IRLS 488/588 The Digital Revolution

Updated Sat, 03/27/2010 - 16:29

COURSE NAME, NUMBER AND PREREQUISITES:

IRLS 488/588 The Digital Revolution

Prerequisite: For IRLS 588, IRLS 504 or consent of the instructor; for IRLS 488, junior or senior level in good standing.

Instructor: Cheryl Knott Malone

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In an effort to help students become knowledgeable and critical participants in the information age, this course uses readings, lectures, and discussions to explore the extent to which the "digital revolution" is revolutionary. Students will have an opportunity to investigate and report on one particular issue of the digital age of interest to them. Assignments for undergraduate students will differ from those for graduate students in this co-convened course, but there will also be support for interaction between undergrad and grad students.

Additional information about this course:

Remember when you used to sign up for the public library's summer reading program? Remember the fun of plowing through a bunch of books in a marathon of reading and rewards? Well, this course is like that, except the readings are harder. Graduate students will read one book a week and a few supplemental articles during the first weeks of the course. Undergrads will read parts of books and whole articles during that same time period. "Reading" includes taking notes and reporting your thoughts about and evaluations of the readings. During the last 2 weeks of the course, graduate students will turn in a draft of a paper about an aspect of the digital era that interests you, receive feedback, revise, and turn in a final paper. Undergraduates will write an analytic book report on a relevant book of their choice selected from a list supplied by the instructor. The course work will be intense but enlightening and, I hope, fun in a grown-up summer-reading-program sort of way.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Successful completion of this course will help students achieve the A1, A2, and A3 competencies outlined at http://sirls.arizona.edu/about/studentCompetencies. More specifically, by the end of the semester, students will be able to:

Recount key historical developments leading to the digital age;

Discuss some of the major publications addressing the digital revolution;

Analyze methods and interpretations used by authors writing about aspects of the information age;

Consider the social, technical, political, cultural or other impacts resulting from the rise of digital media;

Think critically about pronouncements regarding the current state of electronic information.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:
We will be reading the following books in the order listed, as well as additional required readings available in our course site. Undergraduates will read only parts of the following books or alternative journal articles usually by the same authors (although they may choose to read everything the graduate students are assigned to read).


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

**For undergraduates taking IRLS 488:**

4 weekly reports on reading - 60 points

1 critical extended book review - 20 points

Participation - 20 points

**For graduate students taking IRLS 588:**

Discussions of weekly readings - 60 points

Draft of final paper - 10 points

Peer review of another student's draft - 10 points

Final paper - 20 points

**COURSE, SCHOOL, AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

**Academic Code of Integrity**

Students are expected to abide by The University of Arizona [Code of Academic Integrity](http://tech.sbs.arizona.edu/node/2518) 'The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own.' If you have any questions regarding what is acceptable practice under this Code, please ask an Instructor.

**Accommodating Disabilities**

The University has a [Disability Resource Center](http://tech.sbs.arizona.edu/node/2518). If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center and request that the DRC send me, the Instructor, official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

**Assignment Policies**

Detailed assignment descriptions will be available in our d2l course space. Papers must be submitted as a Word file to the
d2l dropbox before the deadline. Discussion boards will be set up for discussion posts about the readings. The instructor does not accept late assignments except under extreme and documented emergencies.

**Incompletes**

The instructor does not award grades of Incomplete during the summer.

The current Catalog reads

> The grade of I may be awarded only at the end of a term, when all but a minor portion of the course work has been satisfactorily completed. The grade of I is not to be awarded in place of a failing grade or when the student is expected to repeat the course; in such a case, a grade other than I must be assigned. Students should make arrangements with the instructor to receive an incomplete grade before the end of the term ...

> If the incomplete is not removed by the instructor within one year the I grade will revert to a failing grade.

**GRADING:**

I use a point system when assigning grades. At the end of the course, students who have earned 90-100 points will have a final course grade of A; 80-89 points, B; 70-79 points, C; 60-69 points, D.

**INSTRUCTOR NAME AND CONTACT ADDRESSES:**

Cheryl Knott Malone

ckmalone (at) u.arizona.edu
Guided exploration

Click a term to initiate a search.

Audience

for Students (92)
for Faculty (28)
for Alums (24)
for Staff (17)
for Prospective Students (7)
more...

Course