

## Foundational Literacies - MDA-140

The MDA-140 practicum introduces multimedia as a critical and creative tool that functions to enhance traditional forms of academic work. Students will learn basic skills in multimedia authoring and complete the course having acquired proficiency in several core, media-based literacies described below. The precise nature of the multimedia work undertaken in this class will vary depending on the specific needs and content of the course to which it is linked.

### Foundational Literacies for MDA 140

- Digital Literacy
  - Proficiency with basic tools of digital authoring
  - Understanding of storage, backup, compression, file types, naming conventions, etc.
- Network literacy
  - Ability to use network-based software for sophisticated participation in online communities
- Design literacy
  - Ability to use appropriate design principles in service of critical goals
  - Ability to control and articulate the relationship between form and content
- Argumentation
  - Ability to use multimedia to develop and express a persuasive thesis
  - Effective use of evidence and complex thinking in constructing an argument
- Research Literacy
  - Ability to perform effective, critical online research
  - Knowledge of academically appropriate protocols for selection, citation and attribution of electronic source materials
  - Knowledge of fair use and copyright issues

### Recommended Literacies for MDA 140

- Presentation
  - Ability to deploy strategies for effective presentation using multimedia
  - Understand and use appropriate tools for the publication or dissemination of multimedia materials
- Visual literacy
  - Ability to convey information visually

- Understand and control systems of visual signification
- Sonic literacy
  - Ability to communicate effectively with sound
  - Understand and work with various components of sound
- Interpretation
  - Ability to use multimedia to enhance a critical interpretation
  - Ability to identify and articulate the cultural, historical and ideological contexts of a media object
- Annotation
  - Understand strategies for critical annotation of text, images and media
- Collaboration
  - Ability to work effectively in a group authoring environment
  - Ability to design and lead a team project
- Narrative Literacy
  - Knowledge of basic components and genres of narrative
  - Ability to deploy elements of narrative in a critical context
- Pedagogical literacy
  - Understand strategies for creating an effective tool for teaching
- Interactivity
  - Ability to communicate effectively in a non-linear, interactive format
  - Ability to design an effective interactive interface or navigational structure
- Code literacy
  - Ability to understand the basics of how code operates
  - Ability to write or use basic code

In considering the MDA-140 practicum, we also emphasize the need to:

- encourage students to think differently about their disciplines;
- train a more literate and engaged citizenry;
- mobilize the critical capacity of media practices with which students are already engaged;
- and, strategize new teaching methods and forms of discussion appropriate to multimedia-based scholarship.