ENG 1710 Introduction to Language and Technology
College Option: Interdisciplinary Liberal Arts and Sciences course
Fall 2018 (4 credits, 4 hours)

Pre- or co-requisite: ENG 1121 English Composition II

Professors:

Prof. R. D. Lansiquot, Ph.D.
rlansiquot@citytech.cuny.edu
Office: Namm N-525
Office Hours: Thursday 10:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Prof. T. D. Cunningham
tcunningham@citytech.cuny.edu
Office: Namm N-913
Office Hours: Tuesday noon–2 p.m.

Class Location: Namm N-601B
Meets in-class Thursday from 2:15 to 3:55 p.m.

Course Description
Introduction to the relationship between language and technology by reviewing the history of various technologies of the word, including writing, printing, and digital media. The course will explore the history of rhetoric and its relationship to traditional, print-based technologies, as well as new forms and meanings of digital literacy.

Final Course Grade Breakdown

Annotated bibliography	20%
Concept map	10%
Interdisciplinary research term paper topic proposal	20%
Proposed topic presentation	10%
Group interdisciplinary research presentation	10%
Final group interdisciplinary research term paper	20%
Participation	10%

New York City College of Technology Policy on Academic Integrity:
Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the catalog.

Attendance and lateness:
This is an interdisciplinary hybrid course consisting of an in-class component and an online component. You should post completed assignments before the end of the online class to be marked as present. Consistent, on time, and engaged in-class attendance is necessary to pass this course. Being in class to participate in writing, presentations, and group activities is important. If you are not here, you will not get credit for those activities, and your final grade will be lowered.

Annotated bibliography: Write one paragraph summarizing, assessing, and reflecting on assigned course readings, as well as readings provided by your classmates ahead of their student-led discussions.

Interdisciplinary research term paper topic proposal: Write a five-page review of the literature exploring the social and cultural relationship between language and technology, using pertinent readings from the course to date, as well as readings from external sources and your classmates.

Proposed topic presentation: Using your media of choice, individually propose your idea for the final group interdisciplinary research paper. Be sure to include your working title, a clear thesis statement, and your concept map in one file.

Final group interdisciplinary research term paper: Write a 10-page term paper using proper APA style format. References are required, but the reference list does not count toward your minimum pages. You may include concepts and readings from the course that are pertinent to your thesis, which must explore the social and cultural relation between language and technology. In addition to course readings, make sure to include at least 10 references that support your thesis. Evaluate any references for relevance, expertise, currency, accuracy, and purpose. Web sites will be considered as supplementary references, not as primary references.

Group interdisciplinary research presentation: Explain the interdisciplinary nature of the research paper. Be sure that each member of the group has a role in this presentation.

Participation: Contribute to student-led discussions and in-class activities in a way that has a meaningful contribution. Students will lead discussions on assigned reading and provide a related reading.

Required Text
Each class has assigned materials to read, watch, or play (see Course Calendar).

Suggested Games
Lost Pig
80 Days
Middle Earth: Shadows of Mordor
Grim Fandango

Course Calendar

Week	Online Assignments	Topics
1	Read McLuhan's "The Medium is the Message" from *Understanding Media: The Extension of Man*	What is language? Preparing an annotated bibliography

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Part I: Multimedia

Week	Online Assignments	Topics
2	**Annotate** McLuhan's "The Medium is the Message"	The Medium is the Message Model student-led discussions
3	Read and **annotate** Dash's "The Lost Infrastructure of Social Media"	What is New Media? **Student-led discussion**
4	Download and explore VUE http://vue.tufts.edu What is language? **Sample concept map**	Concept mapping *Visual Understanding Environment* (*VUE*)
5	Read and **annotate** Simons' "Narrative, Games, and Theory"	**Student-led discussion**

Part II: Digital Games

Week	Online Assignments	Topics
6	Read and **annotate** Grip's "4-Layers, A Narrative Design Approach" Watch The Nature of Order in Game Narrative	**Student-led discussion** The Start of Narrative Games: Ludology vs. Narratives Play *Lost Pig*
7	Read and **annotate** Juul's "Games Telling Stories" **Interdisciplinary research term paper topic proposal**	**Student-led discussion** Narrative Game Design Structure Play *Grim Fandango*

8	Read and **annotate** Martin's "Narrative Design and the Future of Video Game Storytelling" Watch [Building Non-Linear Narratives in "Horizon: Zero Dawn"](#)	**Student-led discussion** The Games Tell the Story: Procedural and Emergent Narrative Play *80 Days*
9	Create *Second Life* account and complete the tutorial **Proposed topic presentation** Read and **annotate** Frasca's "Simulation versus Narratives"	**Student-led discussion** The Future of Video Game Storytelling Discuss *Shadows of Mordor* and similar games Review proposed topics

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Part III: Virtual Reality

10	Read and **annotate** Padmanabhan's "Exploring Human Factors in Virtual Worlds," Roush's "Second Earth," and Schmid's "Real Text in Virtual Worlds."	**Student-led discussion** Accessibility Guest Lecturer: Faculty Commons Webmaster Kevin Rajaram Watch excerpts of [**"Experience on Demand: What Virtual Reality Is, How It Works, and What It Can Do"**](#) Augmented reality *Second Life*
11	Read and **annotate** Billinghurst, Kato, and Poupyrev's "The MagicBook" and Goodwin-Jones "Emerging Technologies Augmented Reality and Language Learning"	Guest Lecturer: Librarian Anne Leonard **Student-led discussion**
12	**Annotated bibliography** (group) due	**Student-led discussion**

	Read Hart-Davidson's "On Writing, Technical Communication and Information Technology: The Core Competencies of Technical Communication	Virtual Reality and Simulations

13	Final research paper outline due online	Workshopping
14	Final research paper daft due online (optional)	Workshopping
15	**Final interdisciplinary research term paper**	**Group interdisciplinary research presentations**

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