

## Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*4090	Course Title: Digital & Gaming Narratives	Date of Offering: W23
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Course Instructor: Paul Barrett	Course Format: In-person
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

This course explores narrative form in digital texts including digital narratives, e-literature, e-poetry, and games. We will consider a range of digital games and the forms of narrative they employ, their procedural rhetoric, their depictions of history, the communities that coalesce around particular games, and the broader social and cultural implications of gaming culture. We will work through a range of concepts in game studies, beginning with Huizinga, and moving into present day critiques of depictions of gender, race, and embodiment in games. We will also consider the relationship between contemporary forms of neoliberal power and subjectivity and gaming cultures. In addition to critical readings, students will be required to play games each week.

#### Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

3x Short Response Papers – 15%  
Seminar Presentation – 25%  
Participation – 20%  
Final Paper – 40%

#### Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

A laptop capable of playing low end games. Students will have limited access to laptops made available to borrow.

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

\*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at <https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information>.