the histories, philosophies, and practices of various online cultural niches. We will learn how hackers use the command line to break into networks and how the open source community uses special tools that...
facilitate large-scale collaborations. We’ll learn about AI praised by singularity evangelists in the “age of spiritual machines,” as well as the digital rights activists who protest against the algorithms of surveillance capitalism. Throughout this journey, we will be learning the craft of the Internet, and in particular browsers and the web. We will be borrowing techniques from demoscenesters, meme-makers, cyberpunks, and web designers as we learn to produce work with the web’s generalized media format (HTML and CSS), as well as how to distribute that work online (deploying web sites). This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 23632. Internet Art II. 100 Units.
Though the web was originally conceived as an online space for sharing hyperlinked documents, the modern Web browser has evolved into a creative coding playground capable of producing all manner of networked art and algorithmic compositions. In this course we’ll learn JavaScript, the Web’s defacto programming language. Throughout the quarter we’ll experiment with various different Web APIs for creating generative and interactive Internet art including HTML5 video, Canvas (2D/3D animations) and Web Audio. We’ll learn how to produce work that responds to various input sources (trackpad/mouse, touchscreen, keyboard, cameras, microphones) and how to fetch and incorporate data from external APIs elsewhere on the Internet. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 23640. Embodied Data and Gamified Interfaces. 100 Units.
We produce caches of data within our networked lives, from social media interactions to mass surveillance systems, mostly to the benefit of corporate or state entities. The aesthetics of many of these interfaces use gamification as a guise to data collection, relying on dopamine rushes from "winning" likes, shares, and views to keep us coming back. Through a combination of lectures and workshops, we will explore data and games as artistic mediums and how they interface and exchange with each other. We will look at how the physical body is reduced to data, surveilled and analyzed through our online behavior, mobile devices, computer vision, and machine learning algorithms. Students will learn how to incorporate the aesthetics of this embodied data into 2D and 3D gaming spaces, while considering how the physical body fits into the increasingly digitally connected world. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 23645. Body and the Digital. 100 Units.
As digital technology advances, the separation between IRL and URL blurs. Participants enrolled in this course will explore techniques that will help them create thought-provoking work, strengthen their ability to give critique, and build an understanding of how the corporeal interacts with the digital. Throughout this course, students will offer and receive constructive feedback during instructor-led critiques on peers’ works. By the end of this course, students will feel comfortable utilizing different processes of development to create digital artwork.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20701, GNSE 23645

MADD 23650. Culture Jamming in the Digital Age. 100 Units.
From the détournement images of the Situationist International to the plundered sampled tracks of sonic outlaws, activist media artists in the later half of the 20th century deployed a medley of piratical practices in their quest to challenge and subvert our mainstream media culture. While the institutional critiques posed by these “culture jammers” remain as salient as ever, the creative techniques themselves no longer have the same effect in the age of social media and surveillance capitalism. As new media theorist Curt Cloninger asked in 2009, “How do you hack/resist a platform that already allows (indeed, invites) you to customize it?” This is the question we will set out to answer in this course. We’ll look at works and study the practices of new media artists who have adapted these culture jamming techniques for the present moment. We’ll learn how glitch artists exploit bugs in software to databend and datamosh media files. We’ll learn how hacktivist use information security tools for creative political ends. We’ll explore radical networks that exist outside the mainstream Internet and learn to tactically misuse our apps to circumvent restrictions imposed by popular platforms. At the end of this journey we’ll respond to Cloninger’s challenge by reframing these techniques as new modes of culture jamming for the digital age. This course can count towards the Media Practice and Design or Media Theory requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 23655. Collaborative Artware. 100 Units.
In this course we’ll be working together as an open source arts collective. We’ll produce an online app which explores the expressive space between software as a tool and software as art. We’ll learn the processes (Agile, Scrum, etc) and tools (git, GitHub, etc) that professional creative technologists use when working together to produce “software art” projects. This is an intermediate level coding course with work being predominantly written in JavaScript (server side and client side). While proficiency in JavaScript is not required, it’s recommended that students have a background in basic programming concepts (data types, variables, functions, conditions, loops, etc) as this course will build on those to introduce more intermediate level concepts and programming paradigms. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 23801. Video. 100 Units.
This is a production course geared towards short experimental works and video within a studio art context.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 23801, ARTV 33801
MADD 23804. Experimental Animation: Exploring Manual Techniques. 100 Units.
Individually directed video shorts will be produced in this intensive studio course. Experimental and improvised approaches to animation and motion picture art will focus on analog and material techniques, with basic digital post-production also being introduced. Early and experimental cinema, puppetry and contemporary low-tech animation will be presented as formal and technical examples.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 23804, ARTV 33804, CMST 23804

MADD 23805. Minimalist Experiment in Film and Video. 100 Units.
This multilevel studio will investigate minimalist strategies in artists' film and video from the late 1960s to the present day. Emphasis will be placed on works made with limited means and/or with "amateur" formats such as Super-8 and 16mm film, camcorders, Flip cameras, SLR video, and iPhone or iPad. Our aim is to imagine how to produce complex results from economical means. Important texts will be paired with in class discussion of works by artists such as Andy Warhol, Yoko Ono, Kurt Kren, Jack Goldstein, Larry Gottheim, Bruce Baillie, James Benning, John Baldessari, Morgan Fisher, Stan Douglas, Matthew Buckingham, Sam Taylor-Wood, and others.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 38006, ARTV 23805, ARTV 33815, CMST 28006

MADD 23806. Video Workshop. 100 Units.
This production course is geared toward short video works and innovative approaches to digital moving-image art. Video Workshop will function as a continuation and expansion on the foundations of Video I, with emphasis on individually directed projects and experimentations. While some technical instruction and assistance will be offered, a basic understanding of digital cameras and editing software will be beneficial. Projects include several short video sketches and experiments, group exercises, and a larger-scale independent project. Weeks will be divided into screenings/discussion sessions and technical work periods.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 33806, ARTV 23806

MADD 23808. Introduction to 16mm Filmmaking. 100 Units.
The goal of this intensive laboratory course is to give its students a working knowledge of film production using the 16mm gauge. The course will emphasize how students can use 16mm technology towards successful cinematography and image design (for use in both analog and digital postproduction scenarios) and how to develop their ideas towards constructing meaning through moving pictures. Through a series of group exercises, students will put their hands on equipment and solve technical and aesthetic problems, learning to operate and care for the 16mm Bolex film camera; prime lenses; Sekonic light meter; Sachtler tripod; and Arri light kit and accessories. For a final project, students will plan and produce footage for an individual or small group short film. The first half the course will be highly structured, with demonstrations, in-class shoots, and lectures. As the semester continues, class time will open up to more of a workshop format to address the specific concerns and issues that arise in the production of the final projects. This course is made possible by the Charles Roven Fund for Cinema and Media Studies. Students will need written permission to enroll in the course. To bid for entry into the class, please email the instructor with your name, major and year -- and please list any other media production or photography experience.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28921, CMST 38921, ARTV 33808, ARTV 23808

MADD 23809. Experimental Animation: Digital and Camera-less Production. 100 Units.
Through digital and camera-less production techniques such as scanning, signal manipulation, and appropriation, this course will emphasize image construction, digital effects, and post-production for creation of animated art. It can function as a continuation of Experimental Animation: Exploring Manual Techniques or be a stand alone course. Early video effects and image processing, and a wide variety of digital and abstract animation will be presented as formal and technical examples.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 23809, ARTV 33809

MADD 23820. The Mind as Stage: Podcasting. 100 Units.
Audio storytelling insinuates itself into the day-to-day unlike other narrative forms. People listen to podcasts while they do the dishes, drive to work, or walk the dog. In this hands-on course, we will learn to produce a podcast from idea to final sound mix, and explore the unique opportunities that the podcast form affords the storyteller. Students will complete several short audio exercises, and one larger podcast project.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28320, TAPS 38320

MADD 23833. Oral History & Podcasting. 100 Units.
This class explores the potential of the podcast as a form of ethical artistic and social practice. Through the lens of oral history and its associated values - including prioritizing voices that are not often heard, reciprocity, complicating narratives, and the archive- we will explore ways to tell stories of people and communities in sound. Students will develop a grounding in oral history practices and ethics, as well as the skills to produce compelling oral narratives, including audio editing, recording scenes and ambient sound, and using music. During the quarter, students will have several opportunities to practice interviewing and will design their own oral history project. This class is appropriate for students with no audio experience, as well as students who have taken TAPS 28320 The Mind as Stage: Podcasting.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28330, CHST 28330, TAPS 38330

MADD 23860. Screendance: Movement and New Media. 100 Units.
This course will explore the evolving relationship between moving bodies and video technologies. From early filmmakers using dancers as test subjects, to movie musicals and contemporary dance for the camera festivals,
mediatization of the body continues to challenge the ephemerality of live dance performance. This course focuses on
the growing field of screendance, videodance, or dance-on-camera, working to define this hybrid genre and
to understand the collaborative roles of choreographer, director, dancer, cameraman, and video editor. This
course is both a practical and scholarly approach to the genre of screendance, each component essential to a full
understanding and mastery of the other. Course work will be divided between the studio and the classroom.
For the studio component, students will learn basic video editing and filming techniques. For the classroom
component, students will be asked to watch screendance and read a cross-section of criticism. Assignments will
be both technological and choreographic (making screendance) and scholarly (written reflections and a seminar
paper).
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 38360, TAPS 28360, CMST 28360

MADD 23930. Documentary Production I. 100 Units.
Documentary Video Production focuses on the making of independent documentary video. Examples of various
modes of documentary production will be screened and discussed. Issues embedded in the genre, such as the
ethics, the politics of representation, and the shifting lines between "the real" and "fiction" will be explored. Story
development, pre-production strategies, and production techniques will be our focus, in particular research,
relationships, the camera, interviews and sound recording, shooting in available light, working in crews, and
post-production editing. Students will work in crews and be expected to purchase a portable hard drive. A five-
minute string-out/rough-cut will be screened at the end of the quarter. Students are strongly encouraged to take
CMST 23931 Documentary Production II to complete their work. Consent of instructor is required to enroll.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 35106, CHST 23930, HMRT 25106, CMST 33930, CMST 23930, ARTV 23930, ARTV
33930

MADD 23931. Documentary Production II. 100 Units.
Documentary Production II focuses on the shaping and crafting of a non-fiction video. Enrollment will be limited
to those students who have taken CMST 23930 Documentary Production I. The class will discuss issues of ethics,
power, and representation in this most philosophical and problematic of genres. Students will be expected to
write a treatment outline detailing their project and learn about granting agencies and budgeting. Production
techniques will concentrate on the language of handheld camera versus tripod, interview methodologies,
microphone placement including working with wireless systems and mixers, and lighting for the interview. Post-
production will cover editing techniques including color correction and audio sweetening, how to prepare for
exhibition, and distribution strategies. Consent of instructor is required to enroll.
Equivalent Course(s): HMRT 35107, ARTV 23931, CMST 33931, HMRT 25107, CMST 23931, ARTV 33931, CHST
23931

MADD 24007. Thinking About and Making Pictures. 100 Units.
With the advent of the digital smart phone, we are all photographers. Just as we all use words, photography,
like language, carries meaning that has and gives rise to a myriad of purposes, possibilities, and limitations. The
goal of this course is to develop students' investigations and explorations in photography, building on beginning
level techniques and ideas to explore technical and conceptual image-making strategies to refine students'
visual eloquence. Students will make photographs in response to prompts that interrogate various photographic
processes, readings and artists' work (gallery visits, books and image presentations). Critiques and discussions
will hone students' critical and evaluative capabilities. Processes will range from silver gelatin black-and-white or
color printing, small, medium and/or large format cameras usage, as well as experimenting with alternative light-
sensitive materials and digital negatives and printing.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 34007, ARTV 24007

MADD 24270. Children & Architecture. 100 Units.
Many who pursue architecture do so initially out of a childlike fascination with buildings, places and worlds.
Curiosity and limited understanding naturally provide children with an exploratory relationship to the built
environments they traverse, and children also often show a heightened sense of wonder -- heightened emotions
of all kinds -- as that relationship plays out. (This can be positive and formative, or scary and traumatic.) And yet,
many of the adults who make choices about the worlds we inhabit think mostly of adults, and as adults, in doing
so. This architecture studio course investigates the built world through a child's eyes, across different moments in
history, including our own. Readings and seminar discussions will range from playgrounds to blocks, preschools
to family relations, swimming pools and sandcastles to the very construction of childhood as an idea. We will
explore Chicago, and meet with builders of all ages, likely culminating in designing (and potentially building) a
real playground space. While previous experience with architectural skills is not necessary to excel in this course,
childlike curiosity is required.
Equivalent Course(s): ENST 24270, ARTV 20029, ARTH 24270, CHST 24270, ARCH 24270

MADD 24410. Transmedia Puzzle Design & Performance. 100 Units.
This course will introduce students to the burgeoning field of immersive puzzle design. Students will develop,
implement and playtest puzzles that are suited for a range of experiences: from the tabletop to the immersive,
from online puzzle hunts to broad-scope alternate reality games (ARG). Students in this course will work
directly with master puzzler, Sandor Wiesz, the commissioner of The Mystery League.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 24410, TAPS 34410
MADD 24415. Games & Performance. 100 Units.
This experimental course explores the emerging genre of "immersive performance," "alternate reality," and "transmedia" gaming. For all of their novelty, these games build on the narrative strategies of novels, the performative role-playing of theater, the branching techniques of electronic literature, the procedural qualities of videogames, and the team dynamics of sports. Throughout the quarter, we will approach new media theory through the history, aesthetics, and design of immersive games, while working in labs with three Chicago-area companies including The House Theater, Mystery League, and Humans vs. Zombies.
Equivalent Course(s): CHST 24415, TAPS 34415, TAPS 24415

MADD 24420. Games and Performance: Live Action Role Playing Games. 100 Units.
This experimental course builds on the emerging genres of "immersive performance," "alternate reality," and "Live Action Role Playing (LARP)" to investigate the dynamics of role-playing games through case studies, gameplay, and original student design. Our focus will include the 1913 Gettysburg reunion, parlor games including Parker Brother's 1937 Jury Box, Society for Creative Anachronism in 1966, Dungeons and Dragons (both its inception in 1974 and current resurgence), Brian Wiese's Hobbit War in 1977, Mind's Eye Theater's development of World of Darkness, and Ground Zero, which began the Nordic Larp movement in 1998. We will explore role of the game master, emergent narratives, improvised community formation as well as "bleed." Previous course work in Games and Performance encouraged but not required.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 24420, TAPS 34420

MADD 24515. Contemporary Political Strategies in Performance. 100 Units.
The emphasis of the course is on strategies-in the words of curator Florian Malzacher, "artistic strategies in politics, and political strategies in art." In moments of political struggle, what can art DO, and what can it not? We will be combining case studies with theoretical background, examining strategies like occupation, participation, parafiction, 'technologies of care,' détournement and the art strike. Students will have the opportunity to put some of these approaches to the test by designing one or more local interventions according to the interests of the group.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20213, TAPS 25515, ART 30213, TAPS 35515

MADD 24530. Staging the Internet. 100 Units.
The theater has often been used as a means to embody psychic spaces, from Medieval mystery plays and other allegorical works to Richard Foreman's attempt to give theatrical form to consciousness itself. This practice-based lab class will propose to 'stage the internet' - what techniques and strategies can we develop to give tangible shape to the virtual world? Our explorations will be catalyzed by readings on data and interfaces, networks and protocols, procedural/algorithmic art, digital labor, and competing notions of the virtual.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 26530, ARTV 30214, TAPS 46530, ARTV 20214

MADD 24540. Multimedia Fashion Design. 100 Units.
Multimedia Fashion Design sets out to uncover new notions of fashion and style through collaborative, interdisciplinary, and experimental approaches. Historically, garment designers sketch or illustrate their ideas with either theatrical costuming or the runaway in mind as an end goal. This course embraces these traditions while also imagining a broader array of historical and contemporary media that involves fashion, like video games, animations, comics, novels, and more. We will spend time exploring the epistemology of fashion before working on our own designs, challenging each other conceptually along the way. Some students may follow the traditional path of sewing their ideas. Others may find themselves creating their work using software. Those who are brand new to art or design are also welcome—we can always sketch our ideas. Multimedia Fashion Design welcomes artists and designers who work in any medium to come together and think about how people and characters express style—the broader the array of mediums, the more dynamic our class will be.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 27540

MADD 24550. Evolution of Improvisation in Chicago. 100 Units.
This course traces the history of improvisation for performance, beginning with the "High Priestess" Viola Spolin's work exploring the educational and social benefits of play at Hull House through Paul Sill's development of The Compass Players in Hyde Park to include current companies including Second City, The Neo Futurists, The Annoyance, and IO. The course will include attendance at performances, student presentations, and practice-based workshops.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 34550, CHST 24550, TAPS 24550

MADD 24618. Electronic Music: Composing with Sound. 100 Units.
Electronic Music I presents an open environment for creativity and expression through composition in the electronic music studio. The course provides students with a background in the fundamentals of sound and acoustics, covers the theory and practice of digital signal processing for audio, and introduces the recording studio as a powerful compositional tool. The course culminates in a concert of original student works presented in multi-channel surround sound. Enrollment gives students access to the Electronic Music Studio in the Department of Music. No prior knowledge of electronic music is necessary.
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 36618, MUSI 26618

MADD 24817. Electronic Music: Introduction to Computer Music Programming. 100 Units.
This course is an introduction to computer-based sound art and live electronic music performance. Our primary tool for this course will be MAX/MSP, a computer music programming language designed for composition
and real-time music applications. Through this language we will explore the foundations of computer music, including digital instrument design, sequencing, live processing, sound diffusion, and various approaches to algorithmic music generation.

Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 26817, MUSI 36817

MADD 24820. Video Game Music Production and Sound Design. 100 Units.

The advent of video game soundtrack releases and live game music concerts substantiate the importance of music and sound in games, not just as accompaniments but as essential aspects of the gaming experience. This production course surveys the history of sound effects, music, and design in games beginning with the bleeps and bloops of the 1970s and concluding with the ambient, nonlinear soundscape of many contemporary games. Following the timeline media theorist Karen Collins presents in her documentary Beep, this course will explore electronic sound technologies including virtual analog synthesis, frequency modulation, bit reduction, General MIDI, and sample-based production. Each student will compose a game soundtrack demo for their final project. This course welcomes students who are both new to and experienced in sound production; the complexity of each assignment can be adjusted based on experience.

Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 24820

MADD 24910. Short Form Digital Storytelling: Creating a Web Series. 100 Units.

This course examines the short form storytelling of the digital web series. Through lectures, viewings and discussions in weekly meetings students will determine what makes a strong web series and apply the findings to writing and polishing the pilot episode of their own web series. Students will write weekly 4-5 page assignments building toward the creation of a 5-6 episode series.

Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 25910, CMST 28915

MADD 24920. Virtual Reality Production. 100 Units.

Focusing on experimental moving-image approaches at a crucial moment in the emerging medium of virtual reality, this class will explore and interrogate each stage of production for VR. By hacking their way around the barriers and conventions of current software and hardware to create new optical experiences, students will design, construct and deploy new ways of capturing the world with cameras and develop new strategies and interactive logics for placing images into virtual spaces. Underpinning these explorations will be a careful discussion, dissection and reconstruction of techniques found in the emerging VR "canon" that spans new modes of journalism and documentary, computer games, and narrative "VR cinema." Film production and computer programming experience is welcome but not a prerequisite for the course. Students will be expected to complete short "sketches" of approaches in VR towards a final short VR experience.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27920, ARTV 37920, ARTV 27920, CMST 37920

MADD 24930. Designing Virtual Space While Staying Alive. 100 Units.

How do we experience virtual space in the age of the pandemic? An introductory, studio-oriented class on Unity and Virtual Reality development, this class explores ways of designing virtual space for platforms beyond the head-mounted display. To mine the full potential of the medium, we will adopt a slightly deconstructed approach to learning techniques while adjusting to remote learning needs. Each week’s lesson starts with a conceptual prompt around which the technical knowledge revolves. Prompts include: What makes an interesting space? How would one travel through the virtual space? What kind of physicality constitutes your virtual experience? The knowledge and technique acquired in this class can serve as the building blocks for game design, data visualization, VR/AR/XR development. This course counts towards the Media Practice and Design requirement for the MAAD program.

MADD 24935. Introduction to Immersive Environments. 100 Units.

Virtual reality is expanding from just being utilized for games into an exploration of extended realities. Introduction to Immersive Environments will explore the theory and applications of virtual-reality environments. Students will learn how to construct their VR environments using Blender and Unity. Students will offer and receive constructive feedback during instructor-led critiques of their works throughout this course. Students will also explore the genre with readings and discussions. By the end of this course, students will feel comfortable utilizing different developmental processes to create.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 24935

MADD 25010. Anthropology of the Future. 100 Units.

Two major subfields of anthropology - archaeology and ethnography - have traditionally been oriented around the human past and the human present. But what about the future? Conceptions of the future and future-oriented behavior have long been understood to be a critical plane of difference between political economies, religions, and cultural groups, yet they have rarely been an explicit focus of study. When we shift the temporal frame to the future, questions that arise include: do all cultures have theories of the future? how much about human societies are intentional? how does ideology shape future possibilities? what role do imagined futures play in political life? We will consider theories of temporality, past futures (Aztec, Polynesian, Italian), and movements such as millenarianism, messianic religions, Marxism, Dadaism, utopian communities, Afro-futurism, transhumanism, and today’s neo-futurist movements that deploy radical technology and speculative design in response to looming climate change. We will also explore the intimate relationship between speculative fiction (e.g., Ursula K. LeGuin, Kurt Vonnegut) and anthropology.

Equivalent Course(s): ANTH 20010, CCCT 20010
MADD 25022. Composing for Spatial Audio. 100 Units.
TBA
Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 45022

MADD 25080. Spectacle in Miniature. 100 Units.
This course explores how the grand theatrical event can be ‘miniaturized’. Students will investigate forms of spectacle and contemporary puppetry, toy theater, performance installation, and designed environments, along with artists who work in intimate and miniature scale. Students will create works experimenting with how large dramatic stories can be told with detailed and intimate sets, puppets, transforming objects, mechanical contraptions, and text. Sources for narrative will include but not be limited to dream and myth.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 20216, TAPS 27080

MADD 25171. Robots, animals, technologies: Science fiction and the more-than-human. 100 Units.
Science fiction allows encounters with other beings that variously encourage or strain the bonds of kinship, and many of those beings are related to entities with whom we already share a world. From companion animals and modified humans to starfish and androids, estrangement from familiar categories allows us to trouble assumptions about the certainty of species, the superiority of consciousness, and what care looks like in relation with those who may not respond to, recognize, or return care in familiar ways. In this class, we’ll look at relations with the more-than-human in the context of urgent and emergent lived experience, in which social, political, and environmental realities require a response that thinks beyond entrenched approaches and takes wild and revolutionary imagination as a reparative possibility. We’ll explore these and other questions through science fiction novels, poetry, graphic novels, music, and video (by Octavia Butler, Ursula Le Guin, Vonda McIntyre, Janelle Monae, Grant Morrison, Margaret Rhee, and others). We’ll engage with theoretical work on topics including multispecies kinship, race and technology, and non-conscious/non-biological life (by Karen Barad, Beth Coleman, Wendy Chun, Donna Haraway, N. Katherine Hayles, Shannon Mattern, Sophia Roosth, Alan Turing, and others). [Note: this class pairs well with “Rocks, plants, ecologies: science fiction and the more-than-human” offered in Spring, and may also be taken as a stand-alone course.]
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40171, ENGL 20171, ENGL 40171

MADD 25201. Art & Machine Intelligence. 100 Units.
Artists have long used autonomous processes to aid in the creation of their work. From 18th century parlor games to contemporary visual culture, creators have applied stochastic methods, automation, and simulation to generate music, text, and imagery. In the last five years, as machine learning has matured into broadly applicable artificial intelligence, artists have turned towards neural networks as a new frontier for creative practice. This studio course will explore the history and uses of autonomous creative tools and focus, more specifically, on leading edge artistic applications of AI. Students will receive exposure to a breadth of methods in this domain and produce multiple projects engaged with these topics. Software development experience is not required, though it may be useful.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 22501, ARTV 32501

MADD 25300. Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction. 100 Units.
An introduction to the field of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), with an emphasis in understanding, designing and programming user-facing software and hardware systems. This class covers the core concepts of HCI: affordances, mental models, selection techniques (pointing, touch, menus, text entry, widgets, etc), conducting user studies (psychophysics, basic statistics, etc), rapid prototyping (3D printing, etc), and the fundamentals of 3D interfaces (optics for VR, AR, etc). We complement the lectures with weekly programming assignments and two larger projects, in which we build/program/test user-facing interactive systems.
Equivalent Course(s): CMSC 20300

MADD 25302. A Still Life: Feminists and Objects in Modernity. 100 Units.
Modernity has always been fascinated by the fantasy of objects coming to life. Feminist theory, by contrast, has often been fixated on the reverse: “objectification,” or the process of human beings becoming like objects. This course puts into conversation these two different ways of imagining animate object-ness in order to assemble a critical archive on one of modernity’s foundational binaries: the “subject-object” dichotomy. We will examine a series of genres that prominently feature objects, including it-narratives, narratives about robotic women, and environmental realities require a response that thinks beyond entrenched approaches and takes wild and revolutionary imagination as a reparative possibility. We’ll explore these and other questions through science fiction novels, poetry, graphic novels, music, and video (by Octavia Butler, Ursula Le Guin, Vonda McIntyre, Janelle Monae, Grant Morrison, Margaret Rhee, and others). We’ll engage with theoretical work on topics including multispecies kinship, race and technology, and non-conscious/non-biological life (by Karen Barad, Beth Coleman, Wendy Chun, Donna Haraway, N. Katherine Hayles, Shannon Mattern, Sophia Roosth, Alan Turing, and others). [Note: this class pairs well with “Rocks, plants, ecologies: science fiction and the more-than-human” offered in Spring, and may also be taken as a stand-alone course.]
Equivalent Course(s): MAPH 40171, ENGL 20171, ENGL 40171

MADD 25305. Virtual Worlds and Nonhuman Narratives: Cyberspace Fiction. 100 Units.
The joke gets at a disorienting truth: we live in a world where cyberspace increasingly leaks into the “real” physical space of our lives, and the two often become surrealistically conflated. We can be at once in a given geographical location and “online,” wafting in and out of presence in both places. We live in a world where major events transpire nowhere but "on the Internet," from hacks to business transactions to relationships. These events have effects and consequences that are felt in our physical world as well. How do we tell - and read - stories that take place at least in part in virtual regions? In this course, we will investigate narrative depictions of experience that transpires in the not-quite-place of cyberspace and similar technologically-sustained virtual arenas. Earlier dream narratives anticipate this world where experience increasingly takes place online; in later narratives of virtual reality, technologically-enabled virtual landscapes confer a dreamlike (il)logic on daily experience. What can we make of the apparent rapprochement between scientific and magical paradigms here? What are the
political stakes of a virtual world sometimes portrayed as anestheticizing but also sometimes a space where otherwise unavailable experiences and information can be accessed? We will examine a transatlantic range of influential twentieth-century texts as well as selections from theoretical and critical texts on communicative and information technology.

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 23505

MADD 25316. After You: Curating the Art & Algorithm Debate. 100 Units.
This course offers a unique opportunity to witness the process of - and, more importantly, actively contribute to - the conceptualization of a major exhibition of contemporary art, to be organized at the Neubauer Collegium and Smart Museum of Art in the winter and spring of 2021. The exhibition in question is titled After You: Art and Agency in the Age of Algorithms, and was conceived in dialogue with DoVA associate professor and participating artist Jason Salavon. Alluding to the specter of the post-human regime and the various challenges raised by rapid advances in digital technology in the field of artificial intelligence and machine learning in particular, After You will bring together the work of a dozen artists working at the intersection of more or less traditional modes of artistic production and their algorithmic antitheses. The primary focus of After You, and therefore also of this class, are the philosophical implications of the increased role of artificial intelligence in the creation and reception of art, in particular with regards to questions of artistic intent, authorship, and originality. We will discuss this phenomenon’s short but vibrant history, meet artists, read key texts (Bostrom, Joselit, Steyerl, Zuboff), and view artworks, all the while laying the didactic groundwork for the 2021 exhibit in the process: a hands-on curatorial workshop centered on one of the defining debates of our time.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 31316, ARTH 21316

MADD 25450. Writing the Feature Film. 100 Units.
This course is designed to help the emerging writer focus their creativity into a viable feature film project and screenplay. This includes structure, format, exposition, characterization, dialogue, voice-over, and other aspects of visual storytelling for the screen. Weekly meetings include a brief lecture period, screenings of scenes from selected films, extended discussion, assorted readings and writing assignments. Because this is primarily a writing class, students should expect to deliver four to five pages of written material-including story development materials or screenplay pages each week.

Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 25450

MADD 25500. Beginning Screenwriting. 100 Units.
This course introduces the basic elements of a literate screenplay, including format, exposition, characterization, dialogue, voice-over, adaptation, and the vagaries of the three-act structure. Weekly meetings include a brief lecture period, screenings of scenes from selected films, extended discussion, and assorted readings of class assignments. Because this is primarily a writing class, students write a four- to five-page weekly assignment related to the script topic of the week.

Equivalent Course(s): CRWR 27102

MADD 25531. Framing the I: Autobiography and Film. 100 Units.
Cinema offers almost endless ways of telling one’s own story-diaries, confessions, album, travelogues, accounts of a distressing period, letters, searches for one’s origins, autobiographies, self-portraits, work notes, autofictions- and filmmakers continually create new hybrid forms that innovate or transgress former “genres.” This seminar examines film history’s various modes of autobiographical discourse in the context of philosophical and psychoanalytic considerations of the self as well as of experiments in literary and pictorial self-representation.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 35531, CMST 25531

MADD 25590. New Media Since the 19th Century. 100 Units.
How have artists working outside the traditional categories of painting and sculpture introduced new ways of looking at the world? This introductory course will survey the practice, theory, and reception of so-called “new media” art from the late 19th century to the present day. We will examine artists’ use of emerging technologies including photography; the portable video camera, the electronic computer, holography, virtual and augmented reality, and Web-based art. We will also discuss time-based art forms such as performance and dance, which made the human body their primary medium. Moving roughly chronologically, we will attend to a set of central themes: temporality and perception, the blurring of artistic and scientific practices, and intersecting questions of gender, race, and class in relation to technology. Through a combination of close looking (the careful study of the visual and material qualities of a work of art) with close reading of primary literature (artists’ writings, contemporary art criticism and theory) and secondary literature (scholars’ takes on these topics), students will develop the vocabulary and conceptual tools necessary to describe works of art and contextualize them historically.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 15590

MADD 25604. How to Draw Things on the Computer. 100 Units.
TBD

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25604

MADD 25612. Comics as Medium. 100 Units.
In a climate in which the borders differentiating media continue to collapse into something now referred to as “transmedia,” what does it actually mean for us to move between mediums-particularly mediums that raise familiar issues of representation, temporality, and narrative? The objective of this course is to provide
the necessary tools to enable critical reflection on the respective values and mutual relationships of comics, art and film. To achieve this, the course is divided into two units. The first weeks will be spent acquiring the technical and historical context that will enable us to begin to recognize the breadth and depth of word/image narrative practices. After developing a core vocabulary for thinking about comics as a medium we will then look at how artists and directors have drawn on that vocabulary in a range of different contexts. Retaining a sense of the specificity of both comics and film as artistic mediums, we will consider topics ranging from cross-cultural translation, ontologies of otherness, and modes of mediated history. Beyond questions of fidelity, we will look at what it means to adapt particular stories at particular moments. How does an X-Men comic from 1982 adapt to meet the historical needs of its film adaptation in 2002? What do we mean when we say a particular adaptation is “good” or that another attempt “failed”? The works this course will consider are meant to challenge our understanding of what the art of comics can be.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 25612

MADD 25630. Videogames and Genre Storytelling. 100 Units.
Historically, the genre categorization of videogames has been based around what the player does. In place of iconography or thematic content, videogame genres are typically defined in terms of actions: shooting, jumping, pointing, clicking. This course takes a sideways approach to videogame genre, examining the ways in which games have taken inspiration from, and put their own unique mark on, genres borrowed from popular literature and cinema. The aesthetic formulas for popular genres such as horror, romance, comedy, science fiction, and the detective story will be examined using examples in literature and cinema, before turning to games and examining the unique challenges and interactivity brings to these genres’ typical plot beats and affective techniques. How does the player-avatar relationship complicate point-of-view and identification in the horror genre? What happens to the literary rules of “fair play” in detective stories as they are adapted into actual game form? Can the performative pain of slapstick be successfully adapted into interactive form? How do dating games re-structure the traditional forms of intimacy of the romance novel and cinematic rom com? This course will take advantage of the resources of the Weston Game Lab of the Media Arts, Data, and Design Center, and be structured around played examples, in addition to examples from popular literature and film.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27840

MADD 25650. From Open Worlds to Angry Birds: Videogame History 2000-2010. 100 Units.
This course will trace developments in the videogame medium and videogame cultures in the first decade of the new millennium. Topics include, but are not limited to, the following: the rise and influence of the open world/sandbox genre; the spread of online gaming with Massively Multiplayer Online RPGs, networked First-Person Shooters, and virtual worlds; changes in the embodied experience of play introduced by rhythm/music games, motion controls, and touch screen interfaces; the proliferation of independent game development and online distribution; the rise of “art games” as a distinct (and debated) category; the reemergence of “retro” styles and repackaging of vintage games; the blurred boundaries of the “magic circle” and everyday life in Alternate Reality and Augmented Reality gaming; the increasing popularity of mobile and casual gaming; and the emergence of Videogame Studies as an academic field. This class will be a mix of history and historiography. We will not only learn about the history of the decade, but also discuss the unique possibilities and difficulties arising from the study of recent history - and put these discussions into practice through research-based assignments.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 37816, CMST 27816, MAPH 45516

MADD 25710. Modern Design and Modern Culture. 100 Units.
This course explores key issues of modernity (industrialization, capitalism, colonialism, consumerism, mass culture, nationalism, technology, etc.) through the study of material culture. Focusing on modern design in Europe and the United States, we will examine major developments in design thinking and practice as both reactive to and generative of broader political, economic, and social concerns. The course is organized around influential exhibitions, from World’s Fairs to storefront shows, where design professionals, institutions, and publics came together to reflect on topics of urgency, identify design solutions, and imagine the implications of design on everyday life.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 15710

MADD 25722. The Musical Interface: Constraint and Creativity. 100 Units.
Music-making involves constraint: the layout of a keyboard or guitar, the poetic systems of an epic storyteller, the practice techniques of a singer who cultivates a certain sound, or even the lines of code that an algorithmic music-maker strings together. New technologies bring new rules, as well as new ways to break the rules: autotuned vocals are no longer derided, and tools like Melodyne are now a standard part of music production. Constraint, then, produces creativity—but how does this look with particular instruments and traditions? How do artists make the most of their tools? In this hands-on class, we will explore the interface through the concepts of affordance, interval systems, algorithms, and generalizable schemas. You won’t just analyze art: you will also produce it and discuss your experiences with each type of interface. Our topics will include electronic music constructed on digital audio workstations and through code, the piano keyboard, the harmonica, Korean p’ansori sung storytelling, streaming platforms and recommendation algorithms, and the Italian solfeggio tradition. This class includes a creative final project in the sonic medium of your choice.

Equivalent Course(s): MUSI 25722
MADD 25900. Digitizing Human Rights. 100 Units.
In an era in which disruptive technologies have hijacked our consciousness and computer code has woven itself into the fabric of our existence, the lines between the virtual and the physical are increasingly blurred, and the nature of human existence itself increasingly uncertain. Digitizing Human Rights invites you to ponder, question, and even reshape the future of the species. We'll consider digital surveillance, data consent, access to tech, online agency, algorithmic bias and the future of artificial intelligence, among other topics. Drawing on cross-disciplinary perspectives, the course aims to illuminate the often misunderstood aspects of the digital age with the goal of creating an annotated digital document to serve as a blueprint for steering humanity towards a more equitable and just -- and perhaps a more secure -- future. Annotations will draw on a broad array of philosophical traditions and contextualize current issues and debates. We will also problematize the document itself to build into our work a consideration of the digital form through which we are thinking and representing claims about humanity, morality, truth, and justice, for example, that are entailed in the project of "human rights."
The class will meet both in small groups and the larger seminar to refine the provisions and annotations, review progress, and shape the document as a whole.
Equivalent Course(s): BPRO 25900, HMRT 25900

MADD 25990. Always Already New - Printed Books & Electronic Texts. 100 Units.
In this course, students will learn about the fields of book history and new media in various ways-from visiting the University of Chicago Special Collections Research Center to geocaching across Chicago-in an attempt to understand why the book keeps changing shape. The course will guide students in creating their own self-directed final project. (H)
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 25990

MADD 26059. Media, Environment, and Risk. 100 Units.
In 1991, Ulrich Beck wrote that "society is made into a laboratory." Following the Chernobyl disaster, Beck articulated how modern technology and its potential side-effects-such as radiation or chemical poisoning-had created the novel epistemological category of environmental risk defined by threats that escape human perception and transcend borders. Institutions monitoring ecological conditions gained responsibility for communicating public health. Political conflicts emerged between formations of expert and lay environmental knowledge. The technological application of modern science, and its associated environmental risks, pushed research beyond the laboratory and into the governmental fabric of social order: nuclear reactors had to be constructed and chemicals distributed to populations before their properties and safety could be understood. This seminar reads the debates on risk in environmental sociology alongside the emergence of risk criticism in media studies to interrogate the probabilistic thinking inherent to the communication of ecological threat. Two common traits characteristic of recent environmental catastrophes ranging from Bhopal, Fukushima Daiishi, Deepwater Horizon, Exxon Valdez, Hurricane Katrina, and the varied crises of global climate change, are that each disaster involves the failure or side-effect of an implemented technological project and that the corresponding risks-whether imperceptible or probable-are necessarily communicated to publics by media
Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 30329, KNOW 36059, HIPS 26059, CMST 42802, CHSS 36059

MADD 26200. Hands-On Multimedia Design. 100 Units.
The Media Arts, Data, and Design (MADD) Center at the University of Chicago is a 20,000-square-foot collaborative space for inquiry and experimentation where computer science and the arts intersect. In this course, students will take advantage of the MADD Center's resources as they experiment with the fundamentals of design hands-on, working up to large-scale independent projects that will be featured in a group exhibition. Students will explore the history of design through lectures, readings, and "design walks" at special sites throughout the campus and city at large. The course will accommodate students who are beginners as well as those who have experience studying design. Students may find themselves elaborating on an existing skill set, like drawing or fashion, or engaging with a brand new medium, like building a game. This course encourages students with a broad range of aesthetic backgrounds and skills to collaborate, deliberating what exactly constitutes contemporary design along the way.

MADD 26210. Media Art and Design Practice. 100 Units.
This studio-based course explores the practice, conventions, and boundaries of contemporary media art and design. This can encompass areas as diverse as interactive installation, app design, and the Internet meme. Through projects and critical discussion, students engage with the problems and opportunities of digitally driven content creation. Fundamental elements of digital production are introduced, including basic properties of image, video, and the global network. Further topics as varied as--though not limited to--web production, digital fabrication, interfaces, the glitch, and gaming may be considered. Sections will vary based on the instructor's fields of expertise. This course meets the general education requirement in the arts. This course may not double count for general education requirements and the Media Arts and Design minor. However, it is a great way for students to explore a potential interest in these areas.
Equivalent Course(s): ARTV 16210

MADD 26300. Art and Design in the Age of the Internet. 100 Units.
This course combines the subject matter of an array of courses offering pre-college students a glimpse into the design and art departments at the University of Chicago. In this course, students will experiment with the fundamentals of art and design hands-on, creating independent projects and exhibiting them along the way. Students will explore history through lectures, readings, and "design walks" at special sites throughout the
to participate in these imaginaries and who is thereby excluded? What role do the arts and design play in this
anthropocentrism are being developed. This course follows fundamental questions around the emergence of
these debates, the role of the human and the understanding of the human as part of the Earth's ecosystem is
discussed again and again. Especially in the arts and design, new figurations of the human and a future outside
human entanglements with the world are simultaneously overlooked. Other thinkers point out that the planetary
Haraway bemoan the emphasis on the human being and its control over earthly matters at a moment when non-
the naming of the current era after the human-Anthropocene—is widely criticized. Scholars such as Donna
capitalism, colonialism, and empire. We conclude by exploring modalities of resistance in art and grassroots
In each, we will examine both contemporary and historical materials in order to consider
Surveillance media are ubiquitous: in your pocket, on the street, at school, underground, and in the air. They
work incessantly and quietly, often without our knowledge but always with the goal of producing knowledge
about us. But they don't do so equally. Wedded to concepts of security, risk, and crisis, surveillance is itself
a technology of power. While some of us benefit from surveillance in certain contexts, many others are
disproportionally targeted based on differences of race, gender, sexuality, class, religious affiliation, ability,
citizenship, and more. This course will explore how surveillance media distribute power in the United States
and across its global connections. Throughout, we will understand surveillance media not only as the specific
technologies used for surveillance, but also how these technologies differentially mediate our bodies, behaviors,
communities, and political relationships. Beginning with various theoretical frameworks of surveillance, this
course will track surveillance media across various sites and systems. These include borders, policing, drones,
algorithm, and labor. In each, we will examine both contemporary and historical materials in order to consider
how our dominant ideas and values about surveillance media are rooted in the ideologies and violences of
capitalism, colonialism, and empire. We conclude by exploring modalities of resistance in art and grassroots
organizing that imagine more just futures.
Equivalent Course(s): CRES 27531, GNSE 27531, PLSC 20531, KNOW 27531

MADD 26531. Race, New Media, and Youth Movements for Justice. 100 Units.
Although racial inequality is an enduring force in American society, new forms of activism—often facilitated
by through new media—change the terms of political debate around issues of race, gender, power, and
justice. From #BlackLivesMatter to #MeToo, sites of political struggle have become increasingly decentralized
and accessible to a broader array of people. And as is often the case, youth from marginalized groups are at
the forefront of these struggles, redefining what counts as political and how to conceive of important concepts
like equity, community, and dignity. This seminar-style course explores the past and present conditions that
give rise to these youth-led movements, drawing from multiple scholarly lenses, including political science,
sociology, literature, performance, film, and visual culture. Specifically, the course explores how young activists
and cultural workers, who often identify as people of color, women, queer, and/or undocumented, draw on
legacies of activism whilst making political claims using media, art, technology, or other nontraditional forms of
participation. The course will engage various formats of political and cultural work, considering how intersecting
forms of inequality and differing levels of access affect the shape and scope of participation in both institutions and
popular culture.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 36505, ARTH 26501, CMST 26505, ARTH 36501

MADD 27022. Surveillance Media. 100 Units.
Surveillance media are ubiquitous: in your pocket, on the street, at school, underground, and in the air. They
work incessantly and quietly, often without our knowledge but always with the goal of producing knowledge
about us. But they don't do so equally. Wedded to concepts of security, risk, and crisis, surveillance is itself
a technology of power. While some of us benefit from surveillance in certain contexts, many others are
disproportionally targeted based on differences of race, gender, sexuality, class, religious affiliation, ability,
citizenship, and more. This course will explore how surveillance media distribute power in the United States
and across its global connections. Throughout, we will understand surveillance media not only as the specific
technologies used for surveillance, but also how these technologies differentially mediate our bodies, behaviors,
communities, and political relationships. Beginning with various theoretical frameworks of surveillance, this
course will track surveillance media across various sites and systems. These include borders, policing, drones,
algorithm, and labor. In each, we will examine both contemporary and historical materials in order to consider
how our dominant ideas and values about surveillance media are rooted in the ideologies and violences of
capitalism, colonialism, and empire. We conclude by exploring modalities of resistance in art and grassroots
organizing that imagine more just futures.
Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27022

MADD 27410. Scenography: Static and Kinetic Forms. 100 Units.
This course is an exploration of various forms and processes of designing sets and projections for theatrical
performance. We pay particular attention to a cohesive reading of a text, contextual and historical exploration,
and visual and thematic research, as well as the documentation needed to complete a show including
storyboards, models, drafting, and paint elevations. Conversations with guest artists will illuminate personal and
cultural aesthetics of an individual artist and assigned readings will expose students to major trends in modern
stage design.
Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 27410

MADD 27522. Experimental Futures: Re-figurations of Human/Environment Relationships. 100 Units.
The naming of the current era after the human-Anthropocene-is widely criticized. Scholars such as Donna
Haraway bemoan the emphasis on the human being and its control over earthly matters at a moment when non-
human entanglements with the world are simultaneously overlooked. Other thinkers point out that the planetary
changes of the Anthropocene have occurred mainly due to capitalism and industrialization. In the course of
these debates, the role of the human and the understanding of the human as part of the Earth's ecosystem is
discussed again and again. Especially in the arts and design, new figurations of the human and a future outside
anthropocentrism are being developed. This course follows fundamental questions around the emergence of
this discourse: Which tropes, materials, and concepts do we collectively use to imagine our future? Who gets
to participate in these imaginaries and who is thereby excluded? What role do the arts and design play in this
process? In this class, students will gain understanding of an emerging area of interdisciplinary research that reframes the category of the "human" in face of contemporary environmental challenges such as climate change and resource scarcity. Students will become familiar with concepts and theories associated with post-humanism, new materialisms, and environmental humanities and use them to reflect on examples from architecture, design, and the arts.

Equivalent Course(s): ARCH 27522, CMST 27522

MADD 27558. No Future: Visual Media and Contemporary Life. 100 Units.

No Future seeks to establish the grounds by which we might examine contemporary theories of the future—and perhaps its negation—through visual media and the production of art in the age of the algorithm. We will use this course as a means to consider new modes of subjectivity that arise as effect and response to mutating forms of control in society—and how we might refuse such mechanisms. Speeding through (art) history with detours at groups like the Futurists—with their violent reimagination of the human as a productive machine—and the Situationists—who vowed never to produce again, we will examine the fluxes and flows of subjectivity through the historical movement from Fordist production to the immaterial labor that powers the economies of today and tomorrow. We will discuss issues of work and non-work, image production and the labor of the artist, subjectivity and identity, the ends of cinema and History, and the state of the spectacle today. But what is left of the future? Is it already over?

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 27558

MADD 27703. Visualizing Knowledge: Studies in the Humanities and Sciences. 100 Units.

Visualizing is a tool deployed across various fields of knowledge production. Diverse forms of imaging practices not only are wielded to support data and to illustrate claims, but also to disseminate information. Positioned at the nexus of art and science, this course explores the representational strategies deployed in various intellectual domains. We ask: how was/is knowledge visualized and what conventions determine(d) such standards of validity and utility? Far from being limited to one geographical or temporal context, we consider a range of visualization practices from early modernity to the present moment, especially as this concerns astronomy, geography, cartography, and medical diagnostics, as well as more recent areas of inquiry, visual pedagogy and the digital humanities.

Equivalent Course(s): KNOW 17703, ARTH 17703

MADD 27900. Image, Text, Archive. 100 Units.

This course examines hybrid image-texts of the last 150 years to investigate what happens to narrative and genre when visual images become integral parts of textual composition, and what kinds of claims such texts make about memory, veracity, or objectivity. We will examine the early history of photography and image reproduction, learn to formally read images, and interrogate the relationship of photography to documentary. Our readings will include Louis Aragon’s Paris Peasant (1925), André Breton’s Nadja (1928), James Agee and Walker Evans’s Let Us Now Praise Famous Men (1941), Vladimir Nabokov’s Speak, Memory (1966), Michael Ondaatje’s The Collected Works of Billy the Kid (1970), W. G. Sebald’s The Rings of Saturn (1995) and Austerlitz (2001), and Anne Carson’s Nox (2009); critical readings will include texts by Roland Barthes, Margaret Iverson, Timothy Dow Adams, and Linda Hutcheon. (1830-1940, Theory)

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 19700

MADD 27908. American Graphic Art and Commercial Culture: 1850-1960. 100 Units.

This course focuses on widely distributed printed images, most of them with commercial, aesthetic, and/or political significance, along with the graphic design traditions and typography associated with them. While concentrating on American imagery, the context would be international, reflecting the condition of popular graphic arts in this country. Among other things it would treat book illustration, posters, advertising art, magazines and newspapers, cartooning, postcards, children’s literature, commercial paper, and trade catalogs. Necessarily, given this wide scope, it will be episodic in character, but it will also attempt to relate this visual explosion to larger artistic movements, major events, technological changes, and political trends. It would also explore, from time to time, the roles played by collecting, exhibition, and academic commentary in legitimating the subject, as well as the power of ethnic and racial stereotyping and the multiplication of trade and printing journals. The aim, in short, is to examine the flowering of a visual print culture that had its roots in the Gutenberg Revolution of the 15th century. There will be both class discussion and lecturing. This is art in context, emphasizing breadth and the introduction of figures, institutions, and movements nurtured by an expansive production and distribution network. The course will be hosted by the Special Collections Research Center at Regenstein Library.

Equivalent Course(s): ARTH 17908, AMER 17908

MADD 27915. Introduction to Videogame Studies: Art, Play, and Society. 100 Units.

This course is intended as an introduction to the study of videogames in the humanities. Topics include videogame form (visual style, spatial design, sound, and genre); videogames as a narrative medium; embodiment and hapticity in videogame play; issues of identity/identification, performance, and access related to gender, sexuality, race and ethnicity, ability, and class; and rhetorical, educational, and political uses of videogames. Just as the videogame medium has drawn from older forms of art and play, so the emerging field of videogame studies has grown out of and in conversation with surrounding disciplines. With this in mind, readings and topics of discussion will be drawn both from videogame studies proper and from other fields in the humanities—including, but not limited to, English, art history, and cinema and media studies. Undergraduates should be prepared for an MA-level reading load but will write final papers of the standard length for upper-
level undergraduate courses (8-10 pages versus 12-15 for MA students). MA students interested in pursuing a particular research topic in-depth will be given supplemental readings. This course will also be designed to take advantage of the University of Chicago’s videogame collection, and will require game play both individually and as part of group play sessions.

Equivalent Course(s): ENGL 34515, MAPH 34515, CMST 37915, CMST 27915, ENGL 24515

MADD 28003. Issues in Film Sound. 100 Units.
Taking advantage of recent developments in the field of sound studies, this course examines issues in film sound (technology, sense experience, histories of listening, sonic space, soundscapes, construction, the materiality of sound formats, etc.) that speak to broader concerns in the humanities, especially sound-related arts. While we will focus on a film or films every week, from blockbusters like Gravity to avant-garde and experimental films, the readings and issues will touch on everything from noise pollution, architecture, musical performance and recording, and mp3 files. Students interested in installation and environmental arts, sound in literary studies, music, and other sound-focused fields are welcome.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 38003, CMST 28003

MADD 28008. Sound and Scandal: How Media Make Believe. 100 Units.
Why has lip syncing caused so many scandals and successes across media, from Milli Vanilli to drag? Primarily focusing on American film, TV, music videos, and animation, this course investigates how sound synchronization creates alternate identities and realities. We may think we know lip sync and voice synthesis when we see and hear them, but close reading unveils deeper issues of technological construction and gendered performances. For example, Singin’ in the Rain dramatizes film’s transition to sound as technicians struggled to match the “right” voice to the “right” body: a beautiful woman with an ugly voice lip syncs to the lovely voice of a woman who Hollywood deems unsuitable to appear onscreen. From The Jazz Singer to today’s alarmingly authentic deepfakes and vocaloids, we will diagnose how vocal appropriation and synthesis conjure states of credibility and belief. We will ask how lip sync authenticates talking animals and faux rockers. Questions of star power and authorship confronting performances of gender and sexuality. No matter the motive, vocal manipulation can never be taken at face value, especially in an age when contortions between sounds and their sources can be passed off as truth.

Equivalent Course(s): CMST 28008, TAPS 20208, MUSI 28008

MADD 28250. Audience, Algorithms, and Ingenuity: Unexpected Encounters in Media Arts and Live Performance. 100 Units.
This course explores live theatrical and digital performance, centering on surprise as a key element. We will examine performance instigators and media activists who use experimental tactics to stage, document, and amplify their work. Through studying examples, exploring theoretical underpinnings, and creating art in this mode, we will investigate how performance can surprise, provoke, and delight—without relying on traditional resources such as space, time, money, or institutional support. What makes these forms resonate? What are their cultural and social reverberations?

Equivalent Course(s): TAPS 28250

MADD 28300. Disability and Design. 100 Units.
Disability is often an afterthought, an unexpected tragedy to be mitigated, accommodated, or overcome. In cultural, political, and educational spheres, disabilities are non-normative, marginal, even invisible. This runs counter to many of our lived experiences of difference where, in fact, disabilities of all kinds are the “new normal.” In this interdisciplinary course, we center both the category and experience of disability. Moreover, we consider the stakes of explicitly designing for different kinds of bodies and minds. Rather than approaching disability as a problem to be accommodated, we consider the affordances that disability offers for design. This course begins by situating us in the growing discipline of Disability Studies and the activist (and intersectional) Disability Justice movement. We then move to four two-week units in specific areas where disability meets design: architecture, infrastructure, and public space; education and the classroom; economics, employment, and public policy; and aesthetics. Traversing from architecture to art, and from education to economic policy, this course asks how we can design for access.

Equivalent Course(s): CHDV 38301, MUSI 25719, HLTB 28301, CHDV 28301, BPRO 28300, MUSI 35719

MADD 28815. American Spectacle. 100 Units.
Spectacles have shocked, awed, delighted, and horrified Americans for centuries—seemingly all at once. This class reexamines American history through the lens of spectacle in its many guises: the scientific, violent, technological, and political. We explore how these various iterations have not only coexisted over time but also intersected, reinforced, and—at times—complicated each other. We will ask how these overlapping spectacles shaped and continue to shape the United States by underwriting and innovating race, class, gender, and statecraft. Is spectacle foundational to the United States? How does it bridge individual lived experience and sociopolitical and economic abstractions? Running from the early modern Atlantic World to the present, we conclude by asking whether the digital age has made spectacle ubiquitous, and at what cost.

Equivalent Course(s): MAPS 31450, HIST 38815, HIST 28815, MAPS 21450

MADD 28889. Virtual Realities and Religious Realities. 100 Units.
Virtual reality is at the cutting edge of modern technology and stands to impact many aspects of contemporary life. At the same time, religious and philosophical sources have been thinking the concept of virtuality for centuries. Responding to popular efforts to ask how religion should respond to advances in technology and mass
media, we will ask how religious thought has laid the groundwork for and even anticipated these advances, and therefore how it can be used as a resource to address contemporary ethical and political challenges. This class will take us from ancient Jerusalem to cyberspace in order to interrogate the various contexts and guises in which the problem of virtual reality has appeared. Doing so will ask us to think about memory and the archive, temporality and history, faith and truth, immanence and transcendence, robots and even ghosts.

Equivalent Course(s): RLST 28989

MADD 29400. Media Arts and Design Capstone Colloquium. 100 Units.
In this capstone colloquium, students will prepare a portfolio of digital media artworks and/or historical and theoretical writing that reflect their interests.

MADD 29401. Capstone I: Methodologies. 100 Units.
The Methodologies course is a cornerstone of the Media Arts and Design program, specifically designed to equip students with essential skills and strategies for creative project development. This foundational course marks the beginning of their capstone project, exploring the intricacies of ideation, effective research, goal setting, design, and project scoping. Students will receive ongoing feedback and guidance from the professor and their peers as they continually refine their projects, an approach that mirrors real-world iterative design practices. Throughout the course, students learn to adapt and adjust their approaches, tackle challenges, and embrace diverse methods, fostering an environment of nimble experimentation. This prepares them for successful project execution and portfolio development, setting the stage for the subsequent Capstone II: Production course.

MADD 29402. Capstone II: Production. 100 Units.
TBD

MADD 29700. MAAD Reading and Research. 100 Units.
This course is primarily intended for students who are in Media Arts and Design and who can best meet program requirements by studying under a faculty member's individual supervision. The subject matter, course of study, and requirements are arranged with the instructor prior to registration.