MTEC 3175

Week 5: "Game Design Process"

Lecture: Pipeline - Process, Tools, Roles & Distribution

Game & Reading Response, Again!

Brutal Honesty & Questions Especially Appreciated

Playtimes from Howlongtobeat.com:

Dear Esther: 1.5

Gone Home: 2 / 2.5

Firewatch: 4 / 4.5

GRADING NOTES SO FAR

- I) Please try to at least post something for every GJ and RR! Zeroes are super hard to make up...
 - 2) Images on Game Journal Posts = Extra Credit
 - 3) Grammar & Formatting Count
 - 4) Ideally, more original analysis, less repeating content

Making games is complicated... WHERE TO START?

THE (Old?) PIPELINE

(According to Dr. Boisvert)

Concept (Pre-Production)

Design (Production)

Development (Production)

Launch (Beta-Testing & Marketing)



Planning

Pre-production

Production

- · What are we building?
- · What is our budget?
- · Who is the audience?
- Which platform will it be on?
- · Storyboarding, storytelling.
- · Technological capabilities.
- · Early prototyping.
- Milestone scheduling.
- · Modeling, designing.
- · Audio, visual effects.
- · Physics, mechanics.
- Developing, rendering.

Launch

Pre-launch

Testing

- Major bug squashing.
- · Minor bug squashing.
- · Polishing.
- · Master release.

- Alpha/Beta releases.
- · Marketing hype.
- · Gaming conventions.
- · Independent advertising.
- · Bug identifying.
- · Feature exploitation.
- · Is the game too easy/hard?
- · Is the game even fun?

Post-production

- More bug squashing.
- Game patching.
- Game balancing.
- · New content development.







Save

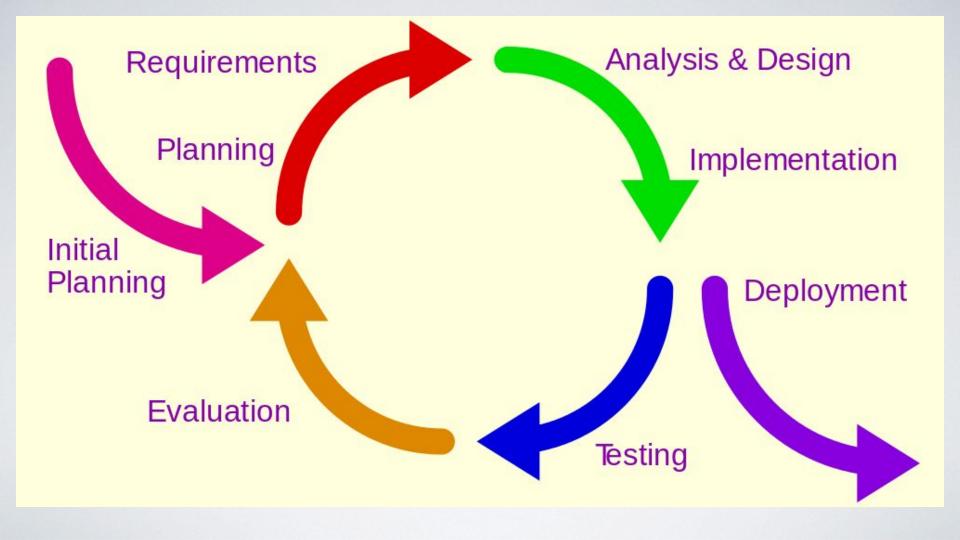
New 17%

Hype 40 Fame 51





Menu





Forced-To-Ship

Delayed

KOTOR II

No Man's Sky

. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial

 Eternal Darkness: Sanity's Requiem

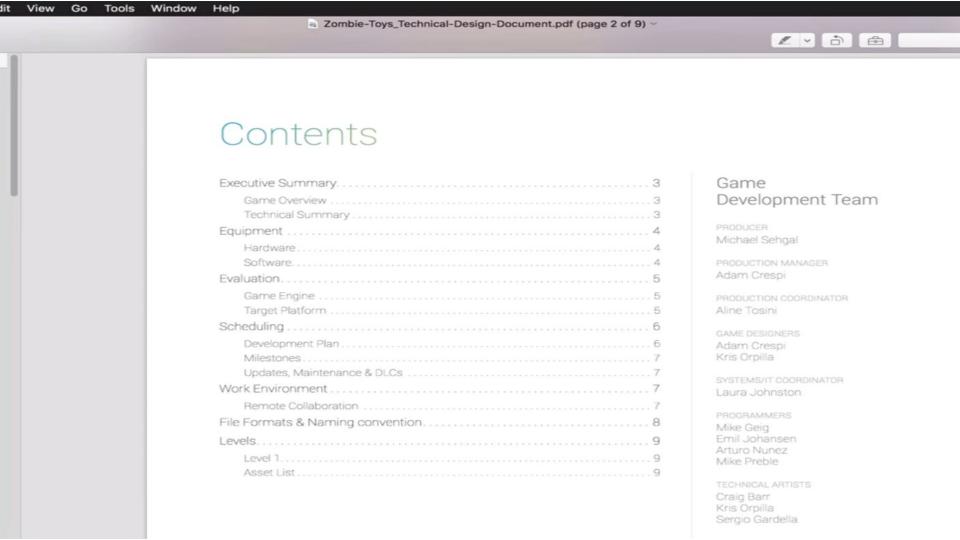
Breath of the Wild

 Animal Crossing: New Horizons

CONCEPT

- high concept & pitch
- concept document*
- concept art
- world building document*

- game design document (GDD)*
- technical design document (TDD)*
- paper prototype



Game Rules

View

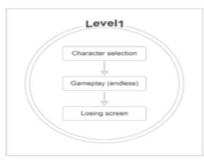
Go

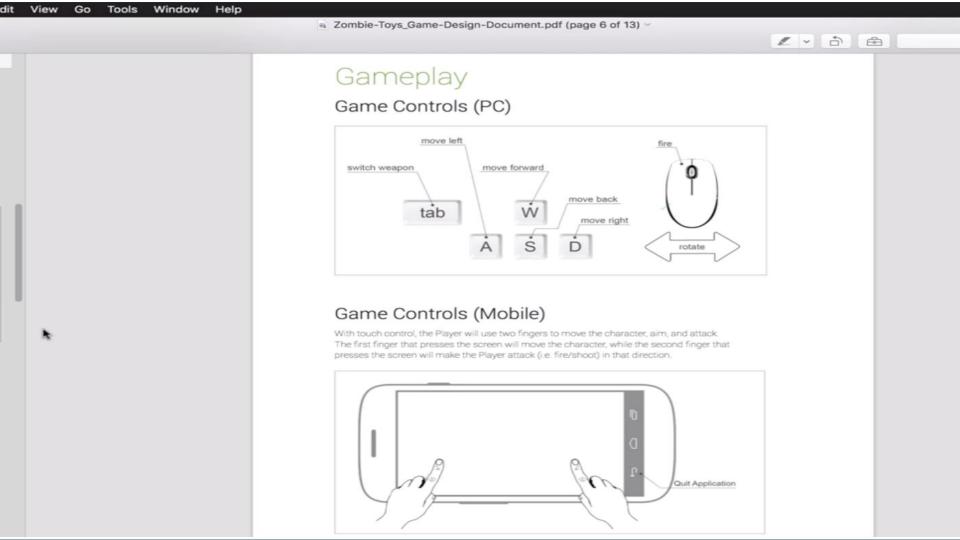
Tools

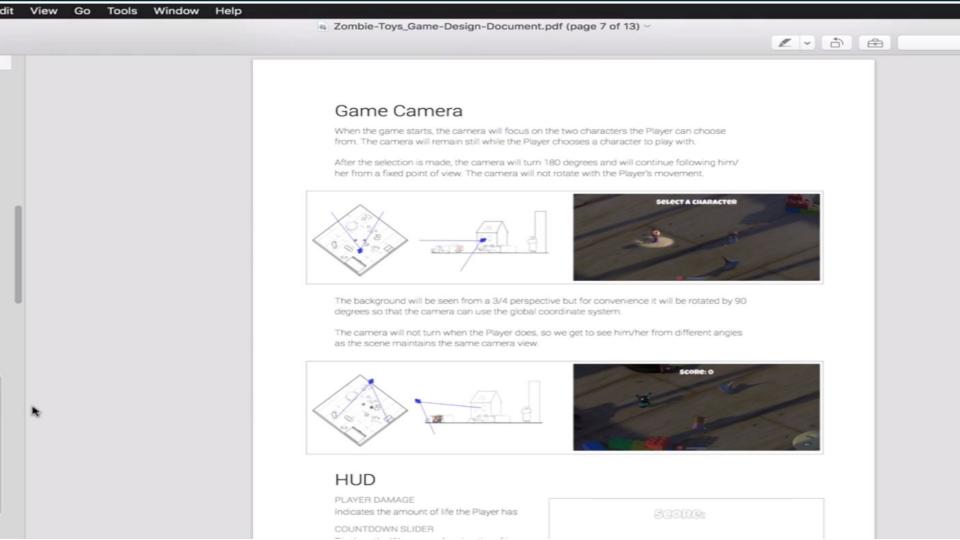
The game level is a closed environment set in a child's room where the Player is attacked by fluffy zombified toys. The Player can move around and attack these Enemies with 4 different Weapons (see Weapons). In this level, there are different spawn points from which the Enemies originate. Each Enemy has a different behavior and will try to defeat the Player (see Enemies). The Player scores points by killing Enemies: the number points earned depends on the Enerny type. After collecting a specific number of points (see Allies), the Player can spawn an Ally who will help him for a limited amount of time.

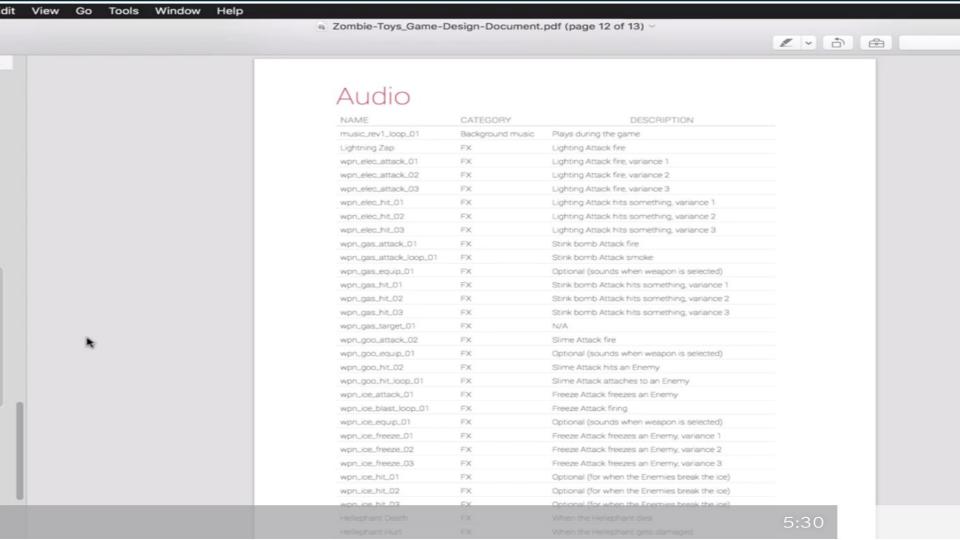
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Game Structure



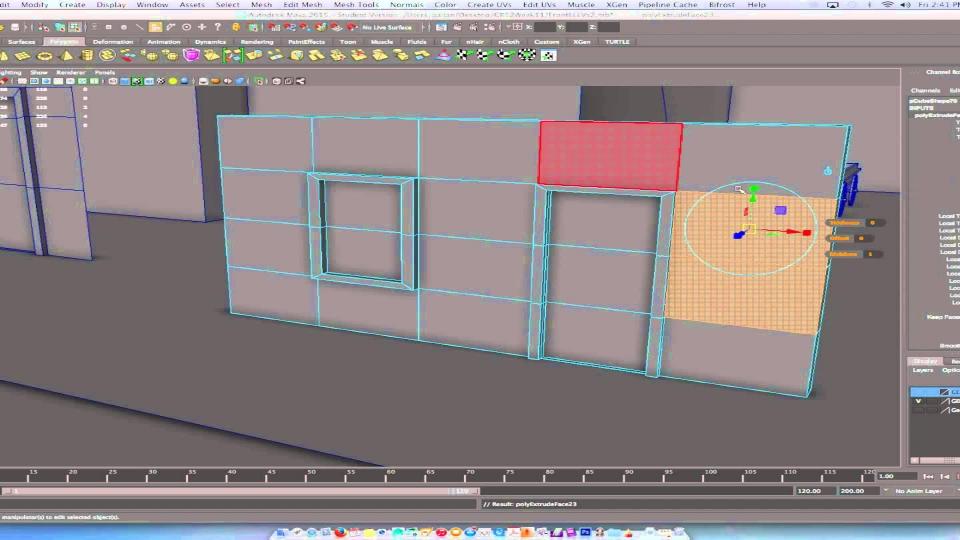


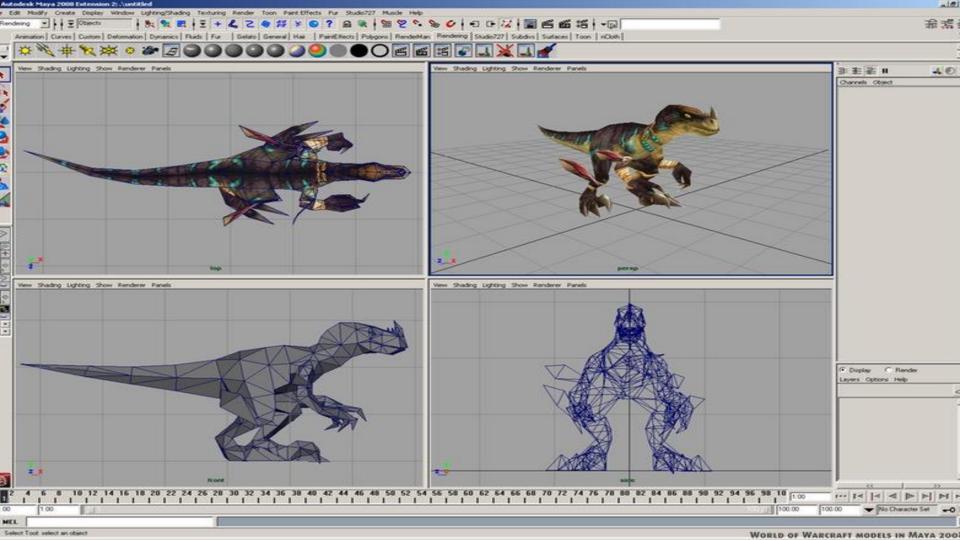




DESIGN

- gameplay mechanics (navigation, controls & triggers)
- story development (storyboards, scripts)
- asset creation (2D/3D art, textures, materials, characters, sound, GUIs)
- level design (asset integration, layout, lighting)







DEVELOPMENT

scripting game play

scripting tools

scripting behaviors

scripting GUIs

scripting Al

testing & debugging

```
Build Run Version Control Tools Window Help
|▼ 温 温 ●
                                     Debug
                                                                            Solution
      trol.cs ×
ine:
ollections:
criptPlayer : MonoBehaviour {
, spotReached, north, south, east, west;
rt direction, steps, speed;
moveP; GameObject gameSFX; GameObject gameBGM; AudioScript sfxScript; AudioScript bgmScript;
rStart; Color colorEnd; float duration = 0.3f;
() {// Use this for initialization
false; north = true; south = false; east = false; west = false; spotReached = true;
Globals.pSpeed; steps = 0; direction = 1; //N = 1, E = 2, S = 3, W = 4
GetComponent<movePlayer>();
= GameObject.FindWithTag("Audio"); sfxScript = gameSFX.GetComponent<AudioScript>();
= GameObject.FindWithTag("Music"); bgmScript = gameBGM.GetComponent<AudioScript>();
rt = renderer.material.color; colorEnd = new Color(colorStart.r, colorStart.g, colorStart.b, 0);
e() { if(!Globals.paused) { // Update is called once per frame
if still moving to square
) { //moving to next space
tReached) {
rth) { direction = 1; transform.eulerAngles = new Vector3(0, 0, 0); }
st) { direction = 2; transform.eulerAngles = new Vector3(0, 0, 270); }
uth) { direction = 3; transform.eulerAngles = new Vector3(0, 0, 180); }
st) { direction = 4; transform.eulerAngles = new Vector3(0, 0, 90); }
ached = false; if (steps == 3) sfxScript.sndMove();
in direction
count steps until in next space
bals.readyP) moveP.Move(direction); steps++; if(steps >= (20/speed)){ steps = 0; spotReached = true; }
let go of button
otReached) { //let go of button, but still moving
lobals.readvP) moveP.Move(direction); steps++; if(steps >= (20/speed)){ steps = 0; spotReached = true; }
```

Game\scriptPlayer.cs - MonoDevelop-Unity



LAUNCH

Ist playable

alpha

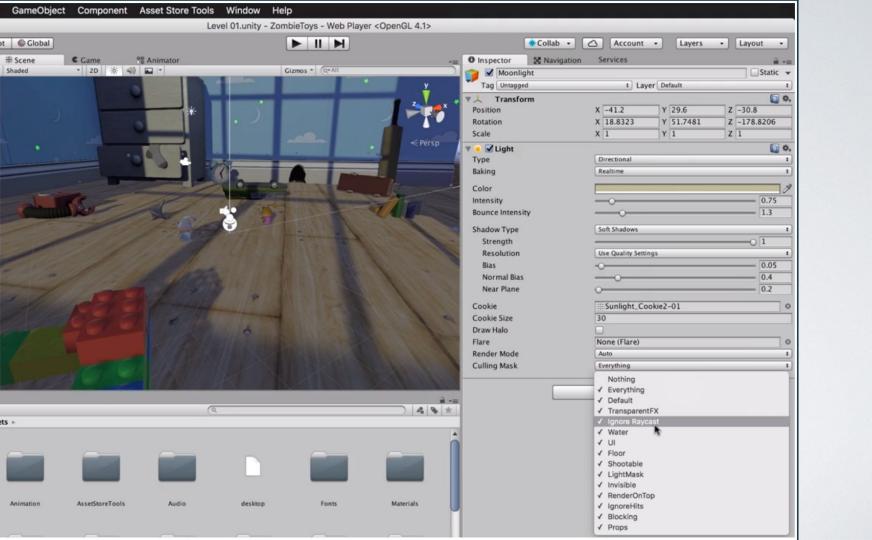
• beta

code release (bugs fixed & shipped)

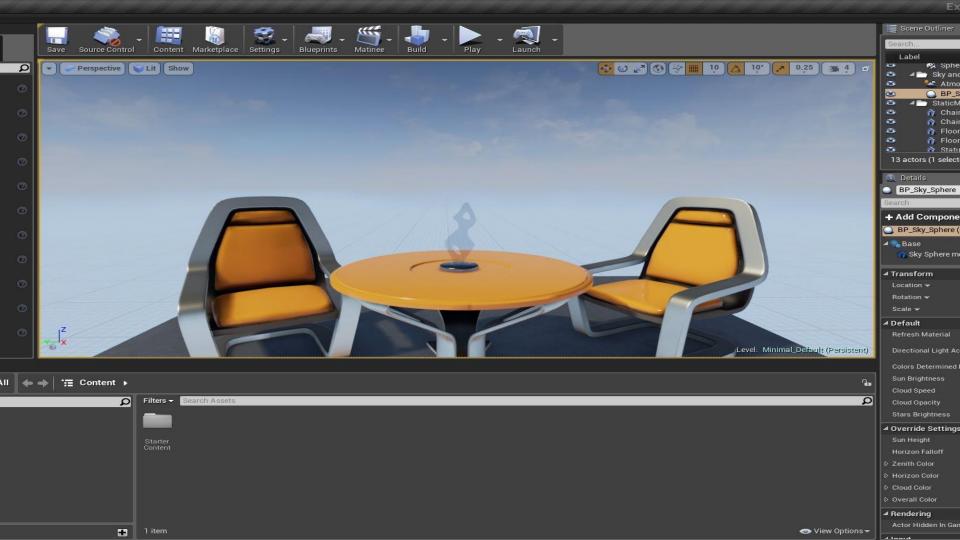


TOOLS - GAME ENGINES

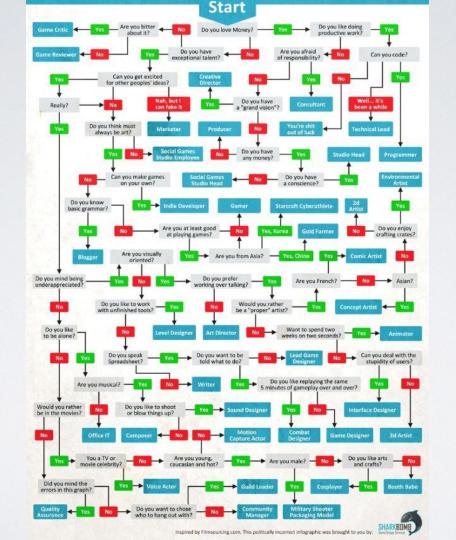
- In-House (Build from Scratch; Scimitar or CryEngine)
 - Used to be more common... now slightly crazy to do
- Full Tool Chain (Unreal & Unity SDKs)
- Middleware & Integrated Libraries







ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES





The Art Director

Ensures the overall look and feel is consistent

Verifies that all game assets adhere to the concept art and intellectual property specifications



The Concept Artist

Generates the initial ideas of characters and environments for the game Defines the look and feel of game elements



The Environment Artist

Constructs environment assets including models and textures May create environment concept art depending on studio size



The Character Artist

Constructs characters and props including models and textures May create character concept art depending on studio size



The Technical Artist

Helps bring assets into the game, including animations Ensures art is optimized for a game engine



The Game Designer

Designs and implements game mechanics and game play in the levels May do considerable scripting of behaviors and animations



The Level Designer

Plans and builds environments

May also light the level and add characters depending on studio size





MONETIZATION

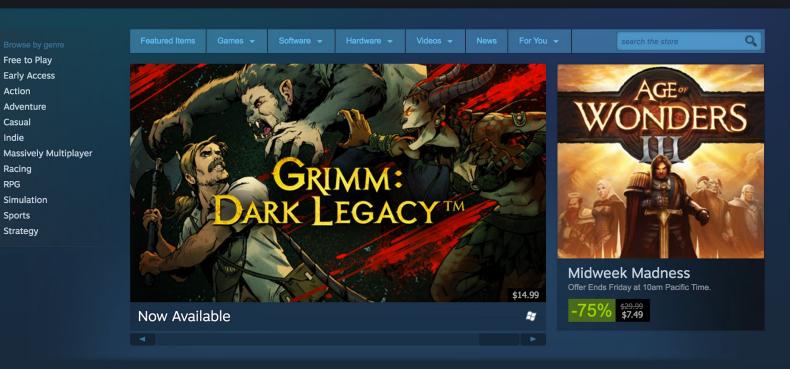
- physical purchase buy a game packaged on DVD
- download buy a game via digital download
- subscription requires continuous ongoing payment
- freemium free to play initial, additional or upgraded levels or content can be purchased
- in-game purchase purchase content within the game via micro-transaction
- advertising publishers embed ads in game... worth a lecture on its own...
- · shareware ancient method, spread free demo on CD, pay to unlock game

Free to Play **Early Access** Action Adventure Casual Indie

Racing RPG Simulation Sports Strategy



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NBA LIVE Mobile Ba ELECTRONIC ARTS



MARVEL Future Fig Netmarble Games



Clash Royale Supercell



FINAL FANTASY BR SQUARE ENIX Co.,Ltd.

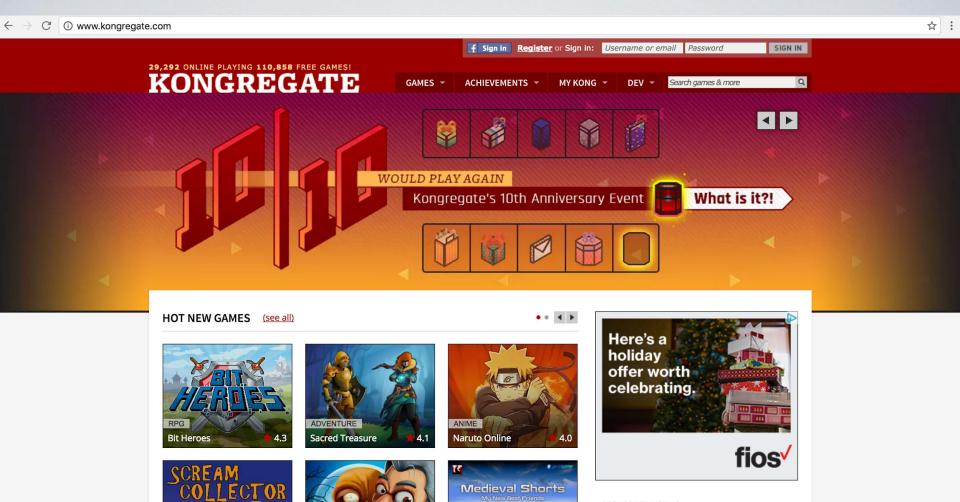


PinOut Mediocre



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CSI: Hidden Crimes Ubisoft Entertainment



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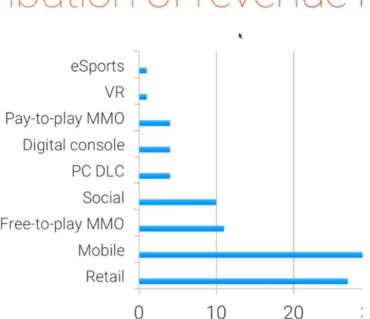
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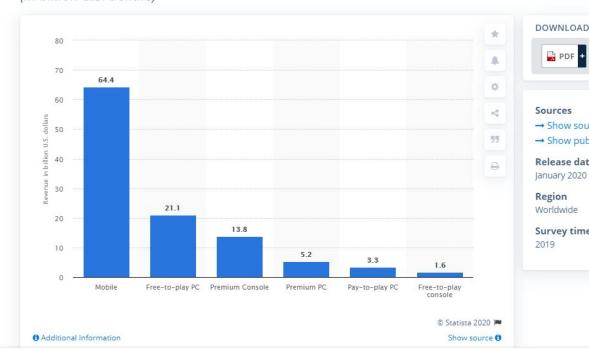


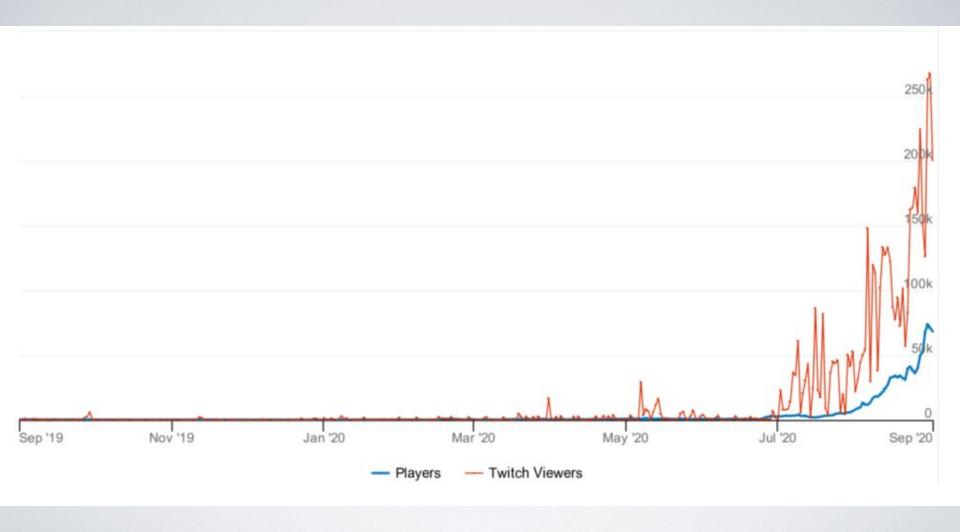
ribution of revenue



Media & Advertising > Video Games & Gaming

Digital games industry revenue worldwide in 2019, by game category (in billion U.S. dollars)





MONETIZATION RESEARCH

口电分







Top games by current player count

CURRENT PLAYERS PEAK TODAY GAME

Counter-Strike: Global Offensive Dota 2

Among Us

Concurrent Steam Users: 21,133,767 21,793,431

PLAYERUNKNOWN'S BATTLEGROUNDS Rocket League

current

Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six Siege Grand Theft Auto V

Path of Exile

Source SDK Base 2013 Multiplayer Football Manager 2020

Team Fortress 2 Left 4 Dead 2

Warframe Rust Destiny 2

Fall Guys ARK: Survival Evolved

Dead by Daylight Sid Meier's Civilization VI

Crusader Kings III Wallpaper Engine

Mafia: Definitive Edition Hades

War Thunder 45 853 Monster Hunter: World Steam Hardware & Software Survey

Steam Hardware & Software Survey

Steam Stats

Steam Download Stats

Steam Support Stats





Top Apps on iOS, United States, Overall, September 24, 2020

Stay ahead of the market with App Annie Intelligence. Monitor the top apps across countries, categories and platforms.

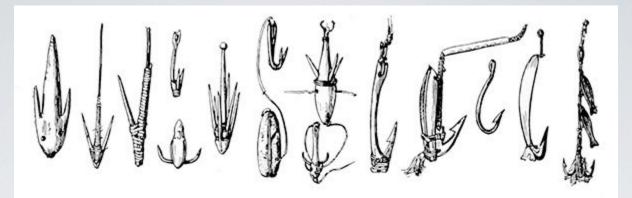
Market iOS v

Country United States v

Category Overall ~

Device iPhone v

Free Paid Grossing Among Us! Minecraft YouTube: Watch, Listen, Str... InnerSloth LLC Google LLC Mojang Widgetsmith Universe in a Nutshell Tinder - Dating & Make Fri... Cross Forward Consulting, LLC in a nutshell - kurzgesagt GmbH Tinder Inc. Color Widgets Procreate Pocket Disney+ MM Apps, Inc. Savage Interactive Pty Ltd Disney **ZOOM Cloud Meetings** HotSchedules Roblox HotSchedules Roblox Corporation Acrylic Nails! Heads Up! - Trivia on the go Candy Crush Saga Warner Bros. Crazy Labs Pokémon GO Photo Widget: Simple Geometry Dash Hyoungbin Kook RobTop Games AB Viantic, Inc.





LABTIME



Lab, Part 1: GROW A GAME

- 1) pick one of each color card
 - green = verbs (actions)
- yellow = challenges (issues)
- pink = atmosphere (games)
 - blue = values (goals)
- 2) come up with a game concept (15 minutes)
- 3) write it down (& draw it for extra credit?) (10 minutes)
- 4) turn it into an elevator pitch 1-2 sentences (5 minutes)
 - 5) post to OpenLab!

Lab, Part II: SPEED DATING

(or maybe just one blind date)

ONCEYOU HAVE YOUR CONCEPT...

- 1) form pairs (auto-breakout-rooms probably)
 - 2) share pitches! (3 minutes a piece).
- 3) come up with a mashup of two ideas (5 minutes).
 - 4) post to OpenLab (one post per team is fine)
 - 5) find another partner, repeat if time allows

• • • •

- 6) review all mashed-up ideas, and pick one to commit to for HW
- 7) develop into a concept document for HW by Next Friday

CONCEPT DOCUMENT GAME DESIGN DOCUMENT WORLD BUILDING DOCUMENT TECHNOLOGY DOCUMENT

HOMEWORK CLARIFICATION

- I) By 3.5 (next Friday), Game Journal & Reading Response (like normal)

 Games: NetHack, FTL, Slay the Spire, Hades

 Reading: Macklin & Sharp Ch. 6
 - 2) By **3.5** (next Friday), Post a CONCEPT DOC to OpenLab: https://drive.google.com/file/d/I-yiF2Pq-OgJaTXsMAQblckoDzGINz26O/view
 - 3) By 3.12 (Friday after), Post a Game Design Doc to OpenLab
 - 4) By **3.19** (3 Fridays), Post Final GDD to OpenLab (also final date for all Game Journal & Reading Responses)