Games: Design, Strategy, Philosophy, and Society  
Fall 2015  
Course Procedures

Professor: Josh Laison  
Ford 215, x6689, jlaison@willamette.edu

Office Hours:  
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30-11:30, Friday 2:30-3:30 in my office,  
Monday 9:30-11:00, at the Bistro,  
and anytime by appointment or by catching me in my office.  
My available times are on my webpage http://www.willamette.edu/~jlaison

Writing Associate: Eric Samelson  
Opening Days Leaders: Albert Garcia and Mariana Navarro  
Compass Instructor: Brett Franz  
Class Meetings: Ford 201, 12:50-2:20 Tuesday, Thursday

Texts:  
Rules of Play: Game Design Fundamentals, Katie Salen and Eric Zimmerman  
The Well-Played Game: A Player’s Philosophy, Bernie DeKoven  
The Biggest Game in Town, A. Alvarez  
Reality is Broken: Why Games Make Us Better and How They Can Change the World, Jane McGonigal

Course Web Page: http://www.willamette.edu/~jlaison/games.html  
Course WISE Site: https://wise.willamette.edu/portal/site/IDS-101-18-15_FA

Graded components of the course:

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading and class engagement</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>including reading responses, generating class discussion topics, active participation in discussion and class activities and in out-of-class games and group activities, active listening and respect of classmates’ ideas in discussions and during classmates’ presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing assignments and presentations (approximately 10)</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<td>including regular meetings with our course Writing Associate, drafts of the game design project, and incorporating peer feedback</td>
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<td>Final game design project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>including graphic design and construction of components, clear, well-written, and innovative rules, and organized and engaging presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Student Learning Outcomes:
(All College Colloquium courses)

1. To develop students’ abilities to read closely.
2. To develop students’ abilities to discuss reflectively.
3. To develop students’ abilities to write effectively.
4. To develop students’ abilities to think critically.

(Games course)

5. To develop bonds of academic community and collaboration.
6. To gain experience reading, writing, speaking, and thinking in multiple academic modes of inquiry.

Workload
By Willamette University policy, for a 3 credit hour course such as this one you should spend 6–9 hours on coursework outside of class. In this class, this will be roughly 2–3 hours each reading, playing games, and writing per week.

Course conduct
All persons in the class, the students and the professor, should treat one another with respect. This includes attending class, using technology only for class-related activities, avoiding offensive or insulting behavior, treating borrowed games with care and not losing pieces, and acting honestly. If your cell phone rings during class, you will bring treats for the next class.

Plagiarism and academic honesty
Please familiarize yourself with the student-written Willamette University Honor Code. Plagiarism can take different forms, but its essence is presenting the words or work of another person as your own. When you are quoting from a source you must place that material in quotation marks and correctly cite the source of the quotation. If you are paraphrasing someone else you must provide the source from which you are paraphrasing. Plagiarism is a very serious offense with serious consequences, and an insult to your professor and your classmates.

Disability accommodations
Willamette University and this class welcome people of differing abilities. If you have a disability for which accommodations may be required, please contact me and the Bishop Wellness Center to discuss your needs.

Religious accommodations
(From the Office of the Chaplain) Willamette University recognizes the value of religious practice and strives to accommodate students’ commitment to their religious traditions whenever possible. If you anticipate missing class for religious reasons, please contact me to discuss your needs.