



Module Specification

Introduction to Game Design

Version: 2025-26, v2.0, Approved

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Introduction to Game Design

Module code: UPCNEW-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Arts

Partner institutions: University Centre Weston

Field: Cultural Studies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module offers students a comprehensive introduction to the fundamental principles and responsibilities of the game designer's role within the creative industries.

Features: Module Entry requirements: Not offered as a standalone. Programme entry requirements apply.

Educational aims: See learning outcomes.

Outline syllabus: This module provides students with a comprehensive introduction to the core principles and responsibilities of the game designer's role within the creative industries.

Students will explore how game designers contribute to the development process across various platforms and genres, with an emphasis on gameplay mechanics, user experience, and narrative design.

Through a combination of theory and practical tasks, students will develop a portfolio of design work that demonstrates their creative thinking, technical understanding, and awareness of the game designer's role within a professional production environment.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: See assessment strategy.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate an understanding of game design principles.

MO2 Demonstrate an understanding of game design workflows and techniques.

MO3 Demonstrate intentional use of practical techniques in the creation of game design work.

MO4 Record, reflect and evaluate upon personal practice

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment criteria on this module are aligned to the Intended Module Outcomes. There will be both formative and summative assessment throughout. This reflects an ‘assessment for learning’ approach which is integral to the Learning and Teaching Strategies of UWE, Bristol and University Centre Weston (UCW).

Assessment takes an inclusive approach to meet the diverse needs of students and ensures that academic standards are maintained. Assessment approaches and contexts provide controlled conditions to ensure fair practice.

This module is assessed through two complementary tasks:

Game Design Artefact - 75%

Students will design and produce their first game design portfolio piece, applying foundational knowledge and skills within a structured game development environment.

With a focus on industry-standard practices, students will begin to understand the creative and technical workflows used to bring games to life, while developing confidence in their ability to contribute meaningfully to the production pipeline.

This assessment task enables students to demonstrate progress against relevant module outcomes, while maintaining industry focused outcomes and intentions.

Journal - 25%

Throughout this module, students will maintain a reflective journal that captures their ability to critically engage with their creative process. Ongoing reflection on methods, decisions, and outcomes will support the development of insight into their learning

and professional progression.

This assessment task supports critical thinking, independent learning, and the integration of theory into practice, demonstrating progress against relevant module outcomes.

Assessment tasks:

Reflective Piece (First Sit)

Description: Journal

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

Artwork (First Sit)

Description: Game Design Artefact

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Reflective Piece (Resit)

Description: Journal

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO4

Artwork (Resit)

Description: Game Design Artefact

Weighting: 75 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Games and Animation Production [UCW] BA (Hons) 2024-25

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