

Department of Visual Arts, University of Ottawa

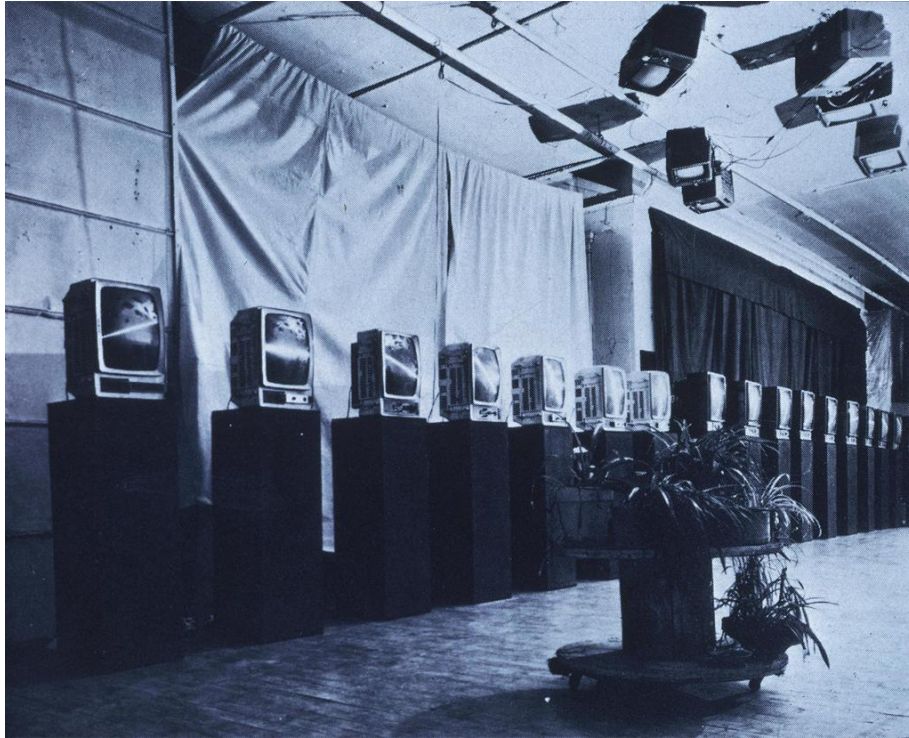
ART1341 Art, Time and the Technological Imagination

Tuesdays, 8:30AM-12:30PM

January 13th to April 17th, 2026

Course Instructor: Ryan Stec

email: rstec@uottawa.ca



TV Clock (1963), Nam June Paik

Introduction

Over the last century, dramatic developments in technology (the moving image, industrial processes, electronic communications, digital computing, as well as many others) have transformed how we experience, perceive and manipulate time. Your now, the moments of today and tomorrow that you will shape with your art, are defined by these transformations. The integrated mobile telecommunications device you carry in your pocket. The animated and ultraconnected computer terminal you sit at. The powerful entertainment and gaming device you connect to. Each of these spaces bleeds into the other and somewhere among these blurred boundaries we, as artists, will make space for art of another kind.

This course explores the relationship between imagination, technology and artistic practice. Your task, as emerging artists, is to consider how time can be a creative material for making art. All art is, of course, affected by time. Time passes. A work of art ages. Materials change and decay. Your audience is also affected, or even bound by time, as the most solid of sculptures can still only be viewed through a series of unfolding

moments. However, to be concerned with time as an artist is to turn toward it, to mark its passage, to manipulate its flow, and here in this course, together in this collection of moments, we will attempt to do just that.

Course Structure

The first half of this course is organised around experimentation and skill development, and combines in-class learning with online elements. You will undertake a number of Anti-Experiments on a wide range of themes in art making including temporality, assemblage, story-telling, technological effect and coding and digitalism. Alongside the work of production you will have a series of recorded lectures, curated screenings and learning modules to help guide you along the way.

Each Anti-Experiment is one week in duration, and the output will be uploaded to a Vimeo account created specifically for this class. The Anti-Experiments are meant as exploratory sketches designed as a space for you to consider (or reconsider) your relationship to the tools of media-based art. Every week you will present your Anti-Experiment to the class where it will be discussed as a group.

The second half of this course is structured around the making of a single art work. Over the course of the remaining six weeks you will produce a media-based artwork through an iterative process which includes: in-process presentation; peer review; prototype development, and one-on-one mentoring. This project will be undertaken in a group chosen for you.

Learning Outcomes

ART1341 is designed help you achieve several key learning outcomes:

- 1) to provide a rich and diverse foundation for your artistic development
- 2) to introduce you to a wide variety of media-based strategies for the making of art
- 3) to initiate your personal artistic dialogue with artists and their works from the past and present.

Evaluation

Anti-Experiments 4 x 5%	20%
Mixed Tape	10%
Project Prototype	6%
Individual Meetings (3 x 3%)	9%
Final Project	40%
Project Documentation including Text Submission	5%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

Course Schedule

The schedule below includes both in class and online materials for each week.

Attendance in class is mandatory.

Please contact me as soon as possible if you cannot attend class.

After 3 unexcused absences you will not be able to attend the final review.

WEEK 1 INTRODUCTION

Introduction to the course and to each other

Presentation: The Technological Imagination

Introduce Anti-Experiment 1: Interval

ONLINE

Video Presentation: Time

Screening: Time

WEEK 2

8:30 Peer-to-Peer (Room 219, 100 Laurier Ave East)

10:30 All Students, Room 108, 200 Wilbrod

Notes on Interval

Introduction to Anti Experiment 2: Failure and Wonder

ONLINE

Video Presentation: Failure and Wonder

Screening: Media Things

Video Tutorial: Compression and Exporting

WEEK 3

8:30 Peer-to-Peer (Room 219, 100 Laurier Ave East)

10:30 All Students, Room 108, 200 Wilbrod

Notes on Failure and Wonder

Introduction to Anti Experiment 3: Reenactment

ONLINE

Video Presentation: History and the Idea of Representation

Screening: Reenactment

Video Tutorial: Video Basics

WEEK 4

8:30 Peer-to-Peer (Room 219, 100 Laurier Ave East)

10:30 All Students, Room 108, 200 Wilbrod

Notes on Reenactment

Introduction to Anti Experiment 4: Interaction

ONLINE

Video Presentation: Code and Digitalism

Screening: Action

Video Tutorial: Scratch

Week 5

8:30 Peer-to-Peer (Room 219, 100 Laurier Ave East)

10:30 All Students, Room 108, 200 Wilbrod

Notes on Interaction

Introduction to Mixed Tape

ONLINE

Video Presentation: Collage and Assemblage

Screening: Assemblage, Montage and Collage

Video Tutorial: Sampling Videos from the Web

Week 6

8:30 Room 108, 200 Wilbrod

Presentation: Editing

Introduction to final assignment

Presentation: Working in Teams on Creative Projects

Assemble Teams for Final Projects

//////////Study Break//////////

Week 7 Proposal Review

Week 8 Project Meeting #1

Week 9 Prototype Presentation

Week 10 Project Meeting #2

Week 11 Project Meeting #3

Week 12 Final Class - Final Review Prep, Project Economics Review

Key Assignments

Anti-Experiments - Due Week 2, 3, 4 and 5

Short creative productions engaging with specific thematic and technical constraints. Presented in class each week to be discussed by your classmates. All projects or their documentation are less than 3 minutes in length and to be uploaded to your YouTube account weekly (except of course the Scratch project) and posted to appropriate Discord channel.

MIXED TAPE Check Brightspace for date

This assignment is a bridge between the Anti-Experiments and your Final Project. You will select a collection of videos, sounds, and/or images and edit them together into a single video. The goal is to collect clips that show me some kind of inspiration you will work from for your major project. It can also be just an assembly of things you find interesting, edited together in an interesting way. This project is like a remix or mashup video of existing content.

Capsule Meetings with Professor Weeks 8, 10 and 11

These small meetings are key moments when the professor can evaluate your work process and approach. You are expected to be exploring and developing your concept in and between each class, and it is only through showing results of these explorations that the dialogue about your work can move forward

Final Project - Due Week 13

You will produce a completed artwork for the end of term which you will present to a panel of reviewers. Your presentation may include the work or documentation of the work, as well as other contextual information you wish to provide. The final project is produced and evaluated in stages, that is to say you are not only evaluated on your final presentation and the work, but also your method of working and your engagement with the class.

Final Project Documentation – Check Brightspace for date

Your project documentation will be submitted in PDF form and combine image and text about you and your artwork. You will write a short artists statement as well as project documentation.

Expected Costs \$0 - \$400

This course can be undertaken with little to no costs incurred by the student. There are no required purchases, and the Department of Visual Arts provides hardware and software tools for those with no access to production options.

Potential Optional Costs

Software Subscriptions or App Purchases	\$10-\$120
Production Tools such as Mobile Phone Tripod	\$35-\$150
Materials costs	\$25-\$150

Video Uploads and YouTube

For ART1341, we will be using YouTube to upload and share the results of your Anti-Experiments. Every student will use their University of Ottawa student email to sign up for a new YouTube account and upload their video pieces or project documents to the site weekly. We will go over the sign up during the first class, but here are the details for you.

1. Go to <https://accounts.google.com/SignUpWithoutGmail>
2. From this page enter a name that I can recognize as you and use your University of Ottawa email address. (Please do not connect this account to your personal Facebook or other social media account.)
3. On this link you will find the steps to create your personal channel where you will post videos made in class to share with me and each other.
<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/1646861>
4. To upload videos you will use <https://studio.youtube.com> or the YouTube Studio app to do this directly from your phone.

Your key tasks (with some slight variation) for each week include:

1. Complete your Peer-to-Peer Survey
2. Watch the screening and post in the discord about your favourite, or the most interesting, or if you want your least favourite work in the screening and why
3. Create and upload a video for the assignment
4. Post that video in the appropriate Discord channel
5. Submit the link in the Assignment area of Brightspace
6. Watch the teaching capsules and the lecture for the following week **before class**
7. **Watch your classmates videos posted in the Discord channel before class**

University of Ottawa Key Policy Descriptions

Please see the University of Ottawa website for a full description of academic policies.
<http://www.uottawa.ca/about/policies-and-regulations#academic-regulations>

The University of Ottawa does not tolerate any form of sexual violence. Sexual violence refers to any act of a sexual nature committed without consent, such as rape, sexual harassment or online harassment. The University, as well as student and employee associations, offers a full range of resources and services allowing members of our community to receive information and confidential assistance and providing for a procedure to report an incident or make a complaint. For more information, visit www.uOttawa.ca/sexual-violence-support-and-prevention.

Official grading system

(Approved by the Senate on November 4, 2013)

The University of Ottawa's official grading system is alphanumeric, and it must be applied to all courses except those formally exempt by the University Senate. Indeed, in some instances, the expected learning outcomes for a course require a Satisfactory/Not satisfactory or a Pass/Fail grading scheme.

Letter grade	Numerical value	Percentage scale value
A+	10	90-100
A	9	85-89
A-	8	80-84
B+	7	75-79
B	6	70-74
C+	5	65-69
C	4	60-64
D+	3	55-59
D	2	50-54
E	1	40-49*
F	0	0-39
ABS	0	Absent
EIN	0	Failure/Incomplete

Academic Fraud

Students who commit or attempt to commit academic fraud, or who are a party to academic fraud, are subject to one or more of the sanctions below. All sanctions are effective immediately, notwithstanding an appeal. If a student withdraws from a course following an allegation of fraud filed against the student, the University may re-register the student in the course in question.

Sanctions stipulated in sections 2(a) to 2(f) inclusively, are imposed by the faculty offering the course. Sanctions should be accompanied by a follow-up mechanism, such as mandatory meetings with appropriate persons or services, e.g. the mentoring centre, the Academic Writing Help Centre (AWHC), etc.

- a) a written warning;
- b) zero for part of the work in question;
- c) zero for the work in question;

- d) zero for the work in question and the loss of additional marks for the course in question;
- e) zero for the work in question, with a final grade no higher than the passing grade for the course in question;
- f) an F grade for the course in question.

Sanctions stipulated in sections 2(g) to 2(i) inclusively are imposed by the faculty offering the course, after consulting with the student's home faculty.

- g) the addition of another 3 to 30 credits to the student's program requirements or to the requirements of any program at the same level in which the student subsequently registers.
- h) suspension of a University of Ottawa or faculty scholarship for a specified period;
- i) the loss of any faculty or University scholarship opportunity;

Sanctions stipulated in sections 2(j) to 2(n) inclusively are imposed by the Senate Appeals Committee upon recommendation of the student's home faculty. The decision of the Senate Appeals Committee takes effect immediately.

- j) suspension from the University for a maximum of two years. No course taken at the University of Ottawa or elsewhere during the suspension period will be recognized by the University and no tuition fees will be refunded. Once the suspension ends, the student can re-register in the program and is subject to the program requirements in place at that time.
- k) inclusion of a permanent statement on the student's official transcript: Sanction pursuant to contravention of the University regulation on fraud.
- l) expulsion from the University of Ottawa and permanent statement on the student's official transcript indicating the student was expelled from the University for committing academic fraud. Three years following the date of expulsion, the student is eligible to make a request to the Senate Appeals Committee to have the expulsion set aside, including the possibility, where applicable, of having the mention removed from the student's transcript. If the student reapplies to the University of Ottawa, the regular admission process applies.
- m) cancellation or revocation of a degree, diploma or certificate conferred prior to the University becoming aware of academic fraud;
- n) any other sanction considered appropriate for the circumstances.