

## Syllabus for CS460 Computer Graphics

### Web-based 3D Visualizations and beyond!

After completion of this course, you will be able to develop rich and interactive web-based 3D visualizations for computers, smartphones, and tablets! By using WebGL, you will learn to create immersive and high-quality graphics including 3D geometric transformations, camera transformations, the image-rendering process, as well as materials and texture mapping. This course also includes advanced topics such as color representations, light simulation, dealing with geometries, and creating animations. And since everything runs in the browser, you can show your work to your friends with a link to a website—how cool is that!

#### We will learn and use:

- JavaScript (including some HTML and CSS)
- XTK (<https://goXTK.com>)
- Three.js (<https://threejs.org>) and other computer graphics frameworks of your choice
- GLSL and "vanilla" WebGL and WebGPU!
- glTF (<https://www.khronos.org/glTF/>)
- Github / git (for version control and assignment submission)
- Overleaf /  $\text{\LaTeX}$  (for reports)

### Teaching Staff

Instructor: Daniel Haehn

Teaching Assistants: Loraine Franke, Vidhya Sree Narayanappa, Edward Gaibor

Contact: @staff on Discord

### Lectures

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

11:00-11:50am

McCormack M03-0407

### Office Hours

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

10:00-11:00am and by request

McCormack M03-2120, please use <https://calendly.com/haehn/> to reserve a slot.

### Blackboard Access

Please use Blackboard to access lecture videos, slides, assignments, and all other materials.

Login at <https://umb.umassonline.net/>.

### Discord Access

The teaching staff is available via Discord. The invite link will be shared in class.

## Questions and Concerns

Please direct questions and concerns of any kind (now and during the semester) to the teaching staff in person or via Discord @staff or in the #help channel.

## Course Structure

41 Lectures  
10 Assignments (30% of final grade, plus 10% bonus)  
13 Quizzes (20% of final grade, take-home through blackboard)  
Final Project (40% of final grade)  
Participation (in-class, in-office, and as part of Discord discussions, 10% of final grade)  
No exams

We will have **multiple guest lectures** from experienced graphics researchers.

## Final Grade

The weighted scores from above will result in a final grade as follows:

$\geq 90 = A$	69-66 = C
89-86 = A-	65-62 = C-
85-82 = B+	61-58 = D+
81-78 = B	57-54 = D
77-74 = B-	53-50 = D-
73-70 = C+	below 50 = F

## The "STRAIGHT A"-Shortcut

There are **two special ways to get a straight A** in this course: **(1)** if we can submit your final project to the International ACM Conference on 3D Web Technology (<https://www.web3d.org/conferences>), or **(2)** if your final project significantly contributes to an existing open source library and gets merged back into the parent code repository (new features, or important bugfixes).

## Interactive Lectures (Bring your Laptop!)

Lectures will include interactive components. Please bring your laptop. If you do not have a laptop, please contact the teaching staff at [staff@cs460.org](mailto:staff@cs460.org).

## Assignments

Weekly assignments include research questions and coding challenges. All assignments require a written report in  $\text{\LaTeX}$ . You will use a standard git workflow paired with an online form to submit your work. **Assignments are due Mondays at 11:59pm. No late submissions.**

## Quizzes

Quizzes include multiple-choice and free-text questions. They are take-home quizzes and available in the Blackboard system. **Quizzes are due Fridays at 11:59pm. No late submissions.**

## Final Project

The final project is the capstone of this course and counts as 40% of your final grade. This is your chance to apply your newly learned skills. You can fully enjoy the freedom and come up with your project idea or you can ask the teaching staff for suggestions. Project teams are encouraged but working alone is also fine. In lecture 37, all students will present their final project plans as part of the fast forward event. The following week, all students will present progress towards their final delivery. **And finally, all projects, including reports are due on 12/20/2021. No late submissions.**

## Participation

In-class participation and Discord activity count towards your grade. If class attendance drops below 50%, surprise tests may happen during lectures.

## Collaboration Policy

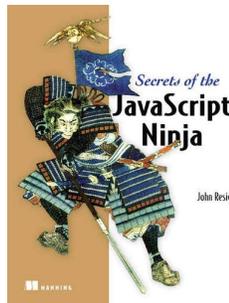
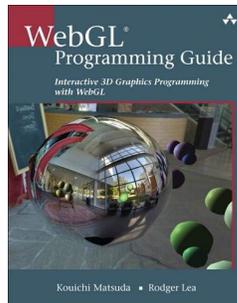
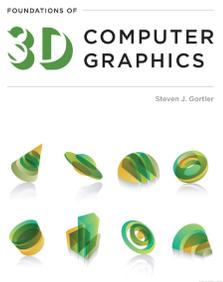
You are allowed and encouraged to collaborate with anybody. However, please make sure to give proper credit. For instance, if your friend helps you with an assignment or you copied code from another source, you must acknowledge their name in your code and the assignment report.

## Open Source License

The course material is publicly available under the MIT license (<https://opensource.org/licenses/MIT>). This includes assignment code. You are free to adopt a different license for your assignment solutions.

## Readings

There are no required readings for this course. However, the material is based on the following three books:



- Foundations of 3D Computer Graphics by S. Gortler
- WebGL Programming Guide: Interactive 3D Graphics Programming with WebGL by K. Matsuda and R. Lea
- Secrets of the JavaScript Ninja by J. Resig and B. Bibeault

Limited copies of all books are available through the teaching staff. While the books are great, **you do not need to purchase them**—the most up-to-date information is available online.

## Disability Accommodations

If you have a disability and feel you will need accommodation to complete course requirements, please contact the Ross Center for Disability Services at 617.287.7430.

## Other Policies

We follow the Academic Policies of the Office of the Registrar.

See [https://www.umb.edu/registrar/academic\\_policies](https://www.umb.edu/registrar/academic_policies) or contact [staff@cs460.org](mailto:staff@cs460.org) for questions.

## Timeline

Date	Lecture	Due at 11:59pm
09/04/2023	M No class (Labor Day)	
09/06/2023	W 01 Introduction	
09/08/2023	F 02 Web Developer Tools	Quiz 1
09/11/2023	M 03 JavaScript	Assignment 1 (Ro.me)
09/13/2023	W 04 XTK Intro	
09/15/2023	F 05 Scene and Camera	Quiz 2
09/18/2023	M 06 Three.js Intro	Assignment 2 (Cube Painter)
09/20/2023	W 07 The Rendering Pipeline	
09/22/2023	F 08 Shaders	Quiz 3
09/25/2023	M 09 WebGL I	Assignment 3 (Three.js Shapes)
09/27/2023	W 10 WebGL II	
09/29/2023	F 11 WebGL III	Quiz 4
10/02/2023	M 12 Transformations	Assignment 4 (WebGL Arcade)
10/04/2023	W 13 Transformations II	
10/06/2023	F 14 The Scene Graph	Quiz 5
10/09/2023	M No Class (Indigenous Peoples' Day)	
10/11/2023	W 15 Quaternions	
10/13/2023	F 16 The Arcball / Information Visualization I	Quiz 6
10/16/2023	M 17 Information Visualization II	Assignment 5 (Transformations)
10/18/2023	W 18 3D Picking	
10/20/2023	F 19 Colors	Quiz 7
10/23/2023	M 20 Funda Durupinar (UMass Boston)	Assignment 6 (TBA)
10/25/2023	W 21 TBA	
10/27/2023	F 22 Animations	Quiz 8
10/30/2023	M 23 Generative AI	Assignment 7 (TBA)
11/01/2023	W 24 Allyssa A Lewis (My Animation Life)	
11/03/2023	F 25 Textures	Quiz 9
11/06/2023	M 26 Geometry	Assignment 8 (TBA)
11/08/2023	W 27 TBA	
11/10/2023	F 28 Materials	Quiz 10
11/13/2023	M 29 Dan Ginsburg (Upsample Software)	
11/15/2023	W 30 Lighting	
11/17/2023	F 31 P. Gonzalez-Rojas, Jose T. Dominguez (Atacama.bio)	Quiz 11
11/20/2023	M 32 Volume Rendering	Assignment 9 (TBA)
11/22/2023	W 33 glTF	
11/24/2023	F No Class (Thanksgiving Recess)	
11/27/2023	M 34 Final Project Fast Forward	
11/29/2023	W 35 Field Trip / Outside Lecture	
12/01/2023	F 36 Recap II	Quiz 12
12/04/2023	M 37 Final Project Presentations I	Assignment 10 (TBA)
12/06/2023	W 38 Final Project Presentations II	
12/08/2023	F 39 Final Project Presentations III	Quiz 13
12/11/2023	M 40 Skybox	
12/13/2023	W 41 Final Recap	
12/15/2023	F No class / Office hours only	
12/18/2023	M No class / Office hours only	
12/20/2023	W No class / Office hours only	
12/22/2023	F No class	Final Project