

CSC 412: Special Topics: Game Design

(2 units)

Spring 2017

Point Loma Nazarene University
College of Natural and Social Sciences

PLNU Mission

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Instructor:

Dr. Benjamin Mood
bmood@pointloma.edu
619 849 2269
RS 216

Meeting Times and Locations:

Lecture:

W/F: 1:30PM – 2:25PM Rhor Science 14

Office Hours:

Monday: 10:45am – 12:15pm
Tuesday: 9:30am – 11:15am
Wednesday: 10:45am – 12:30pm
Thursday: 9:30am – 11:15am, 3:00pm – 4:30pm
Friday: 10:45am – 12:30pm

Books:

The Art of Game Design by Jesse Schell

Course Description:

Study of an area of computer science not otherwise included in the curriculum. Topics are determined by the needs and interest of the students and faculty involved. May be repeated up to a total of six units.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students will be able to apply their technical knowledge to solve problems.
- Students will be able to understand and create arguments supported by quantitative evidence, and they can clearly communicate those arguments in a variety of formats.

Department Mission:

The Mathematical, Information, and Computer Sciences department at Point Loma Nazarene University is committed to maintaining a curriculum that provides its students with the tools to be productive, the passion to continue learning, and Christian perspectives to provide a basis for making sound value judgments.

Course Information:

Readings: Students are responsible to read the book before class. The class room will be used for both lecture and discussions on the subjects from the readings.

Missed Classes: Missed classes due to PLNU activities (i.e., sports teams, choirs, etc), will not count against students. It is the student's responsibility to inform the professor of when they will be gone. "unexcused" absences will count against your grade.

Late work & Exams: I am not planning on accepting late work. Missed exams, due to unforeseen life events, can be made up.

Homework: Homework is due at the beginning of class and will be demoed at the beginning of class to Dr. Mood. Demos will either take place in the class room or in the virus lab (if necessary). The homeworks and projects will be done in Unity.

As some students are familiar with Unity and others may not be, for the first three homeworks, you will be able to choose between completing a tutorial + a little extra or completing another assignment (geared toward those who have already completed the tutorials).

Project: Each person will work with a maximum of 3 people on a large project. Each team will pick its own game to work on. The project will include a writeup (proposal) of what the completed game will look like and then a playable prototype of the game.

Final: It is scheduled for Friday of finals week at 1:30pm.

Cheating: Don't copy another student's work see below for the cheating policy. However, on the project you may use as many online resources as you can find.

Cell Phones & Laptops: Don't use cell phones in class. Only use laptops to take notes. The instructor reserves the right to change this policy if it is abused.

Be Courteous and Respectful.

Grading:

Project and Presentation	30%
Homework	20%
Midterm	20%
Final	30%

Grading scale

93 – 100%	A
90 – 92%	A-
87 – 89%	B+
83 – 86%	B
80 – 82%	B-
77 – 79%	C+
73 – 76%	C
70 – 72%	C-
67 – 69%	D+
63 – 67%	D
60 – 62%	D-
0 – 59%	F

PLNU Policies

Attendance:

Attendance is expected at each class session. In the event of an absence you are responsible for the material covered in class and the assignments given that day.

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

See http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=24&navoid=1581#Class_Attendance in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

Class Enrollment:

It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the

university), not the instructor. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through to arrange for a change of registration (drop/add) may easily result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

Academic Accommodations:

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information. For more details see the PLNU catalog: [http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=24&navoid=1581#Academic Accommodations](http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=24&navoid=1581#Academic_Accommodations)

Students with learning disabilities who may need accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first two weeks of class.

Academic Honesty:

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=24&navoid=1581#Academic Honesty](http://catalog.pointloma.edu/content.php?catoid=24&navoid=1581#Academic_Honesty) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Final Exam: Friday of Finals week at 1:30pm

The final exam date and time is set by the university at the beginning of the semester and may not be changed by the instructor. This schedule can be found on the university website and in the course calendar. No requests for early examinations will be approved. Only in the case that a student is required to take three exams during the same day of finals week, is an instructor authorized to consider changing the exam date and time for that particular student.

Copyright Protected Materials:

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

Credit Hour:

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated course learning outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 2 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirements can be provided upon request.

Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Weds	Thu	Friday
Jan: 9	10 (it's a Monday!)	11 Intro, unity, & chapter 1	12	13 Chapter 2
16 (no class)	17	18 HW1 Due Chapter 3	19	20 Chapter 4 & 5
23	24	25 HW2 Due Chapter 6	26	27 Chapter 7 & turn in who you want to work with
30	31	Feb: 1 HW3 Due & hw/project group selections chapter 8	2	3 Chapter 9
6	7	8 HW4 Due Chapter 10	9	10 Chapter 11
13	14	15 HW5 Due Chapter 12	15	17 Chapter 13
20	21	22 HW6 Due Chapter 14	23	24 Chapter 15
27 NDSS	28 NDSS	March 1: Test1 NDSS Birthday	2	3 Project Start & Chapter 16
March: 6	7 (spring break)	8	9 (spring break)	10
13	14	15 project proposal due & Lecture on: Chapter 17	16	17 Chapter 18
20	21	22 Chapter 19	23	24 Chapter 20
27	28	29 Chapter 21	30	31 Chapter 22
April: 3	4	5 Chapter 23	6	7 Chapter 24
10	11	12 Chapter 25	13 (Easter break)	14

17 (Easter break)	18	19 Chapter 26	20	21 Chapter 27
24	25	26 Project Presentations	27	28 Project Presentations
May: 1	2	3	4	5 Final!!!!