Course: DMED 522: Projects III (12 Credits)
Term: Summer 2026
Delivery Method: In Person
Instructors: Assigned per team
Pre-requisites: DMED 520 with a grade of B or higher.

Acknowledgement of Coast Salish Peoples and Land

We respectfully acknowledge the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) peoples on whose unceded traditional territories our campus resides.

Course Description

As a capstone course, Projects III cohesively builds on the Project II experience with increasingly complex technical, artistic and management challenges. Projects III is an independent, semester length team-based project working with an external client and/or collaborators. Projects may include student-led pitches. Students learn, experience, and execute iterative processes through team collaboration and prototype/proof of concept delivery at a high level of professionalism.

Students are expected to complete weekly reflections, participate in scheduled 1:1 check-ins, and team retrospectives with their project supervisor to support reflective learning, formative feedback, and the alignment of individual, team, and client goals. The schedule and frequency of these activities will be determined by the project supervisor and how the team is progressing.

Course Objectives

After completing DMED 522, each student will be able to:

- Effectively communicate and collaborate professionally with team, client, and community
- Demonstrate the ability to problem-solve in multidisciplinary teams, while making quality individual contributions
- Create innovative, technology driven, client-focused solutions by applying design thinking processes.
- Engage in reflective practice, regularly evaluate individual and team contributions, and roles to identify opportunities for improvement, and approach adaptations to enhance team effectiveness.

Format of the Course

This course is in-person Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm and may consist of offsite meetings with clients or user testing.

Project Milestones

Milestones	Timing
Team Retrospectives	Week 3
Team Retrospectives	Week 6
Team Retrospectives	Week 13

At these milestones, you will be meeting with your project supervisors as a team to reflect on how your team is doing so far and receive feedback for moving forward on your projects. Depending on your project supervisor and team's progression, the timing and frequency of these milestones may differ.

Course Evaluation

In project courses students are assigned to groups that balance multidisciplinary backgrounds. Working together, they will develop a project that meets defined technical/user needs and client expectations.

Community grade: This community grade is based on how well the whole team supported and helped each other to learn better, provide useful feedback, create better projects, and created a supportive and inclusive community. *Note: If some people really contribute much less than others, their community mark will be reduced accordingly.*

Evaluation Criteria

- **Client Interaction***
    - Communication
    - Presentations/meetings
- **Teamwork and Process**
    - Team interactions/communication/collaboration
    - Individual contributions to team
    - Peer reflection
- **Product/Project**
    - Ideation, iterations, testing and analysis
    - Quality contributions
    - Process documentation
- **Individual Growth**
    - Setting clear individual learning goals/objectives
    - Weekly reflections
    - Self-reflection – How did I grow? How did I impact the team and project?
- **Other**
    - Professionalism
    - Presentations to faculty/students
    - Supervisor observations
    - Client observations

80% of your grade is based on your performance on your team as assessed by your project supervisor.

20% of your grade will be evaluated by a panel of at least 3 faculty members for a team-based critique session, going through the same categories as above. All team members are expected to answer any questions.

*For venture projects, the faculty advisor will serve as the client

Course Schedule May to August

Phase 1 - Initial
Organization and ideation
Phase 2 - Developing
Goals and deliverables
Phase 3 - Iterations
Digital solutions iterations
Phase 4 - Final
Final deliverables
Final presentations

Weekly Schedule

Week	Dates	Schedule
1	May 11 - 14	• Project brief breakdown • Client meeting(s) / set up
Victoria Day – May 18 – campus and classes cancelled		
2	May 18 - 21	
3	May 25 - 28	• Team photo and description submitted to website • Team Retrospectives
4	June 1 - 4	
5	June 8 - 11	
6	June 15 - 18	• Team Retrospectives • *Check-in and Internal User Test: Monday, June 15*
7	June 22 - 25	
8	June 29 – July 2	
Canada Day – July 1 – campus and classes cancelled		
9	July 6 - 9	• *External User Test: Tuesday, July 7*
10	July 13 - 16	
11	July 21 - 22	
12	July 27 - 30	• Final product delivered / documentation delivered to client
BC Day – Aug 3 – campus and classes cancelled		
13	Aug 4 - 6	• Team Retrospectives • Final presentations with cohort (Tuesday, August 4th) • Individual group critique sessions (Wednesday, August 5 to Thursday, August 6th) • Final academic deliverables, including documentation and project archive

Attendance and Participation

Regular attendance is expected of students in all their classes (including participation, group work, tutorials, seminars, online etc.). Students who are unavoidably absent due to illness or disability should notify their instructors of their situation. Students are expected to attend based on the schedule (and their assigned group) and be fully present. Unreported lateness/absence also informs grading.

https://www.sfu.ca/students/enrolment-services/policies-and-procedures/academic-concessions.html

Grading Profile

A+	95-100	Exemplary expectations
A	90-94	Exceeding expectations
A-	85-89	Meet expectations
B+	80-84	Approaching expectations
B	75-79	
B-	70-74	Below expectations
C	60-69	Far below expectations
F	0 – 59	Fail (Students must retake the course).

A student in a master's or doctoral program must maintain a CGPA of 3.0. Under no circumstances will a student whose CGPA is below 3.0, be awarded a graduate degree. https://www.sfu.ca/students/advising-resources/calculators/gpa-calculator.html

Ethics

You are required to use course ethics to do user/play testing. Please speak to your supervisor regarding the steps and policies.

Written & Spoken English

English is the official language of the school and all communication (written and spoken) is expected to be conducted in English. SFU and the MDM Program provide a wide range of free language support for those who need and it's up to each learner to seek that support.

Accommodations

The university accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let your instructor know in advance, preferably the first week of class, if you will require any accommodations on these grounds. The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) will make every effort to assist students with disabilities so that they achieve their educational goals. https://www.sfu.ca/students/accessible-learning/establishing-accommodations/accommodation.html

Academic Integrity: Your Work, Your Success

SFU's Academic Integrity website http://www.sfu.ca/students/academicintegrity.html is filled with information on what is meant by academic dishonesty, where you can find resources to help with your studies and the consequences of cheating.

Each student is responsible for their conduct as it affects the university community. Academic dishonesty, in whatever form, is ultimately destructive of the values of the university. Furthermore, it is unfair and discouraging to the majority of students who pursue their studies honestly. Scholarly integrity is required of all members of the university. http://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/student/s10-01.html

Inappropriate use of technology in coursework

If you are using any technology, including generative AI, to produce or edit content that will be part of your graded work in the course, you must be transparent about the tools that you use. Undeclared use of the tool/technology will be considered a violation of the academic integrity policy. Be aware that any tool used will require you to evaluate the output for accuracies and be responsible for making the appropriate corrections.

Graduate Studies Notes

Important dates and deadlines for graduate students are found here: http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/current/important_dates/guidelines.html.