VA439/539_SYLLABUS

Envisioning Information

INSTRUCTOR
Gözde Oral
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TEACHING ASSISTANT
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CLASS TIME
Thursday 13:40-16:30

OFFICE
Appointments must be scheduled
in advance and may be held online.

DESCLAIMER
We may have to revise the course
plan according to the reassessment
to be made country-wide, regarding
higher education, at the beginning
of April. The content to be delivered
is certain but the method of course
delivery, the number and dates of
exams, and some other details are
subject to change.

COURSE MATERIAL &SOFTWARE
For initial sketching purposes a
blank notebook and coloured
pencils are required. A small budget
should be alloted in case
of printouts.

Project implementation requires
knowledge of Adobe Illustrator.
Students who do not have prior
software knowledge are expected
to learn it on their own time and
complete the projects as scheduled.
If necessary, TA assistance can be
scheduled outside of class hours.

Assignments, resources etc will be
available to students on SUCourse.

PLAGIARISM
Design adheres to the integrity of
honest and originally produced
creative work. Plagiarism and the
unacknowledged use of source
material will result in a failing grade
for the project.

INFORMATION
This introductory course aims to help design students grasp the unique place of
information visualization within the wider spectrum of Communication Design.
It covers some of the basics of data visualization and investigates creative ways of
shaping information.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The course consists of keynotes, discussions, assignments, class critiques and student
presentations. Projects involve data collection, creation of charts, timelines, infographics
and storytelling through the use of design elements. Time permitting, readings and
viewings are also incorporated into class material.

WHO IS THE COURSE FOR?
The course is subject to special approval. Priority is given to senior (4th year) design
students in the VACD programme; junior VACD and non-programme applicants must have
a minimum GPA of 3.0. Non-programme applicants are advised to have taken at least one
VACD course.

SCHEDULE *

MARCH	W1	02.03	Introduction & course overview	
	W2	09.03	**Project 1**	**Brief (TBA)**
	W3	16.03	Critique 1	Research & comps
	W4	23.03	Critique 2	Design-in-progress I
	W5	30.03	Critique 3	Design-in-progress II
APRIL	W6	06.04	Critique 4	Design finalization
	W7	13.04	**Project 1**	**Submission & presentation**
	W8	20.04	**No class**	**Ramadan Feast Eve**
	W9	27.04	**Project 2**	**Brief (TBA)**
MAY	W10	04.05	Critique 1	Research & comps
	W11	11.05	Critique 2	Design-in-progress I
	W12	18.05	Critique 3	Design-in-progress II
	W13	25.05	Critique 4	Design finalization
JUNE	W14	01.06	**Project 2**	**Submission & presentation**

* The schedule may be subject to changes, shifts and adjustments by the instructor.

ATTENDANCE

- Students are responsible for all material presented in class. Missed attendance is not an
  excuse for not meeting scheduled (above) weekly deadlines.

- Attendance is mandatory and will be taken only once in the first 10 minutes of the class.

- Unless accompanied by a health report, the student's grade will be lowered by one letter
  grade after three absences and another letter grade for each following absence. Six or
  more absences will result in a NA (Not-Attended) grade.

GRADING
Grading is based on the quality of work, attendance and active participation in class,
including the timely completion of projects.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- **Projects - 80%   Attendance & Participation - 20%**