Computer Game Platform Analysis Lab
GAME331-202 – Fall 2019 – M 1:30 pm to 3:20 pm – AB 2001

Instructor: Rob Dieterich
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Office: AB 2021
Office Hours*: MW 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

* Other times by appointment (Tues., Thurs., and Fri. are best for appointments). You may also meet me online by appointment via Collaborate Ultra, Discord, or Skype. The best way to schedule an appointment is via email.

Mason Mission Statement
Mission-Who we are and why we do what we do
A public, comprehensive research university established by the Commonwealth of Virginia in the National Capital Region, we are an innovative and inclusive academic community committed to creating a more just, free, and prosperous world.

Mason Game Design Mission Statement
The Mission of the Computer Game Design Program at George Mason University is to prepare students for employment and further study in the computer game design and development field, doing so with a curriculum designed to reflect the gaming industry’s demand for an academically rigorous technical program coupled with an understanding of the artistic and creative elements of the evolving field of study.

Course Overview
This course is a lab companion to GAME 330. In this lab, students will complete several atomic Unity exercises in order to acquaint them with various Unity features and increase their fluency with the engine. This lab course also serves as a work space for group work that is assigned in GAME 330.

Student Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this course, students will have completed various implementation tasks in Unity including, but not limited to:

• Configured dialog in JSON files
• Created simple character behavior with vector arithmetic
• Saved and loaded data from a file
• Implemented a double jump
Required Texts
There’s no required text for this course. Necessary materials will be distributed online if applicable.

Required Software
Students will be required to have existing knowledge of the following software to the extent that they can efficiently develop games and game assets.

Unity game engine V. 2019.1.14f or newer: http://www.unity3d.com

Grading & Assessment Overview
Your grade in this course will be based on the following factors:

100% GAME331 Lab Assignments (10 lab assignments)

Letter grades are assigned according to the following scale:

A: 90% - 100%
B: 80% - 89%
C: 70% - 79%
D: 60% - 69%
F: 0% - 59%

Academic Integrity
Students must be responsible for their own work, and students and faculty must take on the responsibility of dealing explicitly with violations. The tenet must be a foundation of our university culture. See: http://oai.gmu.edu/

Honor Code
Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code. See: https://oai.gmu.edu/mason-honor-code/full-honor-code-document/

MasonLive/Email (GMU Email)
Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account. See: http://masonlive.gmu.edu/

Patriot Pass
Once you sign up for your Patriot Pass, your passwords will be synchronized, and you will use your Patriot Pass username and password to log in to the following systems: Blackboard, University Libraries,

University Policies
Students must follow the university policies. See: http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/

Responsible Use of Computing
Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing. See: http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing

University Calendar
Details regarding the current Academic Calendars. See: http://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/index.html

Students with Disabilities
Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester. See: http://ods.gmu.edu/

Religious Holidays
A list of religious holidays is available on the University Life Calendar page. See: http://ulife.gmu.edu/calendar/religious-holiday-calendar/. Any student whose religious observance conflicts with a scheduled course activity must contact the Instructor at least 2 weeks in advance of the conflict date in order to make alternative arrangements.

Student Resources

University Libraries
University Libraries provides resources for online students. See: http://library.gmu.edu/distance

Writing Center
The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing. See: http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/. You can now sign up for an Online Writing Lab (OWL) session just like you sign up for a face-to-face session in the Writing Center, which means YOU set the date and time of the appointment!

Counseling and Psychological Services
The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance. See: http://caps.gmu.edu/
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), also known as the "Buckley Amendment," is a federal law that gives protection to student educational records and provides students with certain rights. See: http://registrar.gmu.edu/privacy

Disclaimer
In this class, I reserve the right to show a broad range of course materials, some of which assume the audience to be adult in age and demeanor. Should you at any time in the course of the class feel offended by something you have seen or heard, we would appreciate you staying to be part of a dialogue. If you feel that you cannot stay, remove yourself from the classroom as discretely as possible. You may be asked to report on your response.

Course Schedule
Refer to Blackboard for important course due dates.