

DSGN-2520-1

Design for the Internet

Fall 2021

Instructor: Robert Currie
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9-noon, Thursdays
N320F
3 Credits

Class web site: <http://nscad.geneva9.com/>

Course Description:

This course introduces designers to the languages and frameworks that enable internet applications: HTML, CSS and Javascript.

Learning Outcomes*:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- Research and identify new materials, strategies and approaches.
- Test, create, and apply appropriate strategies to devise concepts that inform and invent.
- Employ oral and written structured presentations to illustrate their strategy and decision-making.
- Practice oral and written feedback in exchanges with peers, instructors and collaborators.
- Employ appropriate software and hardware to provide examples of innovative design solutions that follow industry standards.
- Use appropriate industry conventions and techniques.
- Critically analyze and historical, theoretical and practical methods of design practice.
- Demonstrate and articulate how context was analyzed and synthesized into their design concepts.
- Demonstrate ability to work in interdisciplinary teams.
- Search, identify and recognize the skill or technique they will learn in order to facilitate self-initiation of professional development.
- Provide examples of processes, documents, and brand collateral to establish, maintain, and grow a viable design practice.

** Please note that each Learning Outcome must be successfully achieved before a final grade for the course is assigned*

Interdisciplinary Design:

Interdisciplinary design involves working across traditional boundaries of media and disciplines, requiring understanding of a variety of technologies and process. This class emphasizes foundational online technologies used to build web sites and applications, and provides a solid grounding for those who will be building web sites and apps themselves, as well as those who will be working in a design role with a multidisciplinary team of technology specialists such as programmers.

Student Workload:

Total student workload for a 3 credit course is estimated to be 9 hours/week, including scheduled class time.

Course Format:

This will be conducted in person. Students will be expected to attend weekly classes, participate in class exercises and discussions, and submit frequent assignments. All course projects need to be completed in full by the set due dates.

NSCAD Academic Calendar for full details in 'Accommodations for Students Experiencing Disabilities', or visit the NSCAD Wellness Centre at: <https://wellness.nscad.ca>.

Spiritual/ Religious Observance:

Requests for accommodations for spiritual or religious observances must be presented in writing to the instructor within the first two weeks of class.

Copyright notice:

All materials used in this course and distributed within the Brightspace Course Management System are subject to the Canadian Copyright Act and NSCAD's Use of Copyright Materials Policy. <https://tinyurl.com/y8h3lk8j>

Copyrighted materials include, but are not limited to, the following: recorded lectures, notes, books, poems, essays, articles, audio and video recordings, works of art and images. These materials are to be used only for private study, and research. Creating copies or redistributing these course materials without the permission of the copyright owner may be an infringement of copyright law.

Fair Dealing usage guidelines as outlined in NSCAD's Copyright guide are here: <https://guides.nscad.ca/copyright-pages/fairdealing>

Please see NSCAD's Copyright Guide for guidelines and contact information

<https://guides.nscad.ca/copyrightpages/home>

Design Students' Personal Hardware, Software, English Language Settings (HSELS) Requirements:

Please review the document attached to this outline, which sets out the requirements for a computer for design courses at the **2000 level and above**.

Design Students' Personal Hardware, Software, English Language Settings (HSELS) Requirements:

Required computer hardware

Apple computers are the predominant choice for the design profession, and that's why the Division of Design instructs using Apple technology. Students are required to purchase a laptop (a MacBook Pro is strongly recommended) and specified software prior to commencing the program.

All current Apple MacBook Pros can run the required software for the Design program. Students should consider buying an Apple laptop with the fastest available processing speed, along with any RAM upgrade that the student can afford to buy. 16GB of RAM (or more), and at least 512GB of flash storage are recommended for new laptop purchases. In the long run, the initial expense for greater RAM and storage will be offset by improved software performance and lifespan.

If the student already owns or vastly prefers a Windows-platform laptop that is powerful enough to serve, the Division of Design has no objection to using it. However, the bulk of faculty and technician experience is Mac-based; issues with a Windows machine will not be resolved by NSCAD. The student will be responsible for managing any cross-platform issues that arise. Furthermore, a student's inability to complete specified course work due to working on a Windows-platform laptop will not be an acceptable excuse for failing to meet a course's requirements; this situation could cause a student to receive a below average grade, if not fail a course.

Where to purchase:

Canadian-based students can configure and purchase an Apple laptop online, via Apple's Online Higher Education Store at https://www.apple.com/ca_edu_93120/store. Students outside of Canada can select their country-specific online store at <https://www.apple.com/choose-country-region/>.

Students can also visit an Apple retail store, if preferred. If shopping in person make sure to mention that it is an educational purchase (be sure to have proof of enrollment or student ID).

If a student is purchasing elsewhere, prices should be compared with Apple; generally, Apple's educational pricing offers the best value.

Please note—Extended warranty coverage:

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase the AppleCare Protection Plan, rather than other service plans offered by certain retailers. More information is available here: <https://www.apple.com/ca/support/products/mac/>

Required Adobe software

Adobe Creative Cloud Annual Subscription (Student & Teacher Pricing; credit card required): The Adobe software can be subscribed to on an annual or monthly basis. To purchase by phone, call 1-800-585-0774.

Students will install at a minimum: Adobe InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, and Adobe Acrobat Pro. Other applications may be needed for future courses but those four are the core applications in the degree program. While there are many other graphic design software packages available, knowledge of the Adobe suite is currently a requirement for the design profession.

Apple computers come standard with their office software suite: Pages, Keynote, and Numbers. These programs open and edit equivalent Microsoft Office files.

NSCAD software licenses (applicable to only Fall 2021 Term):

Adobe licenses are available for all NSCAD students.

Required and recommended hardware and internet service plan:

Hardware accessories. Students are encouraged to buy a mouse to go with their laptop; many students find working solely with the trackpad challenging. If the student works with a 3D modeling software, such as Autodesk Rhino, a mouse will be necessary. Drawing Tablets (\$99.95 and up) are useful tools but not required. Some packages include a tablet, mouse, and stylus.

External monitor for laptop users. Many students with laptops report frustration when working in design applications with dense or cluttered UIs (user interfaces: floating panels, tools, etc.). The Division of Design recommends that laptop users consider purchasing an external monitor compatible with the capabilities of their computer. A minimum recommendation would be an inexpensive flat panel display with a native resolution of at minimum 1920 pixels by 1080 pixels (HD). These displays typically measure 21.5–27 inches diagonally, with prices starting around CAD\$120.

Data backup. It is critical that all students have a reliable backup strategy. Data backup is part of workflows in all professional design practices, for this reason a data management routine needs to be part of a student's plan for completing and keeping all course work. The following backup strategies afford quick data recovery, particularly at the greatest moment of need:

Cloud-based storage, such as DropBox, OneDrive, or Google's Backup and Sync ensures that work/data is safe and always accessible, for example, if a student's hardware is damaged beyond repair, or lost due to theft they can resume working with new equipment in minimal time.

Another strategy is an external, directly connected hard drive. Apple users should set their external drive to automatically backup using Apple's free Time Machine utility. See <https://support.apple.com/en-ca/HT201250> for setup steps.

Windows 10 users should consider Microsoft's free Backup and Restore utility. See <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/backup-and-restore-in-windows-10-352091d2-bb9d-3ea3-ed18-52ef2b88cbef>

Please note that some professors may not grant a project extension if an assignment is lost due to the absence of an active backup process.

Minimum recommendations for internet access speed. Successful online participation with fellow students, faculty, and remote tools and resources can be frustrating if a student's internet access speeds are low. It is recommended that an internet service plan with a minimum download speed of 20 megabits per second (Mbps), and a minimum upload speed of 8-10 Mbps. There are free internet speed test websites that will measure your download and upload speeds, such as speedtest.net and fast.com. NSCAD recognizes that internet access speed might be beyond student control, due to geographical considerations, budget, limited service provider offerings, etc.

Required: English language operating system and software (international students):

All students are required to have an English language operating system on their laptop with all software operating in the English language.

If a student is using an existing computer and software that both meet the requirements listed in this document but it does not operate with the English-language setting, they will need to visit a computer service/repair shop to have it properly initialized in the operating system and software. If the student is residing in Halifax, this must be done locally, see the following list of service providers:

- Halifax Computer Repair Shops, Assessment fee: \$45 — \$95 (base charge):
- Century Computer 902-423-2500
- Brilliance Computers 902-453-0050
- Halifax Computer Repair 902-444-2615

NSCAD University does not service or repair computer hardware or software.

NSCAD financial support/Student bursaries:

NSCAD is committed to eliminating barriers to acquiring these required hardware and software course tools based on financial hardship. The Office of Student Experience may be able to provide a bursary to students in need. Please contact the Manager of Financial Aid ose@nscad.ca for more information.

Covid-19 Syllabus Addendum: Fall 2021

NSCAD University is planning for a safe return to campus this Fall 2021, and has implemented health and safety protocols for students, faculty and staff. These protocols are based on advice provided by Nova Scotia Health regarding COVID-19, the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education, as well as on best practices as discussed by CONSUP and other Atlantic university consortia.

As members of the NSCAD community, it is our collective responsibility to familiarise ourselves with NSCAD's [Safe Return to Campus Policy](#) and to abide by the protocols and regulations contained therein. These protocols apply to anyone visiting the Fountain, Port and Academy campuses, NSCAD grounds or attending a NSCAD-sponsored activity.

Attendance Policy

Your attendance and participation are essential to your successful learning process. However, no one should attend in person classes if they are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19; if they have been in any sites where COVID-19 cases have been detected/identified; if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19; or if they are feeling unwell. Each instructor will provide information on the attendance policy specific to this course. In case of illness or COVID-related symptoms, please contact your instructor immediately by email to discuss options for completing your course work.

Students will not be penalised for having to self-quarantine if required to do so. Course materials and assignments will be made available to you by your instructor.

Need support or help?

NSCAD is aware of the challenges posed by COVID-19 and is concerned about students' health and well-being. Below, some resources to help you have a successful and productive academic term.

[COVID-19 Information and Updates](#)

[Wellness Resources](#)

[Counselling and Psychological Services](#)

[Writing Centre](#)

[Financial Aid](#)

[SUNSCAD Food Bank](#)

[The Learning Commons](#)