# New York City College of Technology Interdisciplinary Committee

**Course Review Form**

**DATE:** November 9th, 2023

**REVIEWER:** Tamrah D. Cunningham

**COURSE TITLE & NUMBER:** ARCH 1205: Interdisciplinary Information Design

**PROPOSED BY:** Anne Leonhardt, Candido Cabo, Genevieve Hitchings and Jenna Spevak

**Credit Hours:** 3 credits; 4 hours (2 lecture/2 lab)

**Prerequisites:** Eng 1101

**Course Is:** [X] New

**Proposed Course Designation:** [X] College Option

**Department Housed In:** Architectural Technology

**Proposed Structure (e.g., co-taught, guest lecture, LC, other):** guest lecture

**Credit Distribution** (if co-taught): None

**Catalog Description:**

Every day, we are overloaded with a seemingly endless flow of information — social media feeds, news, advertising, emails, text messages. How do we know which information to pay attention to? Information design helps us navigate and understand our data-rich world. This interdisciplinary course explores how the information design process transforms data into meaning. Through hands-on, collaborative projects that highlight approaches from Computer Science, Communication Design, and Architecture, students will investigate the history and theory behind effective information design while employing user-centered practices.

# DESCRIBE & EVALUATE HOW COURSE MEETS INTERDISCIPLINARY CRITERIA?

# This course is stated to be an interdisciplinary course between Architectural Technology, Computer Systems Technology, and Communication Design that has the goal of processing data in a visual format that has meaning. After reviewing the syllabus, a few things stood out to me. One, the course was it is hard to see where the importance of Architectural Technology comes into play. The discipline seems to be superficially added (the students explore the school’s campus to gather information about different offices and their purposes as a way to create an interactive tour for students.)

# DESCRIBE & EVALUATE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE?

This course was proposed as guest lecture based and the syllabus does not reflect that. Instead, all the possible guest lecturers are stated in comment boxes. Based on the comment boxes, the guest lecturers are the ones who proposed the course. Once they have been incorporated the guest lecturers into the syllabus more clearly, it would meet the requirements of ID.

**DOES COURSE MEET REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERAL EDUCATION?**

It does.

**STRENGTHS:**

The importance of the course is apparent and the projects the students have to do are engaging and reflective of data science.

**WEAKNESSES:**

There is no obvious reason as to why Architecture Design is part of this proposal. As far as I can tell, the only reason it is there is because the students will have to explore the school’s various departments to collect data on their purposes and what services they provide. The course seems to be predominately a Data Science course with the other disciplines as an afterthought. A suggestion for this proposal is to provide more information on the syllabus to clearly state what students will be learning from the Arch discipline.

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