

INF 385T

Fall 2024



## Course Information

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Instructional Mode: Face-to-face

Meeting Times: Wed 12:00 PM - 03:00 PM

Meeting Location: UTA 1.502

Unique Number: 27835

Additional Sections: None

## Instructor

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Ayse Gursoy

Email: [ayse.gursoy@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:ayse.gursoy@austin.utexas.edu)

## Office Hours and Location

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**Office Location:**

**Office Hours: by appointment and 11a-12p Wednesdays.**

**Communication:** The course Canvas site can be found at

<https://utexas.instructure.com/courses/1393584/>. Please email me through Canvas. You are responsible for ensuring that the primary email address you have recorded with the university is the one you will check for course communications because that is the email address that Canvas uses. Please verify your current primary email address at [https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/utd/all\\_my\\_addresses/](https://utdirect.utexas.edu/apps/utd/all_my_addresses/).

**Asking for Help:** Please contact me through Canvas (preferred) or email.

## Welcome Message

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Welcome to INF 385T: Games in Libraries, Archives, and Museums!

## Overview of the Class

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All instructions, assignments, readings, rubrics and essential information will be on the Canvas website at [utexas.instructure.com](https://utexas.instructure.com). Check Canvas regularly. **Changes** to the schedule may be made at my discretion if circumstances require. I will announce any such changes in class and will also communicate them via a Canvas announcement. It is your responsibility to note these changes when announced, and I will do my best to ensure that you are notified of changes with as much advance notice as possible.

### Weekly Readings and Assignments

Week	Date	Class Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
1	8/28	Intro to the course		Code of Conduct (In-class)
2	9/4	Overview of approaches to games	Malaby, 2007 Montfort and Bogost, 2009 Trammell, 2023 Witkowski, 2012	
3	9/11	Games in Libraries: Collection Development	Post, 2022 (Video) Nicholson, 2013 Laskowski and Ward, 2009	
4	9/18	Games in Libraries: Access	Robson et al., 2018 Cross et al., 2015 Post et al., 2023	
5	9/25	Games in Libraries: Services	Levine, 2009 Adams, 2009 Farmer, 2013	Game Reflection: Libraries
6	10/2	Games in Archives: Histories	Russworm and Blackmon, 2020 Kocurek, 2017 Galloway, 2011	
7	10/9	Games in Archives: Local Contexts	Kaltman et al., 2014 (Section 2 of Report) Briscoe Center Finding Aids* Mader et al., 2020 Swalwell, 2007	

Week	Date	Class Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
8	10/16	Games in Archives: Preservation Strategies	Murphy, 2013 McDonough et al., 2010 (Section 6 of Report) Guttenbrunner et al., 2010 Kraus and Donahue, 2012	Game Reflection: Archives
9	10/23	Games in Museums: Collection Development	Strong Museum of Play Collections* Dyson, 2021 Play and Curation During the Pandemic, 2020	
10	10/30	Games in Museums: Access and Description	Lee et al., 2013 Smith, 2024 Williams, 2003	
11	11/6	Games in Museums: Exhibition Development	Reed, 2017 Guins, 2014 Rainbow Arcade, 2019	Game Reflection: Museums
12	11/13	Player-Produced Content	Windleharth et al., 2016 Bergstrom et al., 2016 Newman, 2011	
13	11/20	Game Preservation Across Institutions	Prax et al., 2019 Barwick et al., 2011 Hobart, 2024	
14	12/4	Final Presentations		Final Presentation Final Papers

## Pre-Requisites for the Course

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Prerequisite: Graduate standing; additional prerequisites may vary with the topic.

## Learning Outcomes

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At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify existing strategies for collecting games in three kinds of cultural heritage institutions.

- Develop a vocabulary for discussing games grounded in game studies literature.
- Critique game collecting strategies in cultural heritage institutions based on a set of features.

## Grading Policy

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Unexcused late work is accepted with a 10% penalty for each 24 hour period the work is late. Every student has one “late pass” where they may turn in one class’s worth of assignments up to two days late without question. This late pass may not be applied to the final presentations, and you must tell me via email or Canvas message that you are using your late pass when you do. Late Discussion Questions will not be subject to penalty.

I will use the following breakdown for grading.

Grade breakdown for class

Grade	Cutoff
A	94%
A-	90%
B+	87%
B	84%
B-	80%
C+	77%
C	74%
C-	70%
D+	67%
D	64%
D-	60%
F	<60%

## Overview of all Major Course Requirements and Assignments

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The following table represents how you will demonstrate your learning and how we will assess the degree to which you have done so.

Assessment Overview

Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Total Grade
Discussion Questions	15	15%
Game Reflections	30	30%

Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Total Grade
Final Paper	30	30%
Final Presentation	10	10%
Attendance and Participation	15	15%

## Canvas Assignments

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Due Date	Assignment Name	Points
9/2	<a href="#">Week 2</a>	1
9/9	<a href="#">Week 3</a>	1
9/16	<a href="#">Week 4</a>	1
9/23	<a href="#">Week 5</a>	1
9/29	<a href="#">Game Reflection: Libraries</a>	10
9/30	<a href="#">Week 6</a>	1
10/7	<a href="#">Week 7</a>	1
10/14	<a href="#">Week 8</a>	1
10/20	<a href="#">Game Reflection: Archives</a>	10
10/21	<a href="#">Week 9</a>	1
10/28	<a href="#">Week 10</a>	1
11/4	<a href="#">Week 11</a>	1
11/10	<a href="#">Game Reflection: Museums</a>	10
11/11	<a href="#">Week 12</a>	1
11/18	<a href="#">Week 13</a>	1
11/25	<a href="#">Thanksgiving Week</a>	1
12/3	<a href="#">Final Presentation</a>	10

Due Date	Assignment Name	Points
12/6	<a href="#">Week 14 Grade</a>	1
12/9	<a href="#">Final Paper</a>	30

## Required Course Materials

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### Canvas

Required course material will be provided via Canvas and/or UT Libraries.

## Final Exam Date and Time

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This course has no final exam. Instead, students will submit a final paper and final presentation.

## Notice of Academic Accommodations from Disability and Access (D&A)

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### Accessible/Compliant Statement:

If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Disability and Access (D&A). You may refer to D&A's website for contact and more information: <http://community.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with D&A, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations.

### Accessible, Inclusive, and Compliant Statement:

The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Disability and Access (D&A). Please refer to D&A's website for contact and more information: <http://community.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with D&A , please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

It is never too late to file an Accommodation Letter.

## Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC)

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Students who are struggling for any reason and who believe that it might impact their performance in the course are urged to reach out to Bryce Moffett if they feel comfortable. This will allow her to provide any resources or accommodations that she can. If immediate mental health assistance is needed, call the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC) at 512-471-3515 or you may also contact Bryce Moffett, LCSW (iSchool CARE counselor) at 512-232-4449. Bryce's office is located in FAC18S and she holds drop in Office Hours on Wednesday from 2-3pm. For urgent mental health concerns, please contact the CMHC 24/7 Crisis Line at 512-471-2255.

## Important Safety Information

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### Carrying of Handguns on Campus

Students in this class should be aware of the following university policies related to Texas' Open Carry Law:

- Students in this class who hold a license to carry are asked to [review the university policy regarding campus carry](#).
- Individuals who hold a license to carry are eligible to carry a concealed handgun on campus, including in most outdoor areas, buildings and spaces that are accessible to the public, and in classrooms.
- It is the responsibility of concealed-carry license holders to carry their handguns on or about their person at all times while on campus. Open carry is NOT permitted, meaning that a license holder may not carry a partially or wholly visible handgun on campus premises or on any university driveway, street, sidewalk or walkway, parking lot, parking garage, or other parking area.

## University Policies and Resources for Students Canvas Page

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This Canvas [page](#) is a supplement to all UT syllabi and contains University policies and resources that you can refer to as you engage with and navigate your courses and the university.