Required elements for DMS TA syllabi > **Intro to New Media**

While each graduate student teaching a course has the liberty of putting together a personal flavor for his/her course, we require the inclusion of certain topics and skills that are important for undergrads as they pass through the program.

Here is a list of topics you must include in your course materials:

1. Overview of media:
   - technical vs. social issues
2. Overview of data repositories:
   - text, image, databases
3. Overview of internet languages/protocols:
   - html, css, xml, TCP/IP
4. Variations of digital making:
   - emergence, computational control, software aesthetics (consumer and artistic)
5. Social media and semantic networks

Here is a list of skills (on a very introductory level) your course should create/improve:

1. Basic++ web skills
   - server vs. client side programming;
   - blog design;
2. Basic++ scripting (in java, python, or processing)
   - user input; output to various destinations (screen, database, rss feeds);
3. Interface design;

In terms of method, teaching these topics and skills should occur through assignments that combine concepts with techniques as well as critique sessions where students describe and defend their work. DMS wants to see, even in the introductory classes, historical context and an attempt to connect to the language and culture of media making and critique.

DMS has the following programs and software packages that you should include in your course:

1. Dreamweaver
2. Flash
3. Emacs or other text editor / code composer

You should attempt to ensure that students leave your course with some fluency in these programs. You can add to this list as required and are responsible for ensuring the program is available in the class room you teach in. Contact Carl Lee for details.

Finally, we ask that you help us in giving the undergrads exposure to prior art in the field your course covers. For this course we ask that you make use of the DMS digital arts undergrad knowledge base (will be available from the dms home page).