

# *Transformative Games* *LEARNING BY DESIGN*

## **Game Design as Classroom Laboratory**

Robert O. Duncan

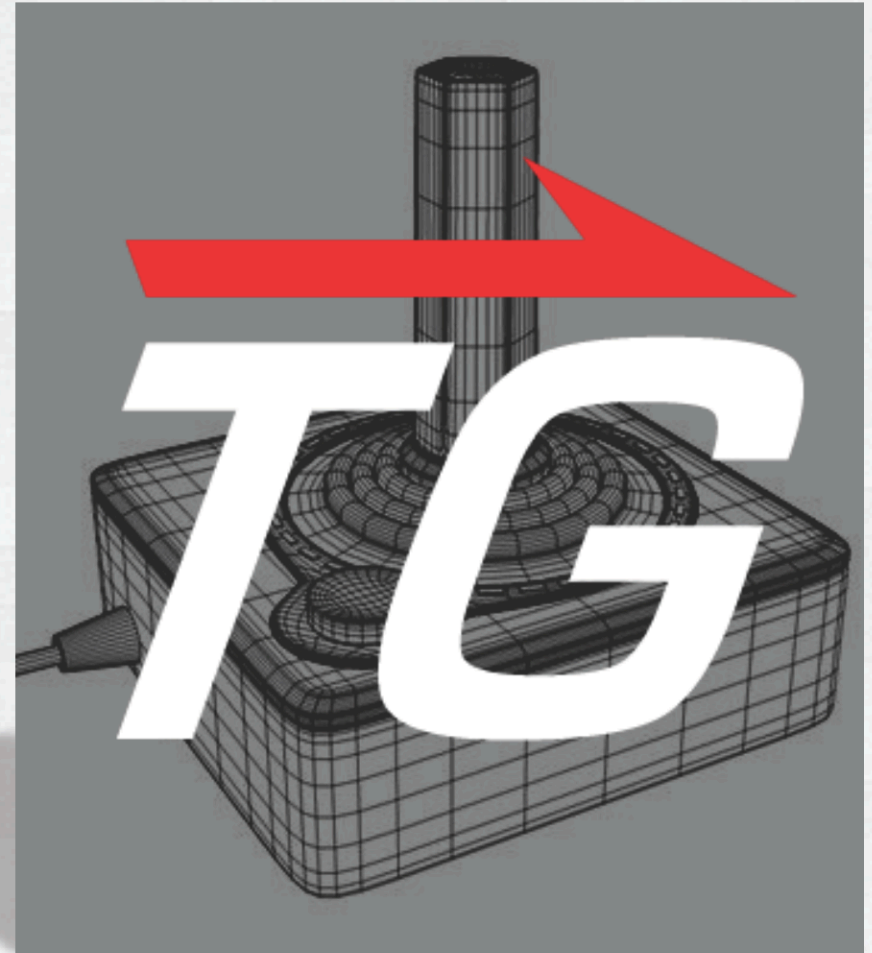
Assistant Professor of Behavioral Sciences





# Transformative Games Initiative

- Serve students by providing opportunities for game-based learning
- { Promote learning by engaging students in design }
- Provide instructors with tools for the classroom
- Facilitate research in pedagogy and game-based learning



# Goals

1. Learn the rationale for infusing research, creative scholarship, and research-like practices into the classroom.
2. Learn about national models for undergraduate research and discuss best practices.
3. Discuss how GBL and UR research can be implemented in every classroom starting in the freshmen year.

# **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH DEFINED**

# Definitions

- Undergraduate research – “an inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.”
- Creative scholarship - While UR traditionally refers to STEM disciplines, these practices also apply to creative scholarship in the arts and humanities.
- Other relevant methods include *problem-based learning* & *inquiry-based learning*

# Characteristics

1. Mentorship – Collaborative, clear goals, focus on the student, disciplinary socialization.
2. Originality – Novel contribution to the discipline, meaningful and significant contribution by student.
3. Acceptability – Uses accepted practices for the discipline.
4. Dissemination – Must produce a final product to be reviewed or judged.

# Origins

- Council on Undergraduate Research (founded 1978)
  - Focused on STEM research in PUIs
  - Started with “problem-based” learning in medical schools
  - Particularly McMaster University (Barrows & Tamblyn, 1980)
- Boyer Commission (1998)
  - Urged universities to engage undergraduates more effectively
  - Advocated research-based learning as the standard
- Kuh (2008): High-impact educational practices
  - National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
  - Undergraduate research has a huge positive impact on students



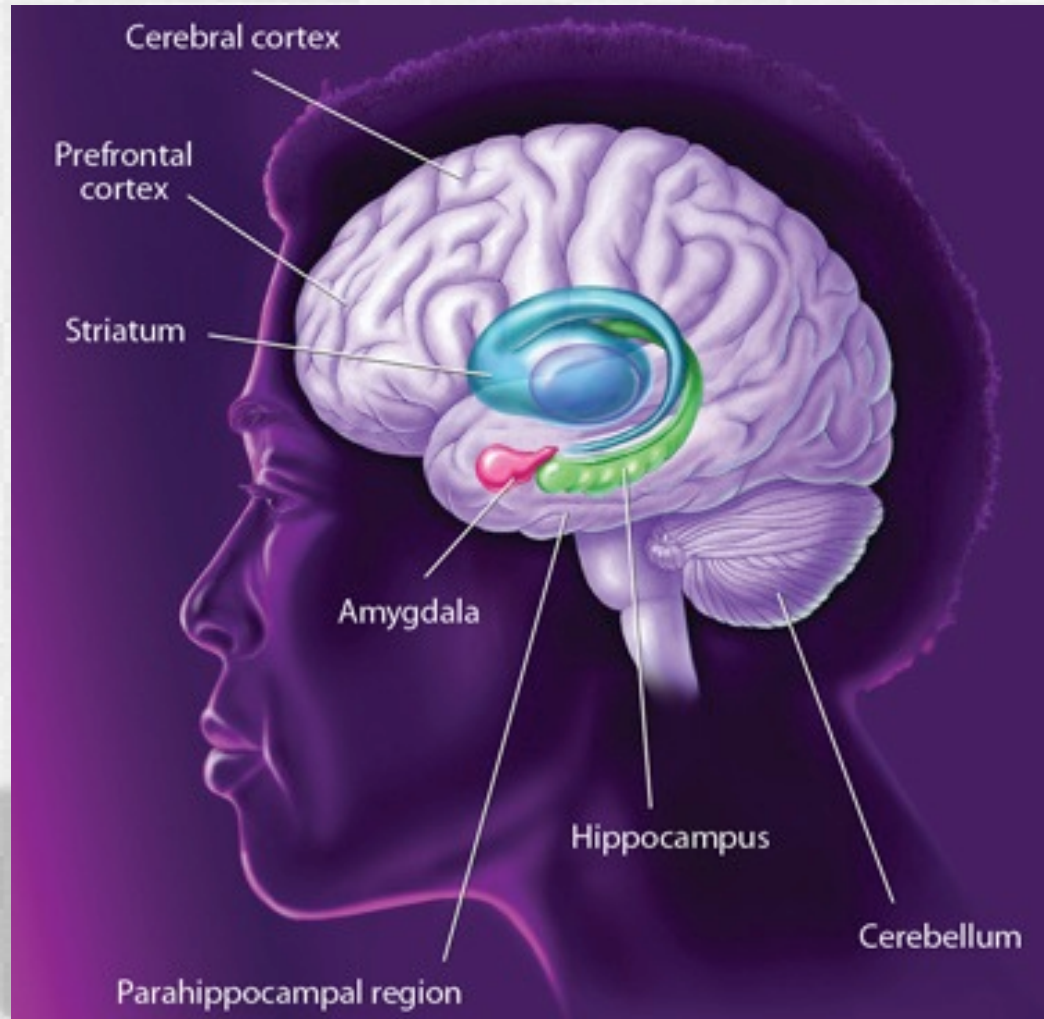
# BEST Design Principles

1. Institutional leadership
2. Targeted recruitment
3. Engaged faculty
4. Personal attention
5. Peer support
6. Enriched research experience
7. Bridging to the next level
8. Continuous evaluation
9. Comprehensive financial assistance
10. Evidence-based practices



**RATIONALE**

# Neural Circuits for Learning



# Optimal Conditions for Learning

- Perception for action
- Attention
- Motivation
- Emotional engagement
- Information must be novel and biologically relevant
- Behavioral consequences for action

# Additional Motivations

- To better prepare learners as practitioners of their discipline (cognitive and intellectual growth)
- To communicate the excitement of discovery
- Socialization to the discipline
- Engaged learning practices are more effective
  - National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
  - Student Success in College: Creating Conditions that Matter (2005, Jossey-Bass & AAHE)
  - Greater Expectations: A new vision for learning as a nation goes to college (2002, AAC&U)
  - College learning for the new global century (2007, AAC&U)

# **MODELS AND PRACTICES**

# National Model

- Early exposure
- Search and evaluate the primary literature (e.g., C.R.E.A.T.E.).
- Articulating precise research questions
- Designing experimental approaches to problem solving using accepted practices
- Dissemination via local and national conferences, undergrad journals, & peer-reviewed journals

# CUR and NCUR

www.cur.org

Apps research teaching fun Accordion WebDev Tools RSS

News Students Members Contact CUR Join CUR Search Here

CUR™ Council on Undergraduate Research Learning Through Research

Login:   Login

Google Analytics

About CUR Membership Publications Conferences & Events Projects & Services Governance Advocacy

Resources

NCUR 2014 is April 3-5, 2014 at the University of Kentucky

**Latest News** RSS

CUR Fellow Award Recognizes Excellence in Undergraduate Research  
The Council on Undergraduate Research Acknowledges the Leadership of Mark Brodl and Mitch Malachowski

January 9, 2014 CUR E-newsletter  
January 9, 2014 CUR E-newsletter

December 12, 2013 CUR E-newsletter  
December 12, 2013 CUR E-Newsletter

**Event Calendar** View All Events

Feb 20-22 CUR Dialogues 2014 Striving and Thriving: Fostering Successful Research Environments February 20, 2014-February 22, 2014

Feb 21 Poster Submission Deadline 2014 CUR Conference February 21, 2014

Mar Broadening Participation Institute

**NCUR 2014**

NCUR 2014  
National Conference on Undergraduate Research  
April 3-5  
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

National Conference on Undergraduate Research  
April 3-5, 2014

prospect.png rescorla.jpg VisHierarchy.gif Plants-vs-Zombies-2-7.jpg 659px-Blooms\_rose.....png purity.png Show All



# CUNY and CURC

Browser tabs: Inbox (1) - robertod..., Inbox - Outlook We..., Program | The CUNY..., salk 2008 learning..., fnhum-05-00075-c..., 0960140307001.pr..., The Council on Und..., Undergraduate Rese...

Address bar: www.cuny.edu/research/sr/undergrad-research.html

Navigation: Apps, research, teaching, fun, Accordion, WebDev, Tools, RSS

CUNY The City University of New York

Find It, College Websites, Text Version, Make This Website Talk

Future Students, Current Students, Faculty/Staff, Alumni

ABOUT, ACADEMICS, ADMISSIONS, FINANCIAL AID, RESEARCH, NEWS/EVENTS, LIBRARIES, EMPLOYMENT

SEARCH, Log-in

Welcome >> Research >> Student Research >> Undergraduate Research

## Undergraduate Research

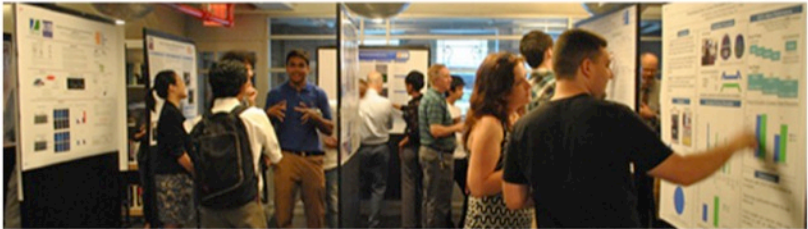
For Faculty

CUNY Undergraduate Research Council

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research

Research Compliance

Laboratory Safety



Participation by undergraduate students in authentic research is an important part of academic life at CUNY. We are committed to broadening this participation through several programs and initiatives that you will find listed on this site. Our goal is for you use this site as a central resource to find information and to share best practices from around the University.

Facebook, Twitter


See the full CUNY Undergraduate Research Calendar >

### Upcoming Events

NYCCT Workshop on Writing Abstracts for Research Projects


To learn more, email Kevin Hawes at Kevin.Hawes@CUNY.edu

### Featured Researcher



Dr. Elizabeth Sklar, professor of Computer and Information Science and director of the Multimedia Computing Program at Brooklyn College, brings a small group of aspiring undergraduate researchers into her Agents Lab each year to participate in the Agents Lab.

### Resources



For Students

prospect.png, rescoria.jpg, VisHierarchy.gif, Plants-vs-Zombies-2-7.jpg, 659px-Blooms\_rose.....png, purity.png, Show All

# Your College Office of Undergraduate Research



**YORK College**

Directory Calendar Library Give to York Continuing Education

Future Student Current Student Faculty/Staff Alumni/Supporters

**Undergraduate Research**

**5th Annual Undergraduate Research Day**

Research Day is a celebration of undergraduate research and creative scholarship in all disciplines at York College.

**When** Apr 24, 2014  
from 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM

**Research Day Abstract Submission**

**Undergraduate Research**

Application Deadline: Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) at Baruch College

Apr 11, 2014 08:00 AM

Other Upcoming events...

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Other Upcoming events...

# **INFUSING RESEARCH INTO THE CURRICULUM**

# Institutional Mechanisms

- First year experience
- Communities of research
- Honor's programs
- Discipline-specific affinity groups
- Research Day
- Summer research programs
- Student abroad
- Undergraduate research journals
- Support for faculty scholarship

# Discipline-Specific Mechanisms

- Independent Study
- Capstone courses
- Lab courses
- Flipping the classroom
- Federal Work-study
- Communities of learning
- Lecture series



# Classroom Mechanisms

- Searching the primary literature (e.g., [www.teachCREATE.org](http://www.teachCREATE.org))
- Stimulating attitudes of inquiry with problem-based learning (e.g., [www.sigmaxi.org](http://www.sigmaxi.org))
- Cooperative learning and lab-based projects (e.g., [www.merlot.org](http://www.merlot.org))
- Field work, field trips, student abroad
- Debate
- Composition, performance, creative writing, media production
- Posters, presentations, peer-review
- Peer-mentoring
- Responsible conduct, philosophy of science, research methods, safety, IRB

# Methods of Assessment

- Testing process knowledge rather than content knowledge (fluid vs. crystalized intelligence)
- In-class
  - Originality
  - Topical
  - Acceptable methods
  - Experimental design, statistical analysis, and interpretation
- Out-of class
  - Classroom presentations
  - Local conferences
  - National conferences
  - Undergraduate research journals
  - Peer-reviewed journals



# Classroom Project

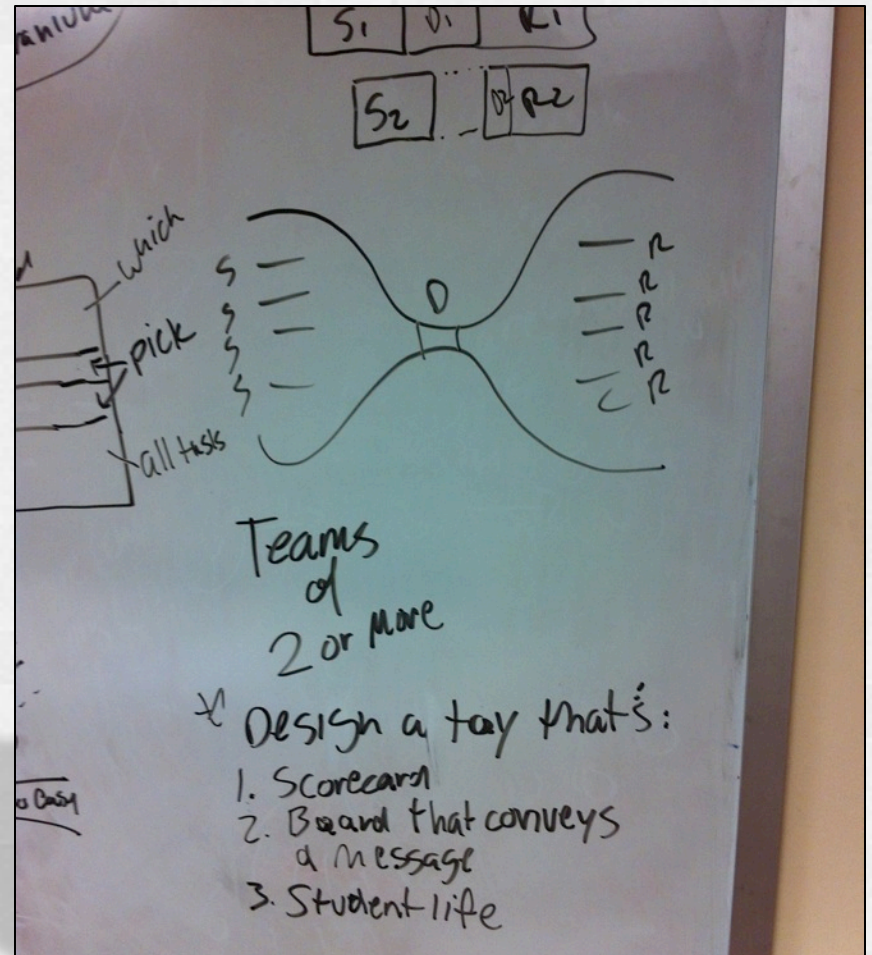
- Flipped classroom with just-in-time instruction
- Start with low-stakes lab assignments to build design skills and problem solving.
- 9-week group project, and 9-week individual project.
- Replace your classroom paper with a game-based learning project, where students design a game, collect data, analyze data, and report outcomes in class.
- Encourage the best students to present work at local and national conferences.

# Laboratory Research

- Adopt SCRUM
- Small teams are generally stronger than individuals
- Use a syllabus with production milestones
- Ideally, project management falls in the hands of the student (use Blackboard)
- Allow them to carry the ball as far as they can, but provide instruction and support as needed
- User guided tutorials (e.g., Unity3d or Lynda.com)
- Open-source software or freeware

# Our Process

- Iterative Design
  - Brainstorming
  - Paper prototypes
  - Digital prototypes
- Machinations
- UML
- OOP in Flash or Unity3d



# Our Process

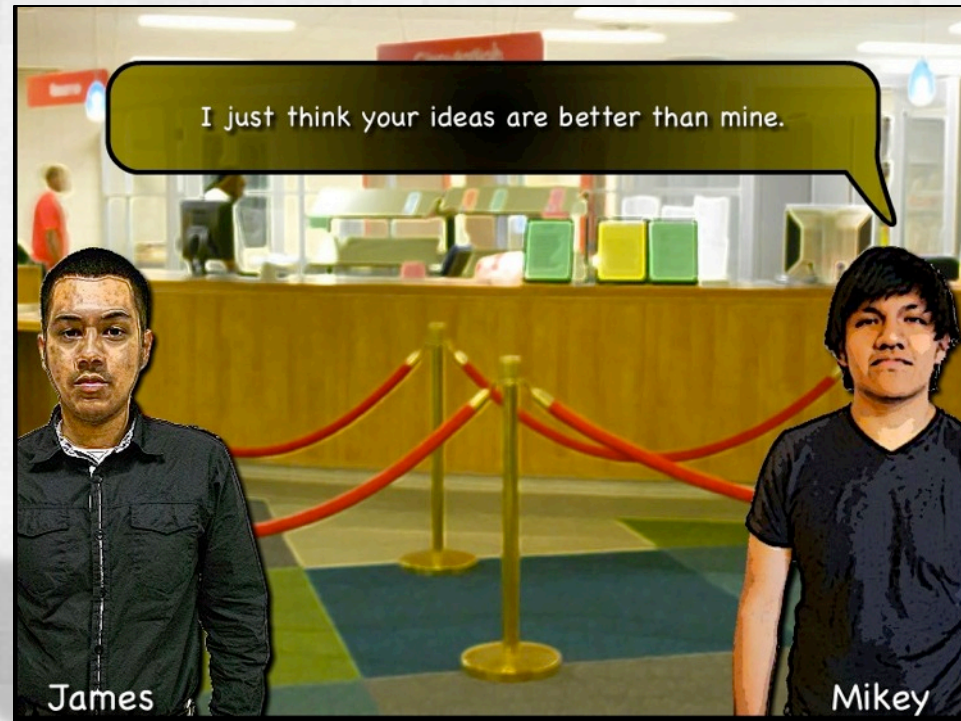
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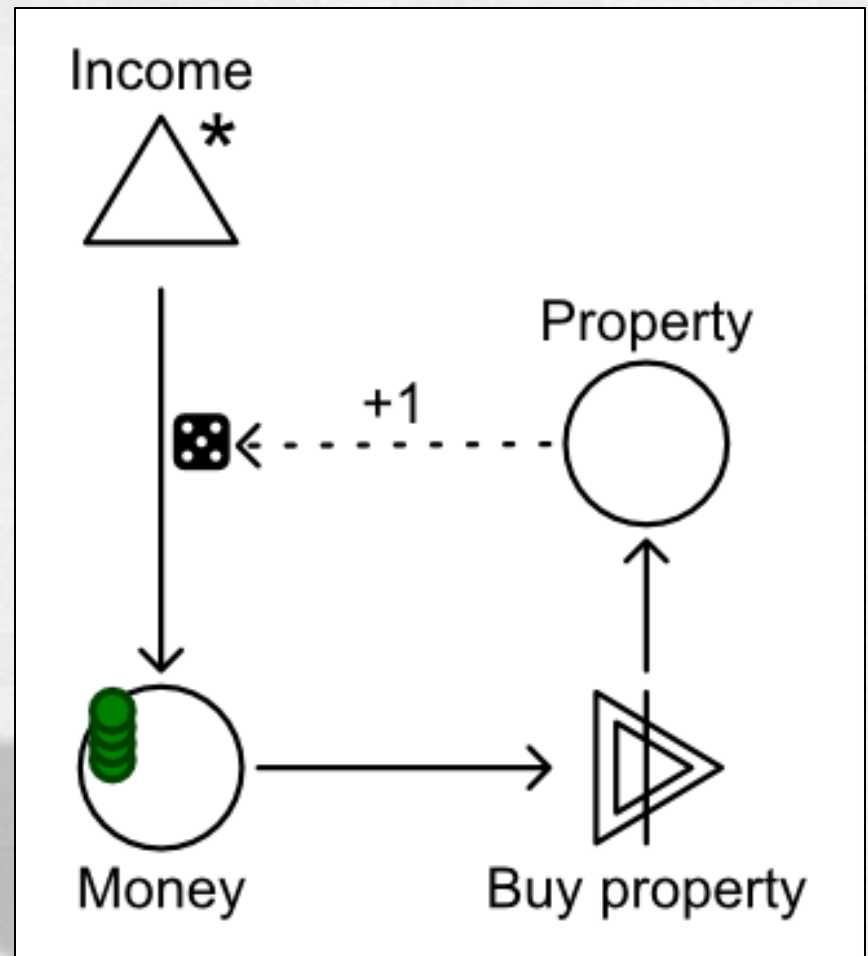
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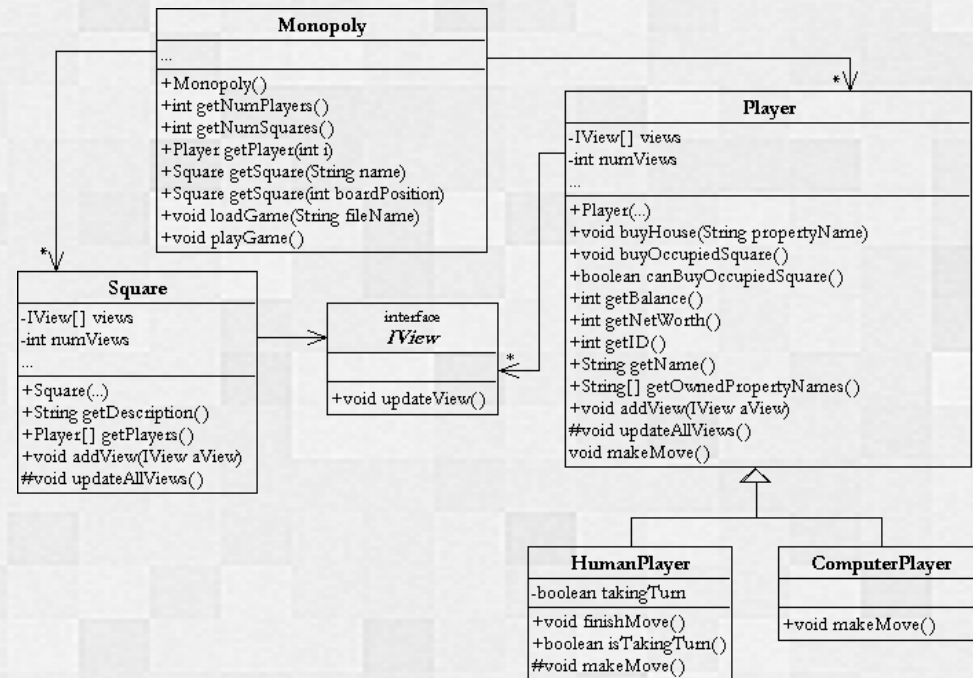
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- **Machinations**
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# Our Process

- Iterative Design
  - Brainstorming
  - Paper prototypes
  - Digital prototypes
- Machinations
- UML
- OOP in Flash or Unity3d (using C# so students learn a real language).

```
pos[i] = 0;

for (int n = 1; n <= rolls; n++)
{
    for (int p = 0; p < players; p++)
    {
        lblRoll.Text = "Dice Roll: " + n + "/" + rolls;
        lblRoll.Update();

        pos[p] += RollDice();
        if (pos[p] >= 40)
            pos[p] -= 40;
        switch (pos[p])
        {
            case 2:
            case 17:
            case 33:
                board[pos[p]]++;
                pos[p] = DrawCommunityChest(pos[p]);
                break;
            case 7:
            case 22:
            case 36:
                board[pos[p]]++;
                pos[p] = DrawChance(pos[p]);
                break;
            case 30:
                board[pos[p]]++;
                pos[p] = 10;
                board[pos[p]]++;
                break;
            default:
```

# **GALLERY**

FUNCTION

Olfactory

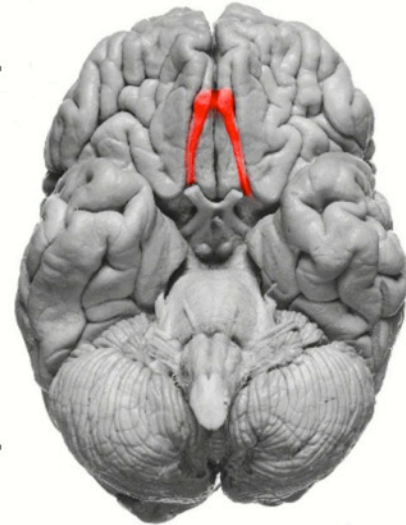


Olfactory

FUNCTION

STRUCTURE

Cranial Nerve 1



Cranial Nerve 1

STRUCTURE

## P.T.S.D.

Disabling anxiety, nightmares, or flashbacks after a traumatic event.



+1 Card  
+2 Actions

\$2

## Exposure

Facing your phobia by desensitizing yourself to the situation.



+2 Copper +1 Buy  
Helps Specific Phobia, Social Anxiety, Agoraphobia, and Panic Attacks

\$1

Pen: ● ● ●

Color: ■

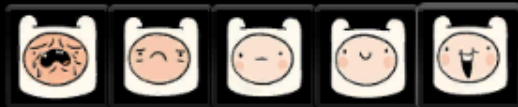
ISKETCH

Trial: 4/60

Beach



Rating (1=Bad & 5=Good)



For educational use only



We're actually interested in learning more about affective disorders. Any objections?



James



Mikey

I disliked their behavior, but I went there during the busiest day of the semester.



Jeff



Michelle



PLAYER 1  
Round: 2/2  
Wins: 0  
Property: 1  
Assets:  
\$100k

CURRENT CHALLENGE  
Highest: Polyunsaturated Fat  
Lowest: Total Fat

PLAYER 2  
Round: 2/2  
Wins: 0  
Property: 1  
Assets:  
\$200k

### Nutrition Facts

#### USDA CMDTY

Calories	129
Total Fat	7%
Saturated	6%
Monounsaturated	2g
Polyunsaturated	1g
Cholesterol	22%
Sodium	10%
Carbohydrates	0%
Dietary Fiber	0%
Sugars	0g
Protein	44%

### Nutrition Facts

#### GUAVA SAUCE

Calories	36
Total Fat	0%
Saturated	0%
Monounsaturated	0g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	0%
Sodium	0%
Carbohydrates	3%
Dietary Fiber	14%
Sugars	6g
Protein	1%

### Nutrition Facts

#### PREGOPASTA

Calories	69
Total Fat	4%
Saturated	0%
Monounsaturated	0g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	0%
Sodium	15%
Carbohydrates	3%
Dietary Fiber	9%
Sugars	8g
Protein	3%

### Nutrition Facts

#### TORTELLINI

Calories	307
Total Fat	11%
Saturated	18%
Monounsaturated	2g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	14%
Sodium	17%
Carbohydrates	16%
Dietary Fiber	8%
Sugars	1g
Protein	27%

### Nutrition Facts

#### USDA BF PATTIES

Calories	204
Total Fat	24%
Saturated	32%
Monounsaturated	7g
Polyunsaturated	1g
Cholesterol	18%
Sodium	3%
Carbohydrates	0%
Dietary Fiber	0%
Sugars	0g
Protein	29%

PLAYER 1  
Round: 2/2  
Wins: 0  
Property: 1  
Assets:  
\$100k

CURRENT CHALLENGE  
Highest: Dietary Fiber  
Lowest: Total Fat

PLAYER 2  
Round: 2/2  
Wins: 0  
Property: 1  
Assets:  
\$200k

### Nutrition Facts

#### GRILLD CHS

Calories	493
Total Fat	37%
Saturated	30%
Monounsaturated	5g
Polyunsaturated	11g
Cholesterol	1%
Sodium	38%
Carbohydrates	21%
Dietary Fiber	5%
Sugars	13g
Protein	16%

### Nutrition Facts

#### BOYSENBERRIES

Calories	88
Total Fat	0%
Saturated	0%
Monounsaturated	0g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	0%
Sodium	0%
Carbohydrates	7%
Dietary Fiber	10%
Sugars	0g
Protein	2%

### Nutrition Facts

#### BEEF RND FULL

Calories	235
Total Fat	20%
Saturated	24%
Monounsaturated	6g
Polyunsaturated	1g
Cholesterol	26%
Sodium	3%
Carbohydrates	0%
Dietary Fiber	0%
Sugars	0g
Protein	55%

### Nutrition Facts

#### CHICK GUMBO

Calories	48
Total Fat	1%
Saturated	2%
Monounsaturated	0g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	1%
Sodium	29%
Carbohydrates	3%
Dietary Fiber	3%
Sugars	2g
Protein	3%

### Nutrition Facts

#### CHICK BRST

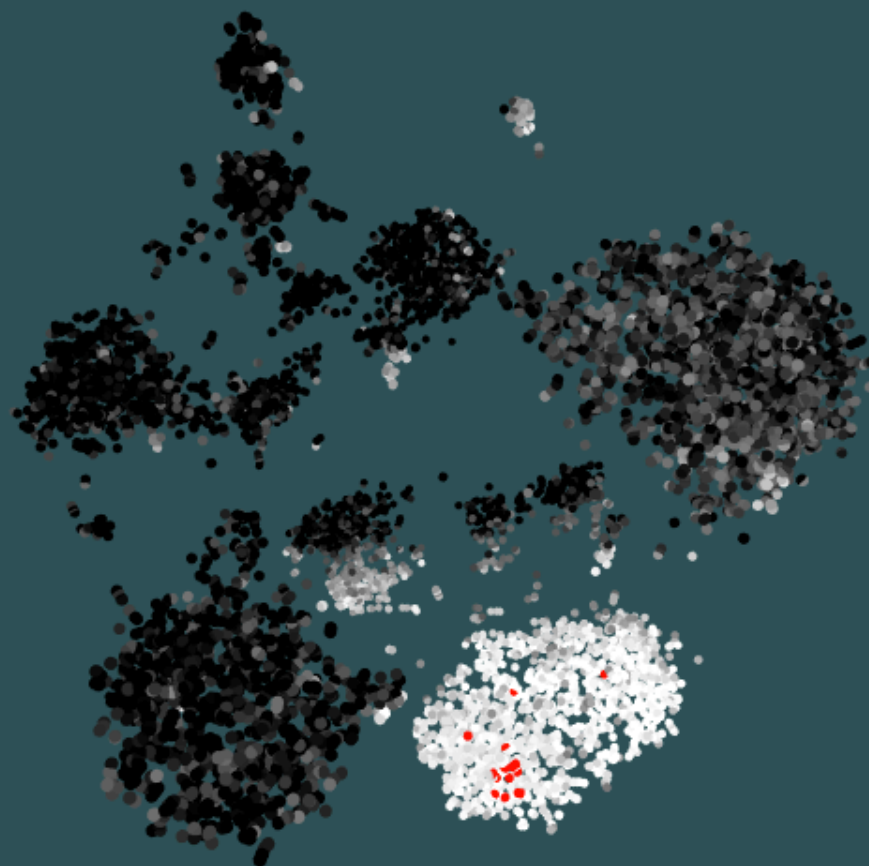
Calories	109
Total Fat	2%
Saturated	2%
Monounsaturated	1g
Polyunsaturated	0g
Cholesterol	18%
Sodium	60%
Carbohydrates	1%
Dietary Fiber	0%
Sugars	4g
Protein	40%

CYT\_SuppData4

Dendritic Cell

Present

146-CD8



Data Value  
5.61

tSNE Viewer  
A/D to Scroll

# Resources

1. Hensel, N. (Ed.). (2012). *Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research*. Washington, DC: The Council on Undergraduate Research. Retrieved from: [http://www.cur.org/assets/1/23/COEUR\\_final.pdf](http://www.cur.org/assets/1/23/COEUR_final.pdf)
2. Karukstis, K.K. & Elgren, T.E. (2007). Developing and sustaining a research-supportive curriculum: A compendium of successful practices. Washington, DC: The Council on Undergraduate Research.
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