

## ITLS 4410 Intro to eSports Syllabus

### Course Description

This online course provides an introduction to Esports. The focus of the course is on learning the Esports Foundations, the professional lifestyle of the players, how streaming works, and the current status of the industry. In this course, students will not only learn about the esports industry, they will also engage in the play experience and get a deeper insight into the esports ecosystem. In the course, students will play esports games as gamers but will also look at the experience as designers and critical thinkers.

### Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Define eSports and understand its ecosystem.
- Learn how to Gear Up to Play.
- Define and discover MOBA, RTS, and FPS games.
- Explore options for sports simulations.
- Shuffle through the world of virtual card games.
- Discover places to compete in eSports online.
- Learn about the path to pro in professional eSports.
- Explore the jobs involved in the eSports ecosystem.
- Craft an identity as a live streamer.

### Instructor

Tanner Timothy

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(<mailto:ramy.shaaban@usu.edu>),

### Course Resources

You will be required to purchase one of the eSports games like League of Legends. Please note that some titles are available for free on PC or Mac devices.

You will not be required to purchase textbooks, but you are required to complete the reading materials posted each week on Canvas.

This course is in person with assignments being turned in via Canvas. Canvas is USU's learning management system and the place where you have most of your classes (<http://usu.instructure.com>). It is very important to access canvas and your email frequently during the semester. You will have access to the course materials upon registration and successful enrollment to the course.

Weekly online materials include online readings, active class discussions, and weekly assignments. All assignments will be submitted through Canvas course site. You are expected to be proficient in the use of Canvas.

## Evaluation Methods and Criteria

Below are the assignments you need to complete throughout the semester:

### **Weekly Discussions (10X25)**

On Monday of each week, I will post an online discussion. You should post your answer and read your classmates ones. You also have to reply on your classmates' answers. At least two replies are required to complete the assignment. The discussion assignment will be due the following Sunday before midnight.

### **Biweekly Writing Assignments (5X50)**

Every two weeks, you will be given a writing assignment. Two pages are the minimum requirement for this assignment. You have to follow the APA style in your writing. More information about APA style can be obtained through this link: <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/> (<https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/>)

### **In person Attendance (14 X 20)**

In person attendance is a major part of this course. A good portion of your grade will come from simply showing up to class on the assigned day. These can be made up through attending USU Esports events.

### **Final Project (220)**

During the semester, you are going to build a portfolio of blogs reviewing videogames you play and reflecting on different experience you got. Details and the rubric for this project will be forthcoming. You are going to submit this project at the end of the semester.

### **BONUS**

Each assignment will have bonus points determined by the instructor. The maximum amount of the bonus is 100 points throughout the whole class period. The bonus will be awarded to those who illustrate high creativity and hard working. Like I do in my other classes I will be offering make up opportunities for attendance. For every USU Esports club event you attend (an intramural, social, competitive match, etc...) that you have proof of attending I will use to make an absence from the class.

### **GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

Weekly Discussions (10X25)

Biweekly Writing Assignments (5X50)

In Person Attendance (14 X 20)

Final Project (220)

**Total (1000)**

**Bonus (100)**

# Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

Grade	Range
A	100 % to 93.0%
A-	< 93.0 % to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 % to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 % to 83.0%
B-	< 83.0 % to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 % to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 % to 73.0%
C-	< 73.0 % to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 % to 67.0%
D	< 67.0 % to 60.0%
F	< 59.0 % to 0.0%

## Attendance and Excused Absences Policy

All students are expected to read/watch/listen to all the posted materials. This is mandatory. Missing a module will result in the loss of 10 points from the student's final grade. You are expected to complete the online readings on time and submitting assignments by their due dates. Not all excuses will be accepted. Acceptable excuses will be determined by the instructor according to the situation. Circumstances that will grant an excused absence are shown below. If the excuse is accepted, the student is still expected to complete their readings/ assignments when they are back from the excused absence.

Late work will be accepted with a 10 point penalty for every day after it is turned in. Each student gets an exemption to this rule 1 time during the semester in which I will accept late work for full credit.

## Library Services

All USU students attending classes in Logan, at our Regional Campuses, or online can access all databases, e-journals, and e-books regardless of location. Additionally, the library will mail printed books to students, at no charge to them. Students can also borrow books from any Utah academic library. Take advantage of all library services and learn more at [libguides.usu.edu/rc](http://libguides.usu.edu/rc). (<http://libguides.usu.edu/rc>)

# Syllabus Review

This syllabus may go under several reviews and modifications during the semester. The reviews will aim to insure achieving the objectives of the class. All modifications should be in favor of students' learning process. The instructor must discuss these modifications with students prior to implementation, making sure those modifications are understandable and applicable.

## Classroom Civility

Utah State University supports the principle of freedom of expression for both faculty and students. The University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Read Student Code Article V Section V-3 (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article5>) for more information.

## University Policies & Procedures

### Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy #403 (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/403/>) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.

### Academic Integrity – "The Honor System"

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

*"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."*

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

### Academic Dishonesty

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University's Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating:** using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity. Unauthorized assistance includes:
  - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done "individually;"
  - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
  - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;

- Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
- Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.
- **Falsification:** altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
- **Plagiarism:** representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

For additional information go to: ARTICLE VI. University Regulations Regarding Academic Integrity  
(<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article6>)

## Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

### General Overview

USU strives to provide an environment for students and employees that is free from discrimination (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/non-discrimination>) and sexual misconduct (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/Sexual-Misconduct-Terms>). If you experience sexual misconduct or discrimination at any point during the semester inside or outside of class, you are encouraged to contact the USU Title IX Coordinator via Distance Education room 400 in Logan, 435-797-1266, [titleix@usu.edu](mailto:titleix@usu.edu) (<mailto:titleix@usu.edu>), or at [equity.usu.edu/report](https://www.usu.edu/equity/report) (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/report>). You can learn more about the USU resources available for individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct at [sexualrespect.usu.edu](https://www.usu.edu/sexual-respect/) (<https://www.usu.edu/sexual-respect/>). Resources for individuals who have experienced discrimination are listed at [equity.usu.edu/resources](https://www.usu.edu/equity/resources) (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/resources>).

### Required Reporting of Sexual Misconduct

The instructor is designated by USU as a "reporting employee (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/employees#reporting>)."

This means that if you share information about sexual misconduct (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/Sexual-Misconduct-Terms>) (sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, sexual assault, relationship violence, or sex-based stalking) with the instructor, they *will report* that information to the USU Title IX Coordinator. The instructor is also required to tell you about designated confidential resources (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/sexual-misconduct/confidential-resources>), supportive measures (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/Supportive-Measures>), and how you can file a report (<https://www.usu.edu/equity/report>) with the USU Title IX Coordinator.

## Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

## Students with Disabilities

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (<http://www.usu.edu/drc/>) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, (435) 797-2444, [drc@usu.edu](mailto:drc@usu.edu) (<mailto:drc@usu.edu>)). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

Students who are at a higher risk for complications from COVID-19 or who contract COVID-19 may also be eligible for accommodations.

## Respect for Diversity

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact:

- Division of Student Affairs: <https://studentaffairs.usu.edu> (<https://studentaffairs.usu.edu/>), (435) 797-1712, [studentservices@usu.edu](mailto:studentservices@usu.edu) (<mailto:studentservices@usu.edu>), TSC 220
- Student Legal Services: <https://www.usu.edu/involvement/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services> (<https://www.usu.edu/involvement/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services>), (435) 797-2912, TSC 326,
- Access and Diversity: <https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/> (<https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/>), (435) 797-1728, [access@usu.edu](mailto:access@usu.edu) (<mailto:access@usu.edu>); TSC 315
- Multicultural Programs: <https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/programs/multicultural/> (<https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/programs/multicultural/>), (435) 797-1728, TSC 315
- LGBTQA Programs: <https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/programs/lgbtplus-and-allies/> (<https://www.usu.edu/inclusion/programs/lgbtplus-and-allies/>), (435) 797-1728, TSC 3145
- Provost's Office Diversity Resources: <https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity> (<https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity/>), (435) 797-8176

You can learn about your student rights by visiting:

The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University: <https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode> (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/>)

## Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: Article VII (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article7>).

## Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:

- Student Conduct (<http://www.usu.edu/studentconduct>)
- Student Code (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/>)
- Academic Integrity (<https://www.usu.edu/student-conduct/student-code/article6>)
- USU Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=38&navoid=28932>)
- Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility Policy (<https://www.usu.edu/policies/403/>)

## Emergency Procedures

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building by the sound of the fire/emergency alarm system or by a building representative. In the event of a disaster that may interfere with either notification, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., in an earthquake when shaking ceases or immediately when a fire is discovered). Turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs.

## General Health Protocols

The cold, flu, COVID-19, and other illnesses can have an impact on the health of our university community. USU welcomes the wearing of masks in all university buildings and encourages taking measures to mitigate risk as recommended by federal and state public health officials: getting vaccinated, staying home if you are sick (even with mild symptoms), and frequent hand washing.

## Mental Health

Mental health is critically important for the success of USU students. As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. Utah State University provides

free services for students to assist them with addressing these and other concerns. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (<https://counseling.usu.edu>).

Students are also encouraged to download the “SafeUT App” (<https://safeut.org/>) to their smartphones. The SafeUT application is a 24/7 statewide crisis text and tip service that provides real-time crisis intervention to students through texting and a confidential tip program that can help anyone with emotional crises, bullying, relationship problems, mental health, or suicide related issues.