



“We know time only indirectly by what happens in it: by observing change and permanence; by marking the succession of events among stable settings; and by noting the contrast of varying rates of change” -George Kubler

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Time is constantly in flux, and often undervalued in its complexity. However, we can challenge preconceived notions of time and explore alternative methods to express it through the process of making. In the first half of the course, students will be given instructions each week to construct, participate, and record a time-based activity or “event.” Ranging from dripping paint at different heights to attaching a pen to a moving pendulum, these “event” exercises act as an alternative method to render a duration of time. Students will then analyze and interpret each visual through drawing or model to infer systems such as structure, process, duration, and/or other forms of reflection. This enables the visualization of immaterial characteristics often found within the design process. These 2D findings will then undergo 3D manipulations and explorations, applicable to a variety of scales or programmatic purposes. Final outcomes are a “time freeze” series of works including the event and analytical drawings as well as a final 3D model. Students should have a basic understanding of digital model making and its relation to 3D digital fabrication. Overall, the course is interdisciplinary in its approach to visualizing and fabricating complex data to convey analysis—and maybe even stopping time.

OBJECTIVES

- To challenge preconceived notions of time through the process of making
- To recognize the immaterial and ephemeral characteristics of our surroundings as generative design tools through data visualizations
- To develop a stronger awareness of design process through active participation
- To identify and infer systems of logic to a seemingly chaotic work/drawing

OUTCOMES

- Exposure to a variety of analytical systems and approaches to visualizing data
- Ability to translate 2D analytical drawings into 3D tectonics
- Series of "event" drawings
- Diagrammatic analysis of "event" drawings
- A three dimensional object representative of time

MATERIALS

Students are expected to purchase their own materials for Lab 06

- 3D Printing: a tank and resin (can be split amongst multiple students)
- Laser Cutting: chipboard, museum board, plywood, plexi, etc
- CNC: foam (1" thick min)

GRADING POLICY

Your final grade is determined by a 100 point scale:

- Class participation and attendance (10 points)
- "Event" series and analytical diagrams (30 points)
- Three dimensional exploration analysis (20 points)
- Final submission and review (40 points)

A | Excellent (90-100 points)

Work and analysis surpasses expectations in terms of craft, inventiveness, and cohesive process and concept throughout the entire semester. Student engages in discussion and can clearly verbalize concepts related to the course and his/her work.

B | Good (80-89 points)

Work and analysis is completed in a thorough manner. Effort and progress is evident in all aspects of the student's work and his/her participation in class.

C | Acceptable (70-79 points)

Some aspects of the student's work and analysis is not cohesive or complete. Suggestions/discussions for improvement are not pursued or evident in the process/completion. Student is not present for class and/or does not participate in group activities and discussion.

D | Poor (60-69 points)

Multiple aspects of the student's work is unclear and/or incomplete. Student does not demonstrate any indication of improvement or ability to perform at level design expectations. Student does not engage with the class.

F | Unacceptable (under 59 points)

Minimum expectations are not met. Student's performance is unacceptable.

ASSIGNMENTS

Over the first half of the course students will construct and participate in a series of "events" in class. Each event [total of seven events] is time specific, and representative of an alternative rendering of how to express time. Students will reflect on these "events" and the drawings they produce through in class discussions as well as diagrammatic analysis. These diagrams are to be printed/presentable for pin-ups [refer to schedule]. After midterm, students will choose an analysis he/she would like to focus on further developing and ultimately project into three dimensional space.

Event 01 | *"Interpreting Time"* | A series of preliminary, introductory activities to introduce alternative tools that represent a duration of time that have varying results from user to user.

Event 02 | *"[RE]Interpreting Time"* | Expanding on alternative tools, the use of color is incorporated to begin to decipher and infer systems/logics of the activity.

Event 03 | *"Rewind"* | Utilizing tools that evoke visual ephemeral qualities of disintegration or change in form over a period of time.

Event 04 | *"Accumulate"* | To contrast Event 03, focus on how tools and visual aids can emphasize encapsulating duration.

Event 05 | *"Predicting the Unpredictable"* | Utilizing tools that enable a series to be created that has varying levels of control in their action and effect.

Event 06 | *"Invisible and Predictable"* | Looking at tools that are ephemeral in their presence to render the passing of time.

Event 07 | *Your Own Time Capsule* | Based off experience of the previous events and knowledge from readings and lectures, observe or create your own "event" to capture a duration of time.

PARTICIPATION

Students are required to participate in all class activities. This includes participating in the drawing series, lectures, and discussions. Students should engage the class with relevant questions, comments, or additional information they pertain relevant to the subject matter.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to be present when class is in session. If a student is more than 15 minutes late, it will count as an absence. If a student has more than 2 absences, it will affect their overall grade. Please be in contact if any emergency or situation arises that conflicts with class sessions.

RISD POLICIES

ACADEMIC HONESTY - RISD is committed to the principles of intellectual honesty and integrity. Members of the RISD community are expected to maintain complete honesty in all academic work, presenting only that which is his/her own work in tests and assignments.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES - Any student who feels he/she may require accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately at the beginning of the semester to discuss specific needs. Please contact the Office of Student Development and Counseling Services directly to coordinate reasonable accommodations.

READINGS

- Deleuze, Gilles. *Difference and Repetition*. trans. P. Patton. 1994. London: Althone Press.
- Grisewood, Jane and Carali McCall. *The Sense of Drawing: An Approach to Drawing, Marking and Experiencing Time*. 2011. London: University of the Arts.
- Huggett, Nick. *Space From Zeno to Einstein: Classic Readings with a Contemporary Commentary*. 1999. Bradford: MIT Press.
- Kubler, George. *The Shape and Time: Remarks on the History of Things*. 1962. New Haven: Yale University.
- Maizels, Michael. *Barry Le Va: The Aesthetic Aftermath*. 2015. Minneapolis: Univ of Minnesota Press.

How Do We Stop Time?

Fabricating Ephemeral Events

SCHEDULE

Week 01

01.07	Introduction + <i>Tools for Marking Time and Performance</i> + Event 01 and Event 02	Readings: Kubler [1962]+McCall, Grisewood [2011]
01.08	<i>Visualizing Change over Time</i> + Reading Discussion + Event 03 and Event 04	Reading: Deleuze [1994] + Develop diagrams

Week 02

01.13	Pin-Up of diagrams for Events 01-04 + Reading Discussion + Event 05 and Event 06	Reading: Maizels [2015]
01.14	<i>3D Modeling Methods and Digital Applications</i> + Reading Discussion + Event 07	Develop diagrams
01.15	Pin-Up of all diagrams + Overview of Midterm Review + Work session	Prepare for midterm

Week 03

01.21	Midterm	Write a one page reflection on comments from midterm review
01.22	Visit to RISD Museum	Reading: Huggett [1999]

Week 04

01.27	Presentations of initial 3D schematic models + Reading Discussion + Work Session	Continue developing 3D model [prepare file for test prints]
01.28	Work session + Test runs of fabricated models [in Lab 06]	Modify model file and continue updating diagrams
01.29	Presentations of updated diagrams and 3D models	Progress with presentation

Week 05

02.04	Work session / finalizing presentation [fabricated models are completed]	Finalize and prepare for final
02.05	Final Review	

How Do We Stop Time?
Fabricating Ephemeral Events



[Safety Last!]