

ARTS 1510 – Introduction to Electronic Art

updated 8-2024

UNM-Valencia, FAFDM [Fine Arts, Film & Digital Media]

Fall 2024, Hybrid Course

Professor: Alexa Wheeler (she, her) | alexa08@unm.edu

Class time & location: Fridays, 10:30am - 1pm, Fine Arts (B&T Building) Room 111

Office Hours: Thursdays 10am - 12pm virtual* & Fridays 1pm - 4pm on-campus *and by appointment*

Office: B&T Building Rm. 114

Zoom Office Hours Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/my/alexa08>, (Meeting ID: 2539286278, which spells "alexatoast")

Cell [for text only, please]: 505.515.1055

Land Acknowledgment: UNM-Valencia is located on the traditional and ancestral Pueblo people and is unceded. This region holds great historical, spiritual, and personal significance for its original stewards, the Native nations and peoples of this area. I acknowledge their connection to this land, and give thanks for the opportunity to live, work, and learn on their traditional homeland. I also acknowledge that this statement is not enough.

A note about our times: Over the past few years, we have experienced both the emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the painful consequences of long-endured violence against the BIPOC community. These events have caused, and continue to cause, fear, stress, and pain for many members of our community, and will continue to impact each of us in various ways throughout our lives. Under these circumstances, it is completely normal to feel overwhelmed or anxious, and to have difficulty concentrating. I have designed this course with these challenges in mind, and am committed to continuing to work with all of you to create a positive and supportive learning environment. If your health, well-being, or school work are being impacted, I offer support services and resources in this syllabus. If your needs are not being met in any way, contact me and I will help you find services that will meet your needs as best I can.

Credit-hours: This is a three credit-hour hybrid course delivered online and in-person for 16 weeks. Class meets for two and a half hours of direct instruction per week for the semester, and the other 2 and a half contact hours are fulfilled via the online course portal. Please plan for a minimum of 8 hours of out-of-class work (online assignments, homework, study, open lab, projects, and class preparation) each week.

Course Description

This course will be an introduction to the computer as a medium and fine art tool. The course will explore the history, theory, and contemporary art issues associated with electronic art practice, as well as introduce students to the basic tools and associated technologies. This studio course will introduce simple electronics, software and ideas for working with sound, video, and the internet to create artwork.

Objectives

1. Demonstrate knowledge of simple electronics and circuit building through the construction of simple sensor based circuits.
2. Integrate a knowledge of digital audio recording and analog circuit building with historical concepts from sound art practice to create a simple sound art piece.
3. Create a short video art piece informed by historical and theoretical examples.
4. Develop a project that uses simple web programming to integrate digital imaging, sound, and video to express conceptual approaches informed by historical examples.

Student Responsibilities & Course Policies

- **Health and Awareness:** UNM-Valencia is a mask friendly community if you are not feeling well. If you are experiencing any illness symptoms, please do not come to campus. Even without a positive test for any illness (covid, flu, etc...), if you feel sick, please stay home, rest and **take care of yourself first**. Please communicate with me (see "How to Contact the Instructor" section) if illness is affected your ability to come to class or do the online work; I can work with you to provide alternatives for course participation and completion. UNM-Valencia faculty and staff know that there is a complete life for you outside of your class and on-campus time. Please let us know that you need support so that we can connect you to the right resources.
- **Affirmed/Preferred First Name:** As part of its commitment to providing a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning, living, and working environment, the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus recognizes that many people prefer to use a name other than their legal name to identify themselves. Here is a general website for it- <https://oeo.unm.edu/resources/preferred-name.html>.
- **AccessAbility Policy:** I can and want to make appropriate accommodations that will support you in this class by collaborating with you and the [Equal Access Services at UNM-Valencia](#), 505-925-8560 or [call/email any of the Advisors](#). It is important that you take the initiative to inform me of your accommodations needs, as I am not legally permitted to inquire. In accordance with University Policy 2310 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation.
- **School/Life Conflict:** Many of you face obstacles to your education as a result of work or family obligations or unforeseen personal difficulties. If you are experiencing challenges throughout the semester that are impacting your ability to succeed in this course, or in your undergraduate career more broadly, please reach out to me immediately so that we can work together to form a plan for your academic success. Reach out to me at anytime to discuss this!
- **Caregiver Responsibilities Policy:** I have great respect for students who are balancing their pursuit of education with the responsibilities of caring for children or other friends/family members. If you run into challenges that require you to miss class or if your caregiving responsibilities are interfering with your ability to engage in remote learning, please contact me. There are instances of flexibility I can offer to support your learning.
- **Citizenship and/or Immigration Status:** Everyone is welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. I will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM-Valencia as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on the UNM-ABQ campus website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/>.
- **Course Conduct:** I am committed to creating a learning environment where diverse perspectives are recognized and valued as a source of strength. I request that all students work with me to create a class culture based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. As a class we will approach all discussions with respect and civility. Disagreements and debates in academic discourse are expected and welcome, but personal attacks are never OK, and will not be tolerated. I strive to ensure an open and welcoming classroom for all students. If I ever miss the mark, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. We are all learning together.
- **UNM Email/CANVAS Access:** All UNM-Valencia students will be required to have a UNM Net ID which can be created by going to: <http://it.unm.edu/accounts/>. UNM Net ID will give you access to the computer labs on campus, Canvas and UNM Email.

- **Computer & Internet Policy:** Students will need to have access to a computer with **high-speed Internet** for this course. If you do not have access to a computer with high-speed internet at home, I want to help! UNM-Valencia and UNM-ABQ have implemented **laptop checkout options**.
 - If you are a **UNM-Valencia student** and you need access to a laptop, please contact the UNM-Valencia Library at :<http://valencia.unm.edu/library/index.html>
 - If you are a **UNM-ABQ student**, you will need to fill out this form: <https://at.unm.edu/coronavirus/summer-2023-laptop.pdf> and send it to avdept@unm.edu.
For more information on computer checkout and wifi access for UNM-ABQ Campus, visit this website: <https://at.unm.edu/coronavirus/student-tech-access.html>.
 - **ALL students can request** access to a LoboVirtualDesktop. Here is the website: <https://lobovirtualdesktop.unm.edu>. Fill out the online form. This virtual desktop is a work-in-progress, and you would need a decent computer and internet connection to make this work. But, it would give you access to a variety of UNM owned software.
 - Students should have basic computer and file management skills for all courses, especially hybrid and online courses. If you are struggling with these, reach out to tutoring and support services (see support section on syllabus).
 - If you have any questions or concerns, reach out to me!
 - All students, whether online or in-person (or in-between) are able to access the computer labs on the UNM-Valencia Campus and the UNM-ABQ Campus regardless of where you are taking classes.

- **Access to internet:** The UNM-Valencia Campus has great wifi if you are on campus. [UNM-ABQ does too- see this login info](#). Also, [this is a great list of internet options for qualifying households](#). Lastly, [this is an ABQ listing and map of wifi hotspots](#). If you still need access off-campus and do not have the resources, please reach out to me, Student Services, or any other faculty and staff.

- **Computer Lab Responsibility:** Please be advised that use of computer labs on UNM-Valencia and UNM-ABQ properties is governed by "Policy 2500: Acceptable Computer Use" which can be found at <http://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2500.html>. Anyone violating these policies is subject to possible suspension and loss of computer lab privileges.

- **Title IX:** Our classroom and our university should always be spaces of mutual respect, kindness, and support, without fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever need assistance or have concerns about incidents that violate this principle, please access the resources available to you on campus. Please note that, because UNM-Valencia faculty are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, any disclosure of gender discrimination (including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence) made to a faculty member must be reported by that faculty member to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see: <https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html>

- **Academic Integrity and Honesty:** Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, including dismissal, against any student who is found responsible for academic dishonesty. Any student who has been judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in coursework may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; and misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or outside the University. You are capable of meeting my expectations for this course! The arts are such a personal, unique experience for each person, and your story and how you choose to share it with the world are so important! If you are concerned about how well you are doing in this course, please reach out to me instead of considering academic misconduct.

Method of Instruction

Methods of instruction include in-person and online demonstrations, lecture, threaded discussions, reading online articles/websites, watching films/videos and other activities will all presented to you in the classroom and through the Canvas Modules.

Lecture - Lectures will be in-person and/or online, depending on the weekly content. The lecture will be presented in any number of formats, including written, photo, audio, video, and more.

Demonstration - Demos will be in-person and/or online, depending on the weekly content. Online may include video screen capture of me demonstrating the process and techniques for the project, as well as other tutorial videos. In-person may also include project steps of instruction. The demonstration will be presented in any number of formats, including written, photo, audio, video, and more.

In-class work time - You will have a portion of the in-class portion of our weekly class dedicated to work time. This is an opportunity to practice the techniques and skills you have learned, and to ASK QUESTIONS!

Threaded Discussion - You will be required to participate in online discussions throughout the semester meant to supplement our classroom discussions. The due date for online discussion postings is located on the course schedule, in the Yellow Box in Canvas, sent as an announcement, and discussed during class time. Online, you will post your own message to the listed topic and then post a reply to other student's postings before each due date. I encourage you to post early, and not wait until the last day.

Critique - We will have in-person critiques meant to provide feedback to each other as projects as they are completed. Each project will culminate in a critique, which will consist of pinning up and/or presenting your work via computer/device in the classroom. Being prepared for these critiques, both with your completed work and your readiness to participate in the discussion surrounding your and your peers' artwork, are a meaningful part of the process of creating art. Attending the critique, even if your project is incomplete/late, is extremely important. Critique participation is a percentage of each project grade.

Online Reading/Content - You will be required to read/watch/review a variety of online articles, websites, films and other content. Links to this content will be posted in the Canvas Learning Modules.

Projects - You will have 4 projects, the final project weighing more heavily as it is considered a "final". See "Projects" section below.

Other Activities - There may be other learning activities associated with the weekly content of the course that will be found in the Canvas Learning Modules or presented during class time.

Participation

Student participation is considered a necessary factor in the learning process. In the classroom, being an active listener and contributing to discussions is extremely important. Asking questions is key! In the online portion of the course, submitting work and responding in forums is considered a necessary factor in the learning process. They are all key to mastering skills and successfully completing projects. You are adults and I expect you to be motivated to grow your knowledge and abilities by engaging in coursework. You are still held responsible for all academic work required regardless of weekly participation and attendance. Class participation influences your grade heavily. Participation includes:

- Successful participation in this course requires access to the correct technology with the necessary computer skills. Please see "Student Responsibilities". I will help you access these if you need!
- You are required to attend class and be prepared for each day's work.
- Students must successfully complete all projects and online requirements and be an active participant in this in-class and online course's community.
- Be prepared to engage in and work on projects in class each week.
- You should log on to this course at a minimum of three times a week and to check your Canvas portal regularly for coursework and any communication from me or each other.
- You will need to work a few hours each week in addition to the scheduled class times. The online portion will have weekly work. Open Studio hours for working in the lab on campus will be announced.
- Always keep a backup of your work!
- You should strive to complete all work on time. This includes doing the following by the posted deadline dates:
 - You should complete all projects on time (to your best ability), participate in scheduled critiques/class discussions, and maintain a safe, respectable, positive lab environment.
 - Contribute to all online threaded discussions in a timely manner, as well as participate in classroom discussions
 - Complete each Canvas Learning Module successfully and within the timeframe allotted.
 - Students who do not attend the first week of class may be dropped.
- **You are REQUIRED to join the REMIND for this class. See "How to Contact the Instructor" section below.**

Grading Policy

- Grading is based on completion of course work and projects, the quality of your individual technical and critical development, and a personal commitment to your work. Personal commitment involves regular participation, consistent effort, completion of work, participation in critiques and class/online discussions and the general willingness to try. Make each project meaningful to yourself!
- We will have in-person critiques meant to provide feedback to each other as projects as they are completed. Each project will culminate in a critique, which will consist of pinning up and/or presenting your work via computer/device in the classroom. Being prepared for these critiques, both with your completed work and your readiness to participate in the discussion surrounding your and your peers' artwork, are a meaningful part of the process of creating art. Attending the critique, even if your project is incomplete/late, is extremely important. Critique participation is a percentage of each project grade.
- If you are submitting work past the posted deadline, it is super important that you communicate your circumstances with me so that we can work out a plan for you to grow and succeed in this art class!
- Incompletes are rarely issued. If 75% of the semester's work/deliverables and participation has been completed with a satisfactory grade, an incomplete may be issued.

A+	101+
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	88-89
B	84-87
B-	80-83
C+	78-79
C	74-77
C-	70-73
D+	68-69
D	64-67
D-	60-63
F	50-59

Grading Breakdown

Semester Requirements:

Academic Discussions (3)	24 points (8 each)
Projects (3)	48 points (16 each)
Individual Meeting	6 points - for attendance & preparation
Final Project	22 points
Extra Credit	10 points - maximum

Extra Credit will be offered throughout the semester for various points at a maximum of 10 points for the entire semester. Points will be added up and a letter grade will be issued according to this scale above in "Grading Policy".

How to Contact the Instructor

Remind App*:

The instructions on how to join the REMIND App portal for this course are posted online in the Week 1 module in our UNM Canvas Portal, and on the Canvas home page in the footer. My official virtual student drop-in/office hours are listed on page one of the syllabus and in the footer on Canvas. I am available on the Remind App everyday between 8am and 8pm (officially, but try anytime). Plan on a response within 48 hours for REMIND.

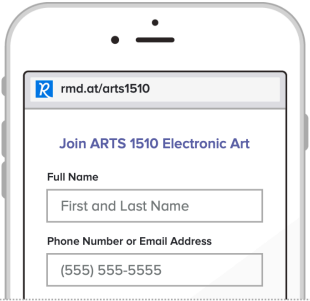
Pick a way to receive messages for ARTS 1510 Electronic Art:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/arts1510

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.




B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @arts1510 to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @arts1510 to (415) 813-2648.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/arts1510 on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

* You can also contact EACH OTHER and the class via the REMIND app!

* The link to join is: <https://www.remind.com/join/arts1510>

Email:

Email can be sent either via the internal Canvas messaging system or through UNM email (alexa08@unm.edu). In the subject line of the email/message, please write the class number, for example - "ARTS 1510". I will check email regularly and plan to respond to emails/messages within 48 hours/2 business days. At some points in the term, my inbox gets quite full, but I do want to hear from you! If you email me and don't hear back from me within two business days, please send a follow up email. I will appreciate the gentle reminder.

Zoom Link: <https://unm.zoom.us/my/alexa08>, (Meeting ID: 2539286278, which spells "alexatoast").

During office hours, I will attempt to have my Zoom open and available for us to connect. But, I might be working with a student in a studio or otherwise not in front of the computer. If you are trying to Zoom in and I am not responding, please text me and let me know!

Phone:

I am not available via phone call for this course. But, you can text me (no calls please) on my personal cell phone if needed at *anytime (truly!)*: 505-515-1055. This and Remind are probably the best way to contact me for fastest response.

Office Hours:

Thursdays 10am - 12pm virtual & Fridays 1pm - 4pm on-campus *and by appointment*

Support Information, Resources, & Tutorials

UNM-Valencia provides extensive academic supports for students, and these supports are there to support you to achieve the academic success you are truly capable of. Most students access them at some point in pursuit of their degree. **There is no shame in seeking help!** See below for a list of the academic support offices offered:

Support for UNM Canvas:

- <https://canvasinfo.unm.edu/support/index.html>

UNM-Valencia Tutoring Services:

- Custom tutoring services are available through [The Learning Commons](#). Even online tutoring is available!

Instructor Support: see "How to Contact the Instructor" for methods of contacting the instructor for help.

AccessAbility & Equal Access:

- [UNM-Valencia's accessibility/ADA compliance](#) and [UNM-Valencia's Equal Access Services](#)

Mental Health and Counseling Services: All of us need a support system, and many students benefit from the use of counseling services. I know I do! UNM-Valencia has mental health counseling as part of the [PASOS Recourse Center](#). The Resource Center is an on-campus center that serves as a "one-stop" for all non-academic needs of UNM-Valencia students. Also, here is a [list of services available in Valencia County and around the state: https://valencia.unm.edu/students/student-resources/index.html](#). UNM ABQ Students have access to mental health counseling via the [Student Health and Counseling \(SHAC\) Center](#), which includes [Timely Care](#), a free 24/7 virtual care services (medical, emotional support, health coaching, self-care, basic needs support).

Community Support:

We can all reach out to each other, to the whole class, or only to me (the instructor) via the REMIND app. We also have a HELP FORUM discussion board in the UNM Canvas course. Use this as a place to post questions about the course content to the community. These questions are not private! But, if one student has a question about course materials or an assignment, that question is usually shared by their peers. This allows everyone in the course to benefit from each other's questions. I will respond to posts there, but you can help out your peers as well!

Netiquette

Include a salutation or at least a name. Emails/Messages/Posts do not usually include "Dear," as a letter does, but they do include at least names. When you write to your teacher or classmates, use their name. Informal words of address, such as "Hey," are sometimes appropriate, but may be considered rude by some people.

Include a closing. Close with an appropriate phrase and sign with your name. Signatures help faculty; they may not recognize your email address. Some examples of appropriate phrases are "Many thanks!" or "Thank you for your help."

Use short paragraphs. Because legibility on the screen is not as good as legibility on paper, use short paragraphs (3-4 lines maximum) to make the post/message easy to read. In addition, be sure to skip lines between paragraphs.

Adhere to the conventions of Standard English. Please edit and proofread for spelling errors and grammatical mistakes *to the best of your ability*. We all have varying abilities and that's ok! Any effort here will be appreciated. I guarantee that I will be making mistakes too!

DO NOT SEND ALL CAP MESSAGES. All capital letters means can be interpreted as screaming. To emphasize a point, underline it or put it in **bold** font.

Participate. In the online environment, it's not enough to show up! We need to "hear" each others' voices to feel presence. Faculty especially need student comments to evaluate their own performance as a facilitator and teacher.

Be persistent. If you run into any difficulties, you should not wait! Contact the professor(me) and/or the proper support services immediately. You can email me multiple times- you are NEVER bothering me!

Share tips, helps, and questions. There are no dumb questions, and even if a solution seems obvious, please share it with classmates! The "Help Forum" and "Remind" are great places for that.

Think twice before pushing the Send button. Both students and professors need to be sure to say just what they meant. How will the person on the other end interpret a message? While no one can anticipate all reactions, read over each message before sending. If you are not sure, you can ask a friend/family member to check it out to see how they may react.

Remember that we can't see the grins on each others' faces. When students or professors make a sarcastic comment, others online can't decipher if the person is serious or not. Explain ideas fully and clearly, and use emojis! (I consider emojis and other symbols that recognize emotion and can share that with the reader to be important and welcome in an academic setting, especially in hybrid/online classes).

Remember that there's a person on the other side. Ask for feedback if you're not sure how your ideas and comments will be construed. If others disagree with what someone has said, "flaming," or ranting at someone else is unacceptable; it's the equivalent of having a tantrum, something most of us wouldn't do in a traditional classroom setting. The classroom is a place for debate and constructive criticism, given with respect. We most likely will have disagreements, and that is a good thing! And we can still have intelligent, kind, honest and respectful conversations no matter what.

Stalking and derogatory comments are inappropriate. Stalking someone, or any derogatory or inappropriate comments, jokes, posts, or emails regarding race, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation are unacceptable and subject to the same disciplinary action that they would receive if they occurred in the physical classroom. If you have concerns about something that has been said to you or about you or other classmates, let the professor(me) know and/or contact the appropriate services, such as the [Office of Equal Opportunity](#).

Projects

Projects will be discussed at length and guidelines and demonstrations will be provided in class and the weekly modules on Canvas.

Course Schedule - Fall 2024

Dates	Schedule	Due
<u>Week 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 1 Module + Class • Introductions & Review Syllabus • Equipment & Supplies Overview • Artist Spotlights + History of Electronic Art 	
<u>Week 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 2 Module + Class • Discussion 1 open • Project 1 demo - Sound Art 	Project 1 Proposal Due
<u>Week 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 3 Module + Class • Discussion 1 in-class wrap-up • Project 1 Proposal discussion in-class & work time 	Discussion 1 Due
<u>Week 4</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 4 Module + Class • Project 1 Due & Critique 	Project 1 Due
<u>Week 5</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 5 Module + Class • Project 2 demo - Video Art 	Project 1 Critique Due Project 2 Proposal Due
<u>Week 6</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 6 Module + Class • Discussion 2 open • Project 2 Proposal discussion in-class & work time 	
<u>Week 7</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 7 Module + Class • Discussion 2 in-class wrap-up • Project 2 work time 	Discussion 2 Due
<u>Week 8</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 8 Module + Class • Project 2 Due & Critique 	Project 2 Due
<u>Week 9</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 9 Module + Class • Project 3 demo - Creative Coding 	Project 2 Critique Due Project 3 Proposal Due
<u>Week 10</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 10 Module + Class • Discussion 3 open • Project 3 Proposal discussion in-class & work time 	
<u>Week 11</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 11 Module + Class • Discussion 3 in-class wrap-up • Project 3 work time 	Discussion 3 Due
<u>Week 12</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 12 Module + Class • Project 3 Due & Critique 	Project 3 Due
<u>Week 13</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 13 Module + Class • Final Project demo 	Project 3 Critique Due Final Project Proposal Due
<u>Week 14</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 14 Module + Class THANKSGIVING BREAK • Final Project Proposal discussion in-class & work time 	
<u>Week 15</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 15 Module + Class • Final Project work time 	
<u>Week 16</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 16 Module + Class • Final Project Due & Critique 	Final Project 4 Due Extra Credit Due
<u>Finals Week</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finals Week Module + Class • Final Project critique 	Final Project Critique Due