

DePaul University  
College of Computing & Interactive Media / School of Design

Winter 2015

## Capstone Project I GD 394

Tuesdays 10:05AM-1:20PM  
14 E Jackson Room 506

Professor Dolores Wilber  
Office: CDM 510

[dwilber@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:dwilber@cdm.depaul.edu)

### Office hours

Tu 8:30AM-10:00AM + 1:30PM-3:00PM CDM 510

Please register online to confirm appt

### Course Description

This two-course sequence provides a Graphic Design-specific capstone experience for the student. The capstone course will connect the students' Graphic Design course work with the University courses s/he has taken through three components: student-generated design proposals, class/instructor discussions, and the actual creation/production of the student's proposal. The production of a final thesis project(s) takes place over two quarters.

### Course management system

D2L <https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/home>

### Learning Goals

- Idea generation, experimentation, problem solving, planning and time management, as well as critical analysis as applied to a three-tiered design thesis proposal.
- Create strategy that incorporates liberal studies components with an exhibition design proposal combining both personal and career goals
- Exhibition project proposal and timeline development, incorporating feedback from class and instructor
- Web component outcome allied with exhibition proposal

### Project Development

This class is devoted to a design thesis project that will result in a design exhibition as part of the senior design exhibition for 2015. This will take place at CDM or at an external gallery. You will develop and complete the project over the next two quarters. This will include a design statement, the exhibition project and a web component. The web component may be as simple as inclusion of documentation on your website or a web link of your choice. All components are mandatory.

### Work Expectations

#### *Two Rules*

Rule 1: Dedicate quality work time each week towards your project. This isn't the type of project you can do all at once at the end of two quarters! In order to end up with an end product that represents you as a designer, you should plan to put aside at least eight hours on your project per week.

.Rule 2: You must bring something to work on during each class regardless of what is due that day

### What we will do

#### *Reading and discussion*

There will be reading assignments on design theory and contemporary design issues

#### *Class work*

Much of your work will be conducted outside the class, especially idea development, content development, planning and sketching. You are responsible for the time management necessary to ensure that you have computer time outside of class.

#### *Critiques*

We will have work and project critiques and presentations that will ensure that we learn from one another and

share information. Attendance and participation in critiques is mandatory.

### Attendance

- Class attendance and participation is mandatory. Because our class meets once weekly that is equal to two class periods in classes that meet twice a week.
- Participation during class critique is expected and helps your classmates learn.
- One and a half absences will result in one full grade drop; additional absences will result in additional grade drops. Having to work at an outside job is not an acceptable reason to miss class. If you are more than 15 minutes late for class, you will be marked absent. If you miss a critique without an "emergency" excuse, your project grade is automatically dropped by one full grade (e.g., a "B" would become a "C"). You will receive an automatic F, if you miss three classes. If you miss a critique without an "emergency" excuse, your project grade is automatically dropped by one full grade.

### Class Blog

<http://seniorcapstonecdm.blogspot.com/>

If you have not received an invitation, please check your SPAM folder. Everyone in class needs to accept the blog invite (best to have a GMAIL account for this blog) and to post all work, comments, feedback here and to D2L.

### Grading Formula

Your grade is based upon completion of assignments when due, quality of work, class participation and attendance. *Please note that all assignments are required for a grade in the class.*

*Class Participation*                      30%

- Class discussion
- Class critique
- Blog participation

*Senior Project*                              50%

- Research, sketch, concept development
- Artistic quality
- Skills, attention to details
- Effort
- Final Presentation

*Readings Reflection*                      10%

*Project Summary*                            10%

### Grading Scale

A	95-100	C	80-82
A-	93-94	D+	76-77
B+	91-92	D	72-75
B	87-90	D-	70-71
C+	83-84	F	Below 70

## Add/Drop dates

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Friday	January 9	Last day to add classes to WQ2015 schedule
Tuesday	January 15	DEADLINE: Application for March 2015 degree conferral
Friday	January 16	Last day to drop classes with no penalty
		Last day to select pass/fail option
Saturday	January 17	Grades of "W" assigned for classes dropped on or after this day
Friday	January 23	Last day to select auditor status
Saturday	January 31	Begin optional mid-term exam week
Sunday	February 1	DEADLINE: Application for June 2015 Commencement and June 2015 Degree Conferral
Friday	February 6	End optional mid-term exam week
Friday	February 20	Last day to withdraw from WQ2015 classes
Friday	March 13	TUITION DUE: SPRING QUARTER 2015
		End WQ Day & Evening Classes
Saturday	March 14	Begin WQ 2015 Day & Evening Final Exams
Friday	March 20	End WQ 2015 Day & Evening Final Exams

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### Online Course Evaluations

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

### Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

### Academic Policies

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: [cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

### Students with Disabilities

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.

Phone number: (312)362-8002 Fax: (312)362-6544 TTY: (773)325.7296

## Harassment

The policy as specified in the DePaul Student Handbook will be adhered to in this class.

## Class Discussion

Student participation in class discussions will be measured in two ways. First, students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading papers. Secondly, students will be called upon by the instructor to offer comments related to the reading assignments. Students must keep up with the reading to participate in class discussion.

## Changes to Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

## Withdrawal

Students who withdraw from the course do so by using the Campus Connection system (<http://campusconnect.depaul.edu>). Withdrawals processed via this system are effective the day on which they are made. Simply ceasing to attend, or notifying the instructor, or nonpayment of tuition, does not constitute an official withdrawal from class and will result in academic as well as financial penalty.

## Retroactive Withdrawal

This policy exists to assist students for whom extenuating circumstances prevented them from meeting the withdrawal deadline. During their college career students may be allowed one medical/personal administrative withdrawal and one college office administrative withdrawal, each for one or more courses in a single term. Repeated requests will not be considered. Submitting an appeal for retroactive withdrawal does not guarantee approval.

**College office appeals for CDM students** must be submitted online via MyCDM.

The deadlines for submitting appeals are as follows:

<i>Autumn Quarter:</i>	Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent winter quarter
<i>Winter Quarter:</i>	Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent spring quarter
<i>Spring Quarter:</i>	Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter
<i>Summer Terms:</i>	Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter

## Excused Absence

In order to petition for an excused absence, students who miss class due to illness or significant personal circumstances should complete the Absence Notification process through the Dean of Students office. The form can be accessed at <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/dos/forms.html>. Students must submit supporting documentation alongside the form. The professor reserves the sole right whether to offer an excused absence and/or academic accommodations for an excused absence.

## Incomplete

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. CDM policy requires the student to initiate the request for incomplete grade before the end of the term in which the course is taken. Prior to submitting the incomplete request, the student must discuss the circumstances with the instructor. Students may initiate the incomplete request process in MyCDM.

- All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptional cases will receive such approval.
- If approved, students are required to complete all remaining course requirement independently in consultation with the instructor by the deadline indicated on the incomplete request form.
- By default, an incomplete grade will automatically change to a grade of F after two quarters have elapsed (excluding summer) unless another grade is recorded by the instructor.

## Supplies

- Sketchbook
- Tracing Paper (highly recommended)
- X-acto Knife and blades (#11)
- Utility knife
- Studio Tack, Twin Tack adhesive film or Spray Mount
- Paper for printing (optional)
- Flash drive or external hard drive. Make sure that you make backup disks in case your disk gets damaged.

**Local Digital Imaging Supplies**

- Microcenter, 2645 Elston Avenue, Chicago, IL 60647 (773) 292-1700 [www.microcenter.com](http://www.microcenter.com)

**Local Art Supplies**

- Blick Art Materials 42 S. State Chicago IL 312.920.0300 [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)
- Utrecht Art Supplies, 33 S. Wabash Ave, Chicago IL 312.922-8597

**Textbook**

No textbook required; Readings will be assigned

**DePaul Design Mailing List**

All students are strongly encouraged to sign-up for the DePaul Graphic Design mailing list  
[Design@mailman.depaul.edu](mailto:Design@mailman.depaul.edu)

<http://mailman.depaul.edu/mailman/listinfo/design>

Join the DePaul AIGA on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AIGAdepaul/>

Project Descriptions

# Thesis Project

As the culmination of your studies at DePaul, you will propose and design a large-scale thesis project. The project should be substantial enough to warrant spending a majority of two quarters designing and producing it. The subject and content will be determined by you, but your project must include representation (images and text) from at least two of the following events:

- a social (sociopolitical, cultural, religious, etc.) event that you remember within your life-time that was significant to you.
- an academic event (something you studied) that was significant to you
- an autobiographical event that was significant to you. This must be something you are comfortable working with in a public way.

## Stage 1:

Prepare and post a written page(s) that includes the following information. Feel free to include images or sketches thought these are not required.

- A description of each event
- What is personally significant about these events. Why does this resonate, why is this important?
- Research the social event and include a bibliography of the research
- Describe how the events could be combined to create new ideas and meaning.

## Stage 2:

Prepare a well-developed proposal explaining your project. The proposal must include:

- Project summary: possible formats (can be refined later), size and scope of the project
- Timeline (19 weeks, projection completion, Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, installation the following week), including weekly entries of what will be accomplished and presented to group and on blog

## 2015

January	February	March	April
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May	June	July	August
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29
September	October	November	December
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

- The concept or subject matter: what is driving the work? What is the work about?
- Inspiration or reference work (could be your own work or someone else's)
- Visuals such as preliminary sketches or thumbnails
- A list of design elements (text, images, illustrations, photographs, etc.) that will be incorporated into your design. Specify the sources of your texts, images, photographs (writing/creating/taking your own or someone else's)

## Stage 3: Production

### Format:

Your project must have a physical representation for the exhibition; a hand-out/take-away; and a web presentation, either on your own website or a presentation on Instagram, Cargo, Vimeo, or Flickr

Size: Any size or format that you can afford.

# Syllabus

*Readings will periodically be assigned.*

## WEEK ONE

### **Tuesday 1.6**

*Introduction to class  
Examples of projects*

<http://www.scad.edu/academics/programs/graphic-design/careers>  
<http://cargocollective.com/search/senior-thesis-project>

In class: Write in class: Why I am a Designer; revise for next week

Review Cargo Collective thesis projects and analyze two for second half of class. You can choose other sources as well.

## WEEK TWO

### **Tuesday 1.13**

*Revised 'Why I am a Designer' and continue Cargo  
collective analysis presentations  
(posted to blog before class)*

## WEEK THREE

### **Tuesday 1.20**

*-Written proposal presentations posted to blog before  
class including weekly timeline for next 20 weeks  
-Groups will be formed for feedback  
-Individual meetings with each student, work in class on  
your proposal*

## WEEK FOUR

### **Tuesday 1.27**

*Group and individual meetings with each student  
(mandatory), work in class on your proposal and  
timeline*

## WEEK FIVE

### **Tuesday 2.3**

*Formal presentations of sketches, headlines, colors,  
typographic choices; present in Powerpoint*

## WEEK SIX

### **Tuesday 2.10**

*Small group critiques, and individual meetings with each  
student*

## WEEK SEVEN

### **Tuesday 2.17**

*Formal presentations of sketches, headlines, colors,  
typographic choices; present in Powerpoint*

## WEEK 8

### **Tuesday 2.24**

*Small group critiques, and individual meetings with each  
student*

## WEEK 9

### **Tuesday 3.3**

*Outside critics invited for critique (A-L); present in  
Powerpoint*

## WEEK 10

### **Tuesday 3.10**

*Outside critics invited for critique (M-Z); present in  
Powerpoint*

**Tuesday 3.17 Final Critique – Change Date - 11:45-2PM**