

California University of Pennsylvania  
Guidelines for New Course Proposals  
University Course Syllabus  
Department of Art & Languages  
UCC Approval date: 12/4/2017

A. Protocol

Course Name: Intro to Virtual Reality  
Course Number: ART 216  
Credits: 3  
Prerequisites: ART 112 or permission of the instructor  
Maximum Class Size (face-to-face): 20 (lab capacity)  
Maximum Class Size (online): N/A

B. Objectives of the Course:

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- 1) Examine VR's constituent technologies
- 2) Discuss design and application of VR in the arts & entertainment fields
- 3) Discuss the aesthetic experience of the VR world.
- 4) Discuss VR issues in the application, design, and implementation in various emerging fields
- 5) Analyze and critique different VR projects and experiences.
- 6) Describe and discuss various visualizations in VR.

C. Catalog Description: [Click here to enter text.](#)

This studio course is an introduction to the art and craft of Virtual Reality and its applications to the arts and entertainment fields. VR utilizes visualization, representation, human computer interaction to provide an instructional, immersive, aesthetic experience. This course will focus on student design of VR environments and on various practical and aesthetic issues in the application, design, and implementation of VR in various imaging industries including industrial design, architecture and medical fields.

D. Outline of the Course:

Weeks 1/2: VR History & Evolution to the present.  
Weeks 3/4: Virtual Reality as a medium.  
Weeks 5/6: Design, Application, and Implementation in the Virtual world.  
Weeks 7/8: Design as Interface to the Virtual World.  
Week 9: Aesthetics & Rendering of the Virtual World (sensory images and representations in the world).  
Weeks 10/11: Interacting with the Virtual World.  
Week 12: Making the VR experience a successful one.  
Week 13: Role of VR in the world today.  
Weeks 14/15: Evaluation and feedback of VR design, application, and implementation.

E. Teaching Methodology:

- 1) Traditional Classroom Methodology
  - Class Lectures
  - Class Discussions
  - Studio Projects and Tutorials
  - Individual/Group Activities
- 2) Online Methodology
  - N/A.

F. Text (Suggested)

Sherman, William & Craig, Allan B. Understanding Virtual Reality Interface, Application and Design. Morgan Kaufmann Publisher, 2017.

G. Assessment Activities:

1) Traditional Classroom Assessment

Quizzes/Exams  
Graded Tutorials  
Short Papers  
Graded Critiques  
Graded Studio Projects

2) Online Assessment

N/A

H. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

OSD

Revised June 2015

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
----------------------------

Students reserve the right to decide when to self-identify and when to request accommodations. Students requesting approval for reasonable accommodations should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Students are expected to adhere to OSD procedures for self-identifying, providing documentation and requesting accommodations in a timely manner.

Students will present the OSD Accommodation Approval Notice to faculty when requesting accommodations that involve the faculty.

Contact Information:

- Location: Carter Hall - G-35
- Phone: (724) 938-5781
- Fax: (724) 938-4599
- Email: [osdmail@calu.edu](mailto:osdmail@calu.edu)
- Web Site: <http://www.calu.edu/osd>

I. Title IX Syllabus Addendum

---

**California University of Pennsylvania  
Reporting Obligations of Faculty Members under Title IX  
of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681, *et seq.***

---

California University of Pennsylvania and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator, Dr. John A. Burnett, Special Assistant to the President for EEEEO, Office of Social Equity, South Hall 112, [Burnett@calu.edu](mailto:Burnett@calu.edu), 724-938-4014. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project. Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred to the person designated in the University protection of minors policy.

The University's information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence is set forth at:

- **Office of Social Equity**, South Hall 112, 724-938-4014
  - Social Equity Home Page [www.calu.edu/SocialEquity](http://www.calu.edu/SocialEquity)
  - Social Equity Policies [www.calu.edu/SEpolicies](http://www.calu.edu/SEpolicies)
  - Social Equity Complaint Form [www.calu.edu/SEcomplaint](http://www.calu.edu/SEcomplaint)
- **Counseling Center**, Carter Hall G53, 724-938-4056
- **End Violence Center**, Carter Hall G94, 724-938-5707
- **Student Affairs**, Natali Student Center 311, 724-938-4439
- **Wellness Center**, Carter Hall G53, 724-938-4232
- **Women's Center**, Natali Student Center 117, 724-938-5857
- **Threat Response Assessment and Intervention Team (T.R.A.I.T.) & Dept. of Public Safety & University Police**, Pollock Maintenance Building, 724-938-4299
  - **EMERGENCY:** From any on-campus phone & Dial **H-E-L-P** or go to any public pay phone & **Dial \*1**. (\*Identify the situation as an emergency and an officer will be dispatched immediately.)

J. Supportive Instructional Materials, e.g. library materials, web sites, etc.

Additional book: Linowes, Jonathan. Virtual Reality Projects. Packt Publishing, 2015.

Websites:

<https://unity3d.com>

<http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/gadgets/other-gadgets/virtual-reality.htm>

<https://uxdesign.cc>

#### Additional Information for Course Proposals

K. Proposed Instructors:

A qualified instructor approved by the Art & Languages department.

L. Rationale for the Course:

This is the first virtual reality studio course proposed. This would allow students to explore the medium of VR and experience its design, applications, and implementation. This would allow students to add a new technological-based element to their portfolios and be aligned with the new university focus on technology.

M. Specialized Equipment or Supplies Needed:

Borrowing VR equipment from the TLC (The Learning Center).

N. Answer the following questions using complete sentences:

1) Does the course require additional human resources? (Please explain)

No, it does not require additional human resources.

2) Does the course require additional physical resources? (Please explain)

No, the course does not require additional physical resources.

3) Does the course change the requirements in any particular major? (Please explain)

No, the course does not change the requirements in any particular major.

4) Does the course replace an existing course in your program? (If so, list the course)

No, the course does not replace an existing one in our program.

5) How often will the course be taught?

The course will be offered every other year.

[Click here to add text to qualify your selection for course timing, if necessary.](#)

6) Does the course duplicate an existing course in another Department or College? (If the possibility exists, indicate course discipline, number, and name)

No, the course does not duplicate an existing one in another department or college.

O. If the proposed course includes substantial material that is traditionally taught in another discipline, you must request a statement of support from the department chair that houses that discipline.

N/A

P. Please identify if you are proposing to have this course considered as a menu course for General Education. The General Education Committee must consider and approve the course proposal before consideration by the UCC.

No, this course is not being proposed for now as a menu course for General Education.

## **Q. Approval Form**

**Provide the Approval Form (Signature Page) with the signatures of your department Chair AND college Dean (electronically).**