

Art, Technology and the Body - Considering Borderlines and Spaces

March 2015, Quest University

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Office Hours: 10:30am - 12:00pm, OSSA Arts Bay

Class Meeting Area: Academic 1, Room 111

Calendar Description

How do our technological tools alter our perception and change the ways we interact with each other? In this course we will reveal the spaces and intersections of physical perceptual and sensory driven awareness, cyberspace, the networked nodes of our social community and reflect upon how technology shifts the ways we inhabit our physical landscapes and interior environments. Our discoveries will be made with an interdisciplinary artistic approach by creating installation environments, both indoors and outdoors, drawing, small sculpture, photography and video. Media theorists, philosophers and artists, historical and current, will inform our process as it unfolds during our creative practice.

Learning Objectives

- develop critique skills
 - increase memory translation driven from sensory awareness
 - critical reflection skills
 - develop an aptitude for creative practice
 - material skills, including working with wearable electronics
 - articulate critical thinking
 - further understand the role of technology and communication
 - finely tune intuition, imagination and poetic sensitivity
 - develop insightful inquiries about objects, spaces and our engagement with the physical world
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Materials

- Provided by Instructor / Quest University
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Readings

Bachelard, G. (1958) *The Poetics of Space*. Paris: Presses Universitaires de France.
(ebook available on Google Books: <http://books.google.ca/books?id=tN3bAwAAQBAJ>)

Haraway, D. (1991) 'A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century', *Simians, Cyborgs and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*. New York: Routledge, pp.149-181.

Heidegger, M. (1977) *The Question Concerning Technology*. New York: Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc.

Kozel, Susan. (2007) *Closer: Performance, Technology, Phenomenology*. Cambridge: Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Course Schedule

Daily classes take place from 1pm–4pm in Academic 1, Room 111

Week One Theme: **Exploring the Perceptual Body**

- Mon, March 2: Introductions, Changing spaces by mark making, Marks made by isolating different senses, Drawing from memory
 - introduce daily sketchbook drawing assignment
- Tues, March 3: Technical review of graphite pencils and mark making, questions about perception, the role of technology
 - Assign reading: **Heidegger, M. (1977) *The Question Concerning Technology***.
- Wed, March 4: Heidegger Reading Discussion,
 - Assign Photography / Drawing Assignment
- Thurs, March 5: Photography / Drawing Assignment in-class work time
- Fri, March 6: Introduce Critique Structure, Photography / Drawing Project Critiques
 - Assign Reading: **Haraway, D. (1991) 'A Cyborg Manifesto: Science, Technology, and Socialist-Feminism in the Late Twentieth Century'**

Week Two Theme: **Being a Body in a World**

- Mon, March 9: Reading Discussion
 - Screening: *Bladerunner* (1982) Directed by Ridley Scott [Film]. USA: The Ladd Company. (Media Room, Room 119)
- Tues, March 10: e-textile Project 01 /02 - electronic circuits and lights
 - Assign reading: **Kozel, Susan. (2007) *Closer: Performance, Technology, Phenomenology*. pp 116 - 126**

- Wed, March 11: Kozel Reading Discussion, e-textile Project 02 / 03 - electronic circuits, lights and speakers
 - Assign e-textile Project 03
- Thurs, March 12: e-textile Project 03
 - Screening: Being in the World (2010), Directed by Tao Ruspoli [Film]. USA: Mangusta Productions. (Media Room, Room 119)
 - Assign Final Project
- Fri, March 13: e-textile Project 03 Critiques
 - Assign Reading: **Bachelard, G. (1994) The Poetics of Space**
 - Final Project Proposals Due

Week Three and a half Theme: **Navigating Spatial Boundaries of the Seen and Unseen**

- Mon, March 16: Bachelard Reading Discussion, Tactics for wandering and becoming lost to re-ignite a sense of space.
- Tues, March 17: Field Trip: Vancouver Art Gallery, The Poetics of Space Exhibit
 - Assign Response Paper to Exhibition
- Wed, March 18: Final Project work time
- Thurs, March 19: Final Project work time
- Fri, March 20: Final Project work time
- Mon, March 23: Final Project work time
- Tues, March 24: Final Project Critiques
 - Assign Final Project Reflection Paper
- Wed, March 25: Exhibition of Works / or extended Critique / or ???

Learning Assessment

Projects (70%)

- Daily Sketchbook Drawings (10%)
- Photography / Drawing Assignment (10%)
- E-textile Project 01 (5%)
- E-textile Project 02 (15%)
- Final Project (Individual or Group) (30%)

Papers (20%)

- Poetics of Space Exhibition Review (5%)
- Final Project Proposal (5%)
- Final Project Reflection (10%)

Participation (10%)

Submitting Assignments

- All papers must be submitted in a .pdf format
- Submit your assignment via e-mail (laurel.terlesky@questu.ca). Assignments must be submitted by the time indicated (usually the beginning of class on the due date).
- You will receive your assignment back with comments and marks via email. To view annotations and listen to audio feedback, you will need to open the file in Adobe Reader (free download).
- Physical projects will be critiqued in-class with feedback and marks delivered via email.
- Sketchbooks will be collected for review on the last class and returned following block break.
- All physical projects will belong to you after the course is complete. If working in a group, please decide in advance how to handle the legacy of your project. (disassembly, sharing structure, etc.)

Policies

- Individual assignments are due at the beginning of class. Group assignments are due before they are presented in the class they are due. Late assignments without a medical or compassionate reason are marked at 40% off.
 - You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade. The final day to hand in outstanding assignments is 1pm the final Monday of the course.
 - Class begins at 1pm sharp. Each instance of tardiness counts as 2% off your final grade.
 - Unexcused absences from more than two classes will result in a failing grade.
 - Each unexcused absence counts as 5% off your final grade.
 - Plagiarism and other violations of the Honour Code will be vigorously dealt with. Ensure that you are familiar with the Honour Principle, which applies to all coursework, including class discussion and participation.
 - Grade ranges and letter equivalencies: A 90–100, A- 85–89, B+ 80–85, B 75–80, B- 70–75, C+ 65–70, C 60–65, C- 55–60, D 50–55, F below 50.
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