



IS 161

Introduction to Creative Thinking Interdisciplinary Studies

IS 161 introduces students to the skills and strategies of creative thinking. Designed for students in all majors, the course will examine creativity as a fundamental component for innovation and success in any field, from art to science, technology to business. We will explore the creative process from various theoretical perspectives as well as the influences of education, culture and the environment on creative thinking.

Creativity will be seen as a natural process that not only allows for greater adaptability, idea generation and problem solving, but which also adds an increased dimension of richness and meaning to our lives. Students will have the opportunity to develop and apply these skills in real world contexts, and to experience the value of creativity in developing a well rounded, flexible and adaptive approach to an increasingly complex world.

The course is based on a series of weekly assignments that include readings, videos, podcasts and other material designed to facilitate and support in-class discussion and project work. All material will be delivered primarily in class. There will be an online component that will include most, but not all, of the material delivered in class. All online material can be accessed via the course website on laulima.edu. This is also a paperless class, so all material will be in digital format. Hard copies are available only on request.

Class
IS 161
Intro. to Creative Thinking

Section
33358

Instructor
Carl Jennings

Day/Time
TR 1:45 - 3:00

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Olapa 212

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Office
Koa 108

Office Hours
MW 10:00-10:45 am
TR 11:00 - 12:00pm
or by appointment

Laulima
www.laulima.hawaii.edu



Robert Wilson

Creative Thinking

The material for each week will be made available online, and can be accessed by logging into Laulima. You will see a brief introduction, a 'To-Do' list that will include assignments such as readings, projects and activities for that week as well as links to various media that we will have seen in class. These will include videos, PowerPoints, lectures and podcasts. Some of the content will not be made available until later in the week and will be noted as such. All readings should be done prior to the first day of class for that week. There will also be a section labeled **Going Deeper**, this section provides extra material for those interested in exploring some of the weekly content at a deeper level. Sometimes the material is informative, sometimes it is more poetic and suggestive. It will often come with questions that help frame the content and can be used in the Weekly Discussions if you choose. Material in this section will not appear on any quizzes or exams.

A special link to the weekly home page, formatted specifically for mobile devices, will be made available on the first day of class.

Course Requirements

For this course you will be required to read, write and discuss topics and ideas. You will also be involved in group work that will change regularly. Your grade in this class is based on a wide variety of projects and assignments.

Projects (40%) These are projects related to the course material. They vary in length, complexity, grade weight and involvement, from in-class to two-day, one week, and one month. They also involve individual as well as group projects. The importance of the project in terms of the grade is determined by its corresponding point value. Some projects are announced in advance, some are spontaneously introduced in class. If you miss a project because of absence you need to provide a validated reason to receive credit, see **course attendance** section for details.

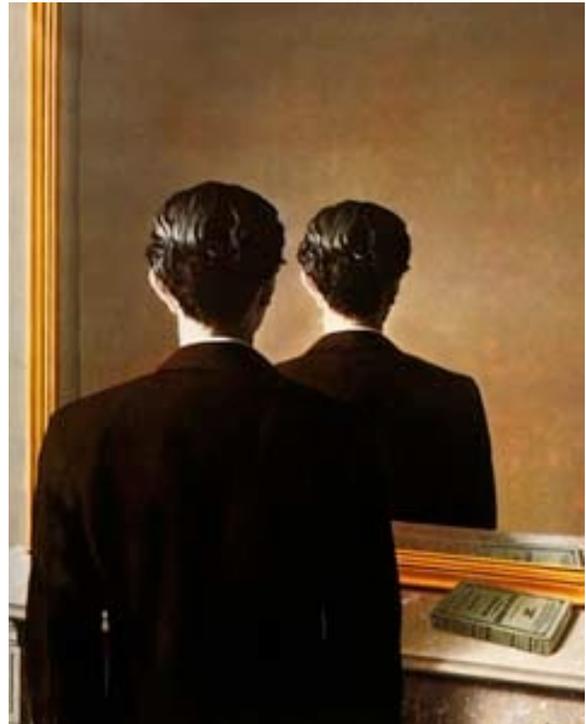
Weekly Reflections (20%) These are written reflections that you do once a week, on the course website ([Laulima](#)). They are opportunities for you to reflect upon, think about, muse over and generally just ponder, via writing, some of the topics related to the course. These are private and confidential and I am the only one who sees them. They are also opportunities to ask questions. Details about the weekly reflections, their purpose and how they are to be used, will be discussed in class.

Quizzes (10%) There will be a variety of quizzes throughout the semester. Some you will be told about and others, pop quizzes, will be a surprise. Dates for regular quizzes will be announced in class. Except for a validated reason (see **course attendance**), Pop quizzes cannot be made up.

Personal Project (20%) This is a semester long project that you will begin in week two and present to the class at the midterm and again at the end. This is an opportunity for you to apply the methods and material of the course in a real world context. Everybody will be working on something different and in a self directed manner. Details will be made available in Week 2. This is a great opportunity to kick start your own creative energies and really 'do' something!

Service Learning / Research Paper (10%) We will be doing a service learning project that will allow us to take the course outside the classroom and into the 'real world'. Details of what this entails and how to do this will be explained in class. For some background on Service Learning at KCC please [go here](#).

For those who are unable to do Service Learning, you will be required to a Research paper. Details of the research paper will be presented in class.



René Magritte

***“Think left and think right
and think low
and think high.
Oh, the things you can
think up if only you try!”***

- Dr. Seuss



S-Designation

This course is an S-Designation course, meaning some of the content covered will deal with issues of sustainability. For more information, please visit:

<http://kccsustainability.com/Sustainability/S-designation.html>

Course Competencies

- Employ basic creative strategies including: synthesizing ideas, images and concepts in new and original ways, making connections across different domains, generative thinking, divergent thinking, and perceiving alternative perspectives.
- Identify and analyze the personal, social and environmental influences of creativity.
- Describe and analyze various theoretical perspectives on creativity.
- Analyze the relation of creativity to critical thinking and intelligence.
- Investigate the role of experimentation and risk taking in the creative process.
- Apply concepts of sustainability to local, regional and/or global challenges.
- Demonstrate a holistic understanding of how the individual relates to the wider issues of sustainability.
- Exemplify trusting one's own decisions, insights and perceptions during the creative problem-solving process.
- Examine and evaluate the need and value of creativity in the contemporary world.
- Identify and analyze the myths and assumptions most often associated with creativity and creative people.

"Intelligence is something we are born with. Thinking is a skill that must be learned"

- Edward de Bono



from Alfred Jarry's 'Ubu Roi', directed by Michael Mesche in 1965

General Education Requirement

This course satisfies the Diversification Arts (DA) requirement and also can be taken as an elective for the A.A. degree

Text

All reading materials will be provided.

Materials Required

Sketchbook or notebook for taking notes and recording ideas.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is a required part of the course. Except for a validated excuse e.g. a note from the hospital, police or the morgue (saying you recently passed away!), or an email before class, saying that you will be absent, all missed classes, including in-class assignments and pop-quizzes, are unable to be made up and students will receive zero credit. All projects and assignments with a deadline, must be turned in on the due date. Except for a validated reason (see above), missing a deadline will result in a 20% reduction for that assignment. There is then a one week grace period for handing in late work. With a valid excuse you will be expected to hand in your project when you return and your grade will not be affected by the missed quiz or in-class. assignment.



Sandy Skoglund

Repeated tardiness or absences will be reflected in your overall grade. Six absences (excused or unexcused) will result in a 'Fail' for the course. Three late shows (tardy) will result in one absence. A tardy is more than 15 minutes late.

Your grade will be posted on Lualima throughout the course. Any concerns about your grade need to be addressed in a timely manner.

KCC has what is called a 15 minute rule. Please wait 15 min. after the scheduled class time if the instructor is delayed. After 15 minutes the class is officially canceled. In such cases please check Lualima for any announcements.

IMPORTANT - All communications regarding the course will be sent to your 'hawaii.edu' account. Please check this regularly or have the mail forwarded to your email client.

Webpage

All course videos and presentations, used in class, will be made available online at: www.lualima.hawaii.edu/portal

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The Fine Print

Cell Phone Policy

Absolutely no cell phones are allowed in class. If you are found using a cell phone you will be given one warning, after that your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade for every time you are seen using a cell phone in class.

Disruptive Behavior Statement

In all campus environments, Disruptive Behavior will not be tolerated. This means: any speech or action that (1) is disrespectful, offensive, and/or threatening; (2) interferes with the learning activities of other students; (3) impedes the delivery of college services; and/or (4) has a negative impact in any learning environment

Disability Support Services

If you are a student with a documented disability and have not voluntarily disclosed the nature of your disability and the support you need, you are invited to contact the Disability Support Services Office, `Iliahi 113, 734-9552 , or email kapdss@hawaii.edu for assistance. For students whose primary disability is Deaf or hard of hearing, contact the KCC Deaf Center in Manono 102, ph. 734-9210 (V) or 447-1379 (videophone)

Student Conduct Code

Please familiarize yourself with the Student Conduct Code listed in the Course Catalog



And Finally...

“education is not a spectator sport!”

COURSE SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This and all other materials are available in alternate format upon request.

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