## Digital Rhetorics ENG 351 | Spring 2024 Schedule

## **Tentative Daily Schedule**

I reserve the right to revise the course schedule based on class needs. All readings, podcasts, and videos can be accessed via Canvas modules; films can be found on Kanopy and Netflix. Note that there are several days with guest professors or asynchronous activities. Follow instructions closely for those days.

Date	Activities	Assignments
Week 1	The Tech Industry	
Thurs 1/18	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Nick Kolakowski, "Racial, gender discrimination remain huge issues in tech"</li> <li>Paige Leskin, "Almost 40% of LGBTQ tech employees that participated in a survey"</li> <li>Raj Mukherjee, "Ageism in the Tech Industry"</li> <li>Listen for class</li> <li>User Friendly, "Inclusion and diversity in tech" (22mins)</li> </ul>	USER FRIENDLY
Week 2	Interfaces and Design Justice	
Tues 1/23	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Sasha Costanza-Chock, "Design justice:     Towards an intersectional feminist framework     for design theory and practice"</li> <li>Ann Shivers-McNair, "Review of research:     Critical interface analysis as a heuristic for     justice-focused, community-engaged design     research"</li> <li>Browse and read <a href="https://designjustice.org/">https://designjustice.org/</a></li> </ul>	Journal Entry 1 due (Discussions)
	<ul> <li>Extra Credit Opportunity (1 point)</li> <li>Punk Rock Vegan, 7pm at the Normal Theatre (Green Screen Series)</li> </ul>	Rock Vegan Movie

Thurs 1/25	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Familiarize yourself with Brackets; create an HTML file and start to populate it; build multiple pages</li> <li>Download for class</li> <li>Brackets</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Jon Duckett, HTML+CSS, "Introduction" and "Structure," browse Chapters 3-9</li> <li>Watch for Class</li> <li>Explained 2.5, "Coding" (Netflix, 24 mins)</li> </ul>	HTMLRCSS
Week 3	Digital Identities Online	
Mon 1/29	University note: Last day to drop a full-semester course with a full refund and no withdrawal grade	
Tues 1/30	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Michael Faris, "How to be gay with locative media: The rhetorical work of Grindr as a platform"</li> <li>Maria Novotny and Les Hutchinson, "Data our bodies tell: Towards critical feminist action in fertility and period tracking apps"</li> <li>Lauren Michele Jackson, "We need to talk about digital blackface in reaction GIFs"</li> </ul>	Journal Entry 2 due (Discussions)
Thurs 2/1	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Revisit html file and add CSS styling to it; create a CSS stylesheet; build a navigation bar; learn how to zip files</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Jon Duckett, HTML+CSS, "Introducing CSS," browse Chapters 11-16</li> </ul>	
Fri 2/2		DUE: Coded Bio (Assignments)

Week 4	Data and Privacy	
Tues 2/6	<ul> <li>Guest professor</li> <li>Dr. Smyser-Fauble (bssmyse@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Estee Beck, "The invisible digital identity:     Assemblages in digital networks"</li> <li>L. Cagle, "Surveilling strangers: The disciplinary biopower of digital genre assemblages"</li> <li>Watch for class</li> <li>NYT Opinion, "Why kids are confronting their parents about 'sharenting'"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> <li>Md. Didar Hossin</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 3 (Discussions)
Thurs 2/8	ASYNCHRONOUS  Browse for activity  • Electronic Frontier Foundation, "Tools from EFF's Tech Team"  Watch for activity  • Madhumita Murgia, "How data brokers stole my identity" (TED, 16 mins)	DUE: Asynchronous Activities 1 (Discussions)
Fri 2/9		<b>DUE: Interface Analysis Topic</b> (Discussions)
Week 5	Digital Accessibility	
Tues 2/13	<ul> <li>Guest professor</li> <li>Dr. Julie Jung (jmjung@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Colin Shanley, "Types of disability and special needs"</li> <li>Allegra W. Smith, "Everyone is always aging: Glocalizing digital experiences by considering the oldest cohort of users"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> <li>Jennifer Coe</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 4 (Discussions)  cracking. Accessibility on Mobile Devices. What can I halp you with? Colin shanler

Thurs 2/15	ASYNCHRONOUS  Read for activity  • Chris Ashton, "I used the web for a day using a screen reader" and "I used the web for a day with just a keyboard"  • Microsoft, "Everything you need to know to write effective alt text"	DUE: Asynchronous Activities 2 (Discussions)
Week 6	Usability and Dark Patterns	
Tues 2/20	<ul> <li>Guest professor</li> <li>Dr. Elise Verzosa Hurley (evhurle@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Huatong Sun, "The trimuph of users: Achieving cultural usability goals with user localization"</li> <li>Mari E. Ramler, "Queer usability"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> <li>Adam Pittman</li> <li>Extra Credit Opportunity (1 point)</li> <li>Biophilic Design, 7pm at the Normal Theatre (Green Screen Series)</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 5 (Discussions)  BIOPHILIC DESIGN THE AMOUTE CITY OF USE
Thurs 2/22	ASYNCHRONOUS  Browse for activity  • Deceptive Patterns  Watch for activity  • Sally Woellner, "Dark patterns: How design seeks to control us" (Ted, 10 mins)	DUE: Asynchronous Activities 3 (Discussions)

Week 7	Making/Learning in Digital Spaces	
Tues 2/27	<ul> <li>Guest professor</li> <li>Dr. Joyce Walker (jwalke2@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Watch for class</li> <li>Wired, "Neuroscientist explains why these rats drive tiny cars"</li> <li>Kelly Lambert, "Improving our neuroplasticity"</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Christian Ehret and Ty Hollett, "Embodied composition in real virtualities: Adolescents' literacy practices and felt experiences moving with digital, mobile devices in school"</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 6 (Discussions)
	<ul><li>Grad facilitation</li><li>Tianran Chen</li></ul>	
Thurs 2/29	<ul> <li>Watch for activity</li> <li>Fake Famous (Kanopy, 87 mins)</li> <li>Questions to consider while watching: How does Instagram's interface allow for users to misuse it? How would a design justice approach change it?</li> </ul>	DUE: Asynchronous Activities 4 (Discussions)
Fri 3/1		<b>DUE: Interface Analysis</b> (Assignments)
Week 8	Linguistic Justice in Digital Techno	logies
Tues 3/5	<ul> <li>Guest professor</li> <li>Dr. Angela M. Haas (ahaas@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Halcyon M. Lawrence, "Technical and Professional Communicators as Advocates of Linguistic Justice in the Design of Speech Technologies"</li> <li>Laura Gonzales, "Translation as Multimodal Practice"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 7 (Discussions)
	Abantika Dhar	

Thurs 3/7	<ul> <li>ASYNCHRONOUS</li> <li>Watch for activity</li> <li>Bo Burnham: <i>Inside</i> (Netflix, 87 mins)</li> <li>Content warnings: suicidal ideation and depression</li> <li>Questions to consider while watching: How does Burnham demonstrate the optimism and nihilism of our technological present and future?</li> </ul>	DUE: Asynchronous Activities 5 (Discussions)
Fri 3/8		DUE: Interface Redesign Plan (Discussions)
	Spring break	
3/9 – 3/17  Week 9	No classes this week!  Digital Aggression	
Tues	Tentative Guest professor	DUE: Journal Entry 8
3/19	<ul> <li>Dr. Smyser-Fauble (bssmyse@ilstu.edu)</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Derek M. Sparby, "Digital social media and aggression: Memetic rhetoric in 4chan's collective identity"</li> <li>Kaitlin Clinnin and Katie Manthey, "How not to be a troll: Practicing rhetorical technofeminism in online comments"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> <li>Jia Zuo</li> <li>Extra Credit Opportunity (1 point)</li> <li>Water Makes Us Wet, 7pm at the Normal Theatre (Green Screen Series)</li> </ul>	(Discussions)

## **Thurs ASYNCHRONOUS DUE: Asynchronous** 3/21 **Activities 6 Listen for activity** (Discussions) Dylan Maron, Conversations with people who hate me, "Hurt people hurt people" (31 mins) CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE WHO HATE ME Watch for activity Ashley Judd, "How online abuse of women has spiraled out of control" (TED, 16 mins) **Read for activity** Lindy West, "What happened when I confronted mv cruelest troll" Week 10 Algorithms and Al **Tentative Guest professor Tues DUE: Journal Entry 9** (Discussions) 3/26 Dr. Elise Verzosa Hurley (evhurle@ilstu.edu) Read for class Megan E. Eatman, "Unsettling Vision: Seeing and Feeling with Machines" John T. Murray, Jack Murray, and Anastasia Salter, "Playing with AI Chat" Watch for class Safiya Umoja Noble, "How biased are our algorithms?" (TED, 17 mins) Yejin Choi, "Why AI is incredibly smart and shockingly stupid" (TED, 16 mins) **Grad facilitation** Amartya Mitra **Thurs DUE: Asynchronous ASYNCHRONOUS Activities 7** 3/28 (Discussions) Watch for activity Coded Bias (Netflix, 85 mins) Questions to ask while watching: How do people code bias into algorithms? How can design justice approaches make algorithms more inclusive and equitable?

Week 11	Digital Rhetoric and our Planet	
Tues 4/2	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Dustin W. Edwards, "Digital rhetoric on a damaged planet: Storying digital damage as inventive response to the Anthropocene"</li> <li>Alisa Bonsignore, "It's not just what you say, it's how you say it: Mitigating the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions with effective content"</li> <li>Grad facilitation</li> <li>Page Welker</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 10 (Discussions)
Thurs 4/4	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Work on Interface Redesign</li> <li>Watch for class</li> <li>2040 (Kanopy, 92 mins)</li> <li>Questions to ask while watching: How do the technological advances posited enact design justice? What could we do right now to make the future Gameau envisions happen?</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 11 (Discussions)
Fri 4/5		DUE: Interface Redesign (Assignments)
Week 12	Digital Rhetoric in Crisis and Disa	ster
Tues 4/9	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Derek M. Sparby and Courtney Cox,         "Investigating disembodied university crisis         communications during COVID-19"</li> <li>Candace Welhausen: "At your own risk: User-         contributed flu maps, participatory surveillance,         and an emergent DIY risk assessment ethic"</li> <li>Tech time</li> <li>TBD</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 12 (Discussions)

Thurs 4/11	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Work on Coded Portfolio</li> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Sweta Baniya, "Managing environmental risks in the age of climate change: Rhetorical agency and ecological literacies of transnational women during the April 2015 Nepal Earthquake"</li> <li>Tech time</li> <li>TBD</li> </ul>	
Friday 4/12	University note: Last day to withdraw from a full semester course	
Week 13	Mis and Disinformation	
Tues 4/16	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Eliot Tetrault, "'Who are your people?': Black Lives Matter activists' use of relational knowledge to counter disinformation campaigns"</li> <li>Aimee Rickman and Alexandra J. Cavallaro, "'The people are the plague': Rhetorics of blame during COVID-19"</li> <li>Listen for class</li> <li>Disinformation, "Anyone can do it" (20 mins)</li> <li>Tech time</li> <li>Katie Austin</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 13 (Discussions)
Thurs 4/18	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Work on Coded Portfolio</li> <li>Tech time</li> <li>TBD</li> </ul>	

Week 14	Digital Activism	
Tues 4/23	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Austin Miller and Shinsuke Eguchi, "Fuck (gay) racism"</li> <li>Ana Milena Ribero and Adela C. Licona, "Digital art + activism: A focus on QTPOC digital environments as rhetorical gestures of coalition and un/belonging"</li> </ul>	DUE: Journal Entry 14 (Discussions)
	<ul> <li>Tech time</li> <li>TBD</li> <li>Extra Credit Opportunity (1 point)</li> <li>Just Eat It, 7pm at the Normal Theatre (Green Screen Series)</li> </ul>	JUST EAT IT.
Thurs 4/25	<ul> <li>Coding Workshop</li> <li>Goal: Work on Coded Portfolio</li> <li>Tech time</li> <li>TBD</li> </ul>	
Week 15	Memes	
Tues 4/30	<ul> <li>Read for class</li> <li>Laur M. Jackson, "The Blackness of meme movement"</li> <li>Lydia Wang, "Queerness is a meme: Why all the good social media is gay"</li> <li>Abbie Levesque DeCamp, "Queer Memes as Rhetorical Scenes"</li> <li>Tech Time</li> <li>Crystal Lee</li> </ul>	
Thurs 5/2	Coding Workshop  • Goal: Work on Coded Portfolio  Tech time  • TBD	
Fri 5/3	No class during finals week	<b>Due: Coded Portfolio</b> (Assignments)