

## VA333 Syllabus

Due to the size of the course and the current social distancing regulations of the university in classrooms and labs the course will be taught online this semester:

The class will be held exactly like a physical studio class, except that instead of meeting in a classroom we will be meeting via zoom. **Thus, all students are expected to attend every class session at its scheduled time.** If failure to do so occurs due to internet connection problems a makeup session for that student will be arranged. Since these are studio sessions and not lectures, **the classes will not be recorded.** Therefore, missing a class will have the exact same result that it used to have in previous years where when a student did not show up for a class, they basically missed that week's content which does of course impact success.

**Please read the bottom of this syllabus very carefully before you decide to take this course.** You will be expected to do **research and writing** for this course, especially during the first 3 – 4 weeks of it. Without a substantial written content, you will not even be able to start to work on your website. You should watch the tutorial videos below to get a better idea as to what is meant by this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z7NhlwaUlq4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hamY1wrsDTQ>

The course has a dedicated website/blog which you may also wish to look at in order to get a good understanding as to how this class is conducted. I particularly recommend that you examine the student websites from previous years which are all linked on the sidebar, all the way at the bottom. These will also give you a good idea regarding the expected course work:

<https://wixtrix.blogspot.com>

Attendance to the course is mandatory (attendance is taken at every class session), as you will also see at the bottom.

Week 1	Introductory Meeting
Week 2	Graphic Design principles and elements overview: Fonts, Colors, Shapes, Visual material, Structure in Graphic Design and their extensions into Web Design
Week 3	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 4	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 5	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 6	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 7	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 8	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 9	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 10	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 11	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 12	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 13	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 14	In-class critique of students' projects
Week 15	In-class critique of students' projects

Given that this course is a studio design class, after the first two introductory weeks in which the instructor will hold a lecture, the course will progress through in-class project reviews, during which

design learning will further be disseminated through the individual examples and case studies found in the students' projects.

It is important to know that this course is **not a web programming course**, but one which focuses **strictly on content creation and dissemination via well designed websites**. Therefore, the class work will be executed with intuitive, drag-and-drop web design software such as the online website builder wix.

**Important!** What students who wish to take this class need to be aware of is that they will need to create content before they can commence to design the site. This means **deciding on a topic** for the website, **doing research** around that topic, **finding visual material** and **writing texts** which will become the material of the design.

Since learning will commence through such in-class examples and case studies, attendance to the course is mandatory. Students will sign an attendance sheet during every session and a failure to show up for more than 5 classes will automatically result in an F grade.

**Grading:** This course has no final examination. Instead consistent hard work over the entire is graded. Students will work on their own individual projects all through the term and will be periodically evaluated and graded, based upon their progress to that date. These in-term grades will then be added and divided to calculate the final grade. Therefore, grading is based on consistent work and not on the final outcome.