UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Game Design and Gamification

2223-2-E2004P055

Learning area

1: Study of the means by which communication takes place

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding
• communication in videogames
• basic concepts of videogames design
• basic concepts of gamification design
• applied and theoretical concepts about games, videogames, and videogame design

Applying knowledge and understanding
• Understanding and applying basic principles of videogame design
• Understanding and applying basic principles of gamified interventions design

Contents

The laboratory is very practical. A set of activities about the analysis of videogames, the design either to modify videogames or to propose new ones up to a preliminary game and/or a gamified intervention proposals will be accomplished both individually and in groups.

Detailed program

• The concept of game, videogame and a short history of videogames;
• Analysis of different videogames genres with examples;
• Introduction of a conceptual framework to analyze videogames;
• Exercises of application of the framework to existing games;
• Exercises of application of the framework to modify games;
• Preliminary design of a videogame and/or a gamified intervention.

Prerequisites

Nothing specific. The laboratory will not focus on implementation aspects of videogames but on the design aspects at a higher abstraction level: It is not required any specific technical and technological skill.

Teaching methods

The attendant will be involved with a lot of activities either individually or in groups. The theoretical aspects will be limited at the bare necessary. The other time will be employed working together with activities, videogames evaluation both watching videos and playing directly.

All the proposed materials (slides of the lessons) will be available on the e-learning site.

Ad-hoc materials will be proposed and used for the students' projects.

Erasmus students could contact the lecturer to define a bibliography in English

Assessment methods

A final evaluation with all the participants of a preliminary proposal of the design of a videogame and/or of a gamified intervention; the proposal could be prepared both individually and in small groups.

Students are requested the active participation of at least the 75% of the total lab hours.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Suggested text for the theory:
Elements of Game Design di Robert Zubek, The MIT Press.

Any integrative materials will be available at the elearning site).

A more detailed information about materials will be published on the elearning site.

Sustainable Development Goals