

OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



ARTS 3393

GAME HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

FALL 2020

OC.EDU

GAME HISTORY & DEVELOPMENT

COURSE INFORMATION

FALL 2020

Updates every T ● TH

ONLINE

FACULTY INFORMATION

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[Office hours by appointment](#)

OC MISSION STATEMENT

OC is a higher learning community that transforms lives for Christian faith, scholarship, and service.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Through the lenses of technology, business, culture, and entertainment, this course explores the modern principles of game development and the historical contexts for the evolution of play, from ancient games to the present. Students should come away from the course with an appreciation for the history of the medium and the contextual industry understanding to make informed choices on career paths to pursue within their field.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Introduce students to the core principles of game development, the procedures of the practice, and career pathways for the industry's next generation of developers.
- Explore the influences of society, industry, and tech on the historical development of games.
- Foster professional approaches and attitudes toward themselves and others in their field.

CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW

- As designers, we are called to be **transformed by our faith**. (Rom. 12:2)
- We are tasked by our Creator **to do good works** for the glory of the kingdom. (Eph. 2:10)
- Made in His image, we each have been **given different talents** that we must use. (Rom. 12:6)

INDUSTRY DISCRETION

In your studies, you will be required to perform research on artists, designers, games, films, and industry trends. Artwork labeled "mature" or "NSFW" indicates that it is Not Safe For Work; viewing or uploading images with this label violates OC's internet policy.

You alone are accountable for the content you view, post, and follow online.

SUPPLIES

Textbook (Optional)

[The Video Games Textbook](#)

Dr. Brian J. Wardyga

ISBN: 978-08153-9089-3

Materials

- note-taking materials of choice
- storage media of choice

Hardware

Access to a computer with a consistent internet connection is necessary to complete work assigned on Blackboard.

System Requirements

Many students ask for computer recommendations for optimal performance. Here are the minimum system requirements for a personal computer in Gaming + Animation:

- Windows 7 or later, 64-bit
- Intel or AMD Quad-Core Processor, 3.0 GHz
- DirectX 11-compatible video card (Nvidia GTX series or ATI Radeon)
- 1080p-capable display
- 100 GB free hard-drive space
- 16 GB RAM
- Three-button wheel mouse
- Broadband internet connection

* Mac Users: A Mac computer is acceptable, but you may not use Mac OS for game software. In addition, your Mac hardware needs to meet the minimum requirements listed above. If your Mac meets these system requirements, please see this Apple support link on how to install Windows on a Mac: <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201468>

GRADING

Grading is based on a point system, where each assignment will be worth a designated amount of points, clearly noted on each assignment brief on Blackboard. The points you receive will be divided by the total amount possible to determine your final grade. Grades will be updated regularly, so you should always be aware of your academic standing in the class.

Deadlines are clearly noted in Blackboard. It is your responsibility to keep track of when your work is due and to ensure that you are clear on expectations. All grades and comments will be posted through Blackboard.

Grading Standards

A: 100 – 90 **B:** 89 – 80 **C:** 79 – 70 **D:** 69 – 60 **F:** 59 – 0

Late Work

All work will be due at specific dates as outlined on Blackboard. Long upload times for large assignments will not qualify as a reason for late work.

Late work will forfeit 15% of the total assignment points earned. This means the highest you can earn from late work is a 85% for a perfect assignment. Work will not be accepted after the final day of class.

Backing Up Your Files

Losing work due to failed media or overwritten files is not an excuse for late work. Students are expected to have an effective backup strategy for all of their files. It is suggested that this strategy includes duplicate back-ups of all working and final files.

Grade Revisions

Your grade reflects the quality of work you deliver over the course of the class. Do not email me asking for a grade you have not earned, or to “round up” your grade to a higher one. Asking for a higher grade without an approved resubmission of work equates to academic dishonesty on your part. *Do not do this.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class Organization, News, & Updates

During this unique fall semester, all course material will be available via Blackboard, under Course Content. This includes all recorded lectures, online modules, exams, and Discussion boards. As an asynchronous course,

New material will be unlocked each Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 am. Unless otherwise stated, all assignment and exam deadlines will close at 8:29 am on the noted dates.

Outside of the posted lectures and Discussion interactions, I will be communicating with you via Course Announcements (through Blackboard) with reminders, changes or any other pertinent information. Please check into Blackboard and your OC email each day. It is your responsibility to follow class updates and to manage your mailbox so that lines of communication are open and available.

Contacting the Instructor

For general course questions, use the “Ask the Class!” Discussion board so that the entire class can benefit from hearing the answer. Outside of the class, the best way to contact me is through email; I will get back to you within the next 24 hours. Please note that I only typically respond to student emails between the hours of 8am and 8pm on weekdays. I am available for virtual meetings during my office hours. Please use my [scheduling link](#) if you need to set a virtual meeting.

Blackboard and MyOC

Blackboard is a learning management system (LMS) at OC, designed to compliment your learning in this course. To enter the Blackboard site, go to <https://my.oc.edu>, log in with your OC ID, and select “Blackboard” from the MyOC homepage. From the link, you should see our class under “My Courses.” From the course site landing page, you can access the syllabus, grades, course content, and project files.

For assistance with Blackboard, you can find tips and tools through Blackboard’s Student online help site at help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student. For help with the MyOC student portal, you can find tutorials on registration, financial services, and information technology at <https://support.oc.edu/hc/en-us>.

You can also contact OC’s North Institute, located in the Mabee Learning Center, for direct assistance.

Software Literacy

In all courses at the collegiate level at OC, basic familiarity with word-processing software, Google Suite, internet browsers, and Mac and Windows operating systems is expected.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Lab Policies

If you use OC computers to access the course material, you must comply with OC's COVID-19. To support a safe and clean learning environment, you are required to wipe down your computer station at the start and end of each class. (This includes wiping down the desk area, keyboard, and mouse.)

Food and open-drinks are not permitted in the labs. If you do bring in a drink like a water bottle, it must have a sealable lid.

Masks

Students at OC must wear a mask in all enclosed indoor spaces, including in the lab this class takes place in. By taking this class, you agree to comply with this rule, and understand that if you choose not to wear a mask you will need to exit the classroom.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is one of the most cherished principles of the OC community. You must adhere to this principle: by understanding the nature of plagiarism and by not plagiarizing materials; by refraining from the use of unauthorized aids on exams; by turning in assignments which are products of your own efforts and research; and by refusing to give or receive information on exams to or from other students. In studio classes, plagiarism includes unauthorized tracing of photos, digital paintovers/photo-bashing, or submitting borrowed visual concepts as your own. You must always credit your sources when using reference images, creating adaptations of another creatives' work, or when collaborating with other artists. If you violate these principles of simple honesty, you risk embarrassment, course failure, and disciplinary action. It is simply not worth it to cheat.

Expectations

By taking this class you agree to participating in the open critique process, showing your work for constructive feedback, and offering valuable critique to your peers that fosters professional development.

The work you create in our class can be used for many online scholarship and contest entries, so invest in putting your best effort into this work and store your projects carefully.

Copyright/Fair Use Notice

Course materials provided or made available to students in class, online or via email are the property of Oklahoma Christian University, the instructor and other copyright holders and are made available for the sole use of students enrolled in this class during the semester in which the student is enrolled.

Students may keep one copy (print or digital) for personal use only and may not distribute the materials

in any media format to any person without the express permission of the Oklahoma Christian University and the instructor. Original materials posted and authored by students may not be distributed under any circumstances.

OC POLICIES

COVID-19 Information

As you know, this semester will be very different from any previous semester at OC – it started early and will end early with no breaks in between. The change in the calendar also means that the semester includes three fewer days of classes than normal.

While OC is planning for classes to occur face to face all semester, the pandemic may force us to go online at some point. If that happens, I want you to know that I've planned this class so that we can make that change smoothly. Other forms of instruction modality may be used for this course, whether fully in-person; fully online (asynchronous); remote (online but with a set, synchronous meeting pattern); or blended as OC flex model.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 or know that you have been exposed to COVID-19, please do not come to class until you have been cleared by a medical professional, such as the COVID-19 Clinical Officer. If you have to miss class, please send me a copy of communication from a medical professional saying that you have tested positive or have been exposed. I will also need a copy of communication from a medical professional, or from a member of the OC housing staff if the student is actually in quarantine, saying that you are no longer contagious or have negative test results before you can return to class. If you are quarantined, I will work with you so that you do not fall behind in your coursework. Your attendance grade will not be reduced because of quarantine if appropriate documentation is supplied, as mentioned above.

Please consult the COVID-19 Roadmap to Readiness Manual for Students and Parents for information and guidelines. <https://www.oc.edu/blogs/covid-19/ocs-roadmap-to-readiness>

Americans with Disabilities Act

If you have a diagnosed disability and need special accommodations, please notify OC's Disability Coordinator before or immediately after your first scheduled class meeting. After your disability has been verified, your instructor will work with you to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this course.

Disability Coordinator

Katy Roybal

405.425.1876

katy.roybal@oc.edu**Title IX**

Oklahoma Christian University is a Christian community unequivocally committed to ensuring a working and learning environment in which the dignity of every individual is respected and a campus environment that is free of unlawful discrimination, which includes sexual assault or misconduct. OC's Anti-Harassment and Discrimination Policy (see the OC Student Handbook) is compliant with Title IX, which states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Discriminatory and sexual harassment is unchristian and uncivil behavior. It is a breach of community, which expresses disrespect, exploits and undermines relationships based on trust, and interferes with learning and productive work.

Students are encouraged to immediately seek available assistance and report incidents of harassment to the Title IX Coordinator. Students also have access to confidential services through OC's Counseling Center, Mercy Clinic, and the Spiritual Life office.

Title IX Coordinator

Lisa Herndon

405.425.1820

lisa.herndon@oc.edu**Dean of Spiritual Life**

Jeff McMillon

405.425.5919

jeff.mcmillon@oc.edu**OC Counseling Center**

405.425.5250

Ethos Director

Summer Lashley

405.425.5908

summer.lashley@oc.edu**Mercy Clinic**

405.425.610

COURSE SCHEDULE

The Course Content is made available to you on Blackboard the week before the course starts. Be sure to check the Course Content and Calendar for updates, due dates, and other pertinent information.