

# Design for the Internet: DSGN 2520

## Fall 2025

**Instructor:** Robert Currie  
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8:30 AM-12:30 PM Thursdays  
Sept 11-Dec 11  
Room 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*

## NSCAD Covid-19 Update

- If you are unwell, please stay at home and let your instructors know if you will be missing class time. If you test positive for COVID-19, you should self-isolate until you test negative or are symptom free and inform your instructors about your situation.
- Please note that as of May 1, 2023, masks are no longer required in indoor instructional spaces.

## Student Workload/Course Expectations:

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.

## Course Attendance Policy:

Attendance and participation in class is mandatory and will be factors in your grade. Students who miss more than three online lectures without satisfactory communication and explanation may receive a grade of F, regardless of performance on assignments, quizzes or evaluations. Unexcused absences will result in a lowered class grade.

There may be times when it is necessary to miss class for illness or emergencies, but in these situations you need to notify me as soon as practicable.

I will be as reasonable as possible when students are experiencing difficulty, but communication is vital - let me

know as soon as possible if you need to miss class (preferably before class) and propose a plan for getting caught up on what you have missed. As a guideline, missing three or more classes without promptly communicated excuses may be grounds for a mark of F.

Note that foreseeable reasons, such as travel, work, commitments to other classes or factors other than illness or unforeseeable emergencies are **not** valid reasons for missing class. Travel and immigration arraignments, employment schedules and general time management are fully the responsibility of students.

**Course Requirements, Resources, Materials:**

**Materials:**

Students are required to have a Mac or Windows computer capable of running the current version of Adobe Creative Cloud, and a reliable, unrestricted internet connection, and the education version of the Adobe CC suite installed for the duration of the class.

**NSCAD Attendance Policy:**

To achieve this course's learning objectives, students are required to attend and participate in classes, according to your instructor's requirements. For studio and non-lecture courses: many of the topics and content delivered in this course will be taught through class demonstrations, discussions, and activities. As such, your attendance and participation are essential to your successful learning process. *However, students should NOT attend in person classes if they are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or if they are feeling unwell.*

Students should familiarise themselves with their course's attendance policies and pay special attention to their instructor's guidelines regarding attendance requirements. Your 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-isolate during illness. In this event, course materials and assignment will be made available for completion in an alternative way to be communicated to you by your instructor

**NSCAD University Occupational Health and Safety Policy:**

At NSCAD safety is a priority. All students are required to obtain and maintain up-to-date safety (WHMIS) certification. An on-line Brightspace certification process is available to all NSCAD students.

Please note that your NSCAD ID card needs an up-to-date Health and Safety (WHMIS) sticker to access shops and studios, and for Security to permit you access to the university campus sites after hours. WHMIS training is provided online through students' Brightspace account.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Completion of all assignments is mandatory. Evaluation will be based on a number of assignments, quizzes, and a research/essay assignment. Participation in class will also account for a portion of the grade. The majority of assignments and projects will be completed outside of normal lab instruction hours. Dates and details will be provided in the course outline and as the course progresses. All work must be submitted entirely in English.

**Grade Weights**

Assignments:..... 85%

Class participation: ..... 15%

**Grading System:**

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Grade Point Score	Descriptive Term
A+	95 and above	4.3	Excellent
A	90-94	4.0	Excellent
A-	85-89	3.7	Very Good
B+	80-84	3.3	Very Good
B	73-79	3.0	Good
B-	67-72	2.7	Good
C+	63-66	2.3	Satisfactory
C	59-62	2.0	Satisfactory
C-	55-58	1.7	Satisfactory
D	50-54	1.0	Marginal
F(Fail)	49 and below		

### **Academic Integrity:**

A climate and culture of academic integrity is an expectation of everyone. Students at NSCAD are required to comply with standard academic practices in acknowledging sources in all work presented for academic credit.

New Academic Integrity Policy

Please be sure to read NSCAD's NEW Academic and Integrity Policy: <https://navigator.nscad.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/3.5-Academic-Integrity-Policy-Final.pdf>

*Note on use of machine learning/artificial intelligence tools*

Machine learning and artificial intelligence tools (such as ChatGPT, dall-e, midjourney, and many others) are evolving rapidly. These tools generate text, images, computer code or other media by recombining elements of existing works.

The NSCAD Academic Integrity policy is clear. Use of such tools without fully crediting the source is a violation of NSCAD's plagiarism policy. Punishments range up to a mark of zero for the assignment, failing the course or expulsion from NSCAD. Material created, in whole or in part, by tools like ChatGPT or other similar AI/ Large Language Models (or any other software to generate text, images or other media) cannot, ever, be considered your own work.

Each assignment will have clear rules for use of media and citations. Ask if you have any questions, and keep in mind the basic rule: all work you submit must be your own, unless the assignment includes clear written instructions stating otherwise.

### **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/copyrightpages/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**.

### **Schedule**

September 3 .....	New Student Orientation
September 5 .....	Fall semester classes begin
September 19 .....	Last day to add/drop a course without financial or academic impact
September 20 .....	Courses dropped recorded on transcript as 'W'
September 30 .....	University closed: Truth and Reconciliation Day
October 13 .....	University closed: Thanksgiving
October 17 .....	Faculty mid-semester warning
October 31 .....	Last day to drop course with a 'W'
November 10-14 .....	No classes: Study break
November 11 .....	University closed: Remembrance Day
December 5 .....	Tuesday classes will be held instead of Friday classes
December 17 .....	End of classes/assessment
December 19 .....	Final grades due to the Registrar's Office at noon
December 20-January 2 .....	Winter holiday break

**Writing Centre:**

The NSCAD Writing Centre in D230 offers professional tutoring for any kind of written assignment, at any level of study, at any stage of the work. Specialised workshops will also be offered during the term. Please see the Writing Centre web page for more information and booking online at <https://nscad.ca/student-experience/academic-resources/writing-centre/>.

**Accessibility Policy:**

Accommodations can be arranged for disability-related needs by contacting [accessibility@nscad.ca](mailto:accessibility@nscad.ca). Students are encouraged to connect with the Accessibility Office as early in the term as possible. Students can connect with the Accessibility Office at any point in the semester or time as a NSCAD student to access or learn more about the available supports. Visit: <https://nscad.ca/student-experience/academic-resources/accessibility/> for more information and to find the Accessibility Policy which includes a protocol that clearly outlines everyone's roles and responsibilities in the accommodation process.

**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.

**Need support/help?**

NSCAD is aware of the challenges caused by COVID-19 and is concerned about our students' health and well-being. Here are 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](#)