



## LIS614– User Experience Design Capstone Course

### Course Description

This one credit capstone course provides preparation and support for students' entry into the UX profession. The course will ensure students understand expectations of the field for resumes, cover letters and professional portfolios; students will investigate job ads, prepare cover letters, develop a professional networking plan and draft a professional portfolio in a supportive team environment. The course applies a design studio critique approach in which students produce a final pitch presentation and professional portfolio for peer critique and expert feedback. Students will publicly present and defend the latest iteration of the user experience design project they developed across 611, 612 and 613.

### How Credit Hours are Met by the Course

- 1 credit course
- 45 hours (5 Weeks) (Recommend: change to 7 weeks; meet every two weeks over one semester)
- Online
- Asynchronous (i.e., class lectures are recorded each week and students may complete and submit work any time before the end of the week for credit).

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Understand current trends, best practices, and professional standards for creating a UX Portfolio based on the profession you're seeking.
2. Build and present a professional UX portfolio, resume, and cover letter showcasing the skills, projects, and design process learned throughout the UX courses.
3. Within your UX portfolio, demonstrate knowledge and ability to:
  - a. Effectively plan, manage, and communicate UX research projects.
  - b. Apply data collection and analysis methodologies for user experience research.
  - c. Apply design principles and user behavior theories to digital environments.
  - d. Show evidence of revision process, including key decisions making moments, for design prototypes based on usability testing methods and data analysis.
  - e. Effectively write and showcase your best self-qualities outside of UX (i.e., About me and beyond UX)
4. Demonstrate ability to effectively pitch your professional experience to an audience of peers and instructor(s) and demonstrate the ability to receive and respond to critique in a professional manner.

### Course Structure and Schedule

This is a project-based class with individuals working independently towards building a UX design portfolio. The class will meet every two weeks to share current progress and peers and instructors will provide constructive critique. Class time will be an opportunity to ask questions and get help in a group setting, and office hours will also be made available for individual assistance.

### Final Project

For the final project, students will make a final pitch of themselves and (oral) their professional portfolio (written) to their peers for a comprehensive peer-to-peer critique and feedback. The final submission should include a cover letter, resume, and portfolio.

### 7-Week Schedule (meeting every two weeks throughout semester 1)

Week	Date	Topic	Assignment	Reading
W1		Introductions to LIS614		In-class reading of a Beginner's Guide to Initiating your Professional Portfolio & Resume  Peer to Peer Portfolio Critique Matrix
W2		Research, Plan, & Choose your Pathway  Conduct the "Sharett Exercise": An exercise that requires each person to think of three things that label themselves. Then, using those three words, create some time of elevator pitch. For example, I'm a software developer, that has a passion for, and I tend to put my focus on ...	(Warm-up) Write a 250 – 500 introducing yourself to the class. The goal is to practice articulating a unique narrative about yourself, skills, and aspirations academically and professionally. The content of this will support the About Me in your portfolio.	<a href="#">Minimum Viable Portfolio</a>  <a href="#">NNg What is a UX Portfolio and what should it contain?</a>  <a href="#">Career Foundry: How to build a UX Portfolio</a>  <a href="#">In Pursuit of the Perfect UX Portfolio</a>  <a href="#">Portfolio Examples</a>
W3		Networking: How & where do you begin?  Q&A based on research, plan, etc. from prior week's work.	Identify a professional in or adjacent to the field of UX Research & Design and conduct an interview. Submit a written reflection piece 250 – 500 words about the networking process you took, the importance of	<a href="#">How to Present UX Case Study (Example)</a>  <a href="#">Harvard Business Review - A beginner's guide to networking</a>  <a href="#">Harvard Business Review Easy Networking Tips for Networking Haters</a>

			networking, the person you interviewed, and a few key takeaways from the interview experience.	
W4		Case Study Peer to Peer Critique (Milestone 1)	Write a 500 – 1000-word portfolio case study & present for peer critique.	<a href="#">Sharing a UX Design Portfolio Video</a>
W5		Case Study Peer to Peer Critique (Milestone 2)	Write a 500 – 1000-word portfolio case study & present for peer critique.	
W6		Case Study Peer to Peer Critique (Milestone 3)	Milestone 4: Resume & Cover Letter  IN ADDITION OR ALTERNATIVE TO THE ABOVE: Write a 500 – 1000-word portfolio case study.	<a href="#">Good to Great Resume</a>  <a href="#">Patrick Neeman How to Write a Great User Experience Resume</a>  <a href="#">Simple Resume Template</a>  <a href="#">Interactive Resume Examples</a>  <a href="#">Cover Letter Example</a>  <a href="#">How to beat the automated screening of resumes</a>
W7		Final: Pitch UX Portfolio, Resume & Cover Letter Peer Critique		