

**Subject:** Re: UX Certificate Program

**Date:** Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 12:13:22 PM Pacific Standard Time

**From:** Paul Sottosanti

**To:** Lindsey Latiolais

**CC:** Venus Nguyen

Certainly! Based on my experience in the games industry I believe that these proposed courses would definitely be materially useful to someone who is looking to get hired as a junior UX designer.

Take care,  
Paul

On Fri, Nov 15, 2024 at 11:23 AM Lindsey Latiolais <[latiolais@cocc.edu](mailto:latiolais@cocc.edu)> wrote:

Hey Paul,

Would you be able to review the following classes for the proposed UX certificate by Monday?

I just need a statement that you believe they would be materially useful to people looking to get hired in a junior UX role.

Outlined below are the course we're submitting that will be just for the certificate; students will also be taking a class on creating vector art and basic 2-D design (harmony, balance, etc.).

DSGN 103 - UX Research Methods: Introduces students to methods for understanding their user in order to guide their design decisions. Emphasizes how to conduct user research using different research methodologies, the design of studies and interviews, and how to analyze research and present research findings. Teaches the fundamentals of user research methodologies.

DSGN 104 - UX Design Principles: Introduces the fundamental design principles of User Experience (UX). Emphasizes how to analyze and apply principles to UX design. Builds on concepts from UX Research Methods.

DSGN 202 User Interface Design - Introduces professional techniques for generating UI designs and workflows for a design. Covers visual and workflow problem solving and the process of creating component libraries, screen layouts, and using industry standard software (Figma) to create a design.

DSGN 203 - Usability Testing - Introduces the concept of usability testing for UI design. Emphasizes how to plan, create, and complete a usability study.

DSGN 297UX Capstone Project: UX/UI - Provides advanced, individualized development in UX design. Develop two new features to add to the project started in DSGN 203. Provides opportunity for creating an app with multiple features, iterative development, and final presentation.

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), One Year Certificate of Completion . As someone who is passionate about UX/UI as a career pathway and visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make a real impact in our community.

A problem is faced in Central Oregon is a targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher ed for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level UX Designer or UI Researcher This has a negative impact on our community since talented designers have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need and often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions very challenging that needs attention and action.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in Central Oregon with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the development of the two additional certificates: Photography/Videography and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum that she had developed with the help of Lindsey Latiolais, industry professionals, and by doing the research to create a targeted, industry specific certificate, at a fraction of the cost that a UX/UI Bootcamp is, will truly make a real impact in the community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. The statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 22% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring designers looking to pursue jobs in a creative field without leaving our community. If these education pathways can be successfully implement at the community college level, the barriers would be removed for some student demographics in the pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe that Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design department is a positive, accessible solution for a need in the community. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community and Venus and Lindsey have the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of the community and the students that want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

Paul Sorrosanti, Video/Board Game Designer  
[[futureyegg@gmail.com](mailto:futureyegg@gmail.com), +1 (206) 419-4827

Dear COCC Academic Affairs,

I am writing in support of Venus Nguyen, Art & Design Program Director, and her proposed Photography/Videography One Year Certificate of Completion . As someone who is passionate about photography as a career pathway and a form of visual communication, I believe that a one-year certificate of completion has the potential to make a real impact in our community.

A problem we face in Central Oregon is an targeted, accessible, educational pathway in higher education for students to get the education they need to be successful as an entry level photographer/videographer. This has a negative impact on our community since talented artists have to leave Central Oregon to get the education they need and often do not return. This issue makes hiring for these positions very challenging that needs attention and action.

Fortunately, Venus has been addressing this issue in our community with the development of the two current one-year certificates in Graphic Design and Illustration and I support the expansion of these creative, high-need pathways with the development of the two additional certificates: Photography/Videography and User Experience and Interface (UX/UI), respectively. The curriculum that she had developed with the help of the Art & Design faculty, industry professionals, and by doing the research to condense a bachelor's level degree into a targeted, industry specific certificate will truly make a real impact in our community.

The potential impact of this project is significant. The statistics show that growth in these careers is up to 15% over the next 10 years. By being on the forefront of this movement, COCC will be fulfilling a need for the state as well as responding to aspiring artists looking to pursue their dream jobs, in a creative field without leaving our community. If we can successfully implement these educational pathways at the community college level, we remove the barrier that some student demographics have in the pursuit of these jobs.

I strongly believe that Venus and the additional certificates being proposed in the Art & Design department is a positive, accessible solution for a need in our community. COCC has a proven track record of success in the implementation of career, technical education in the community and Venus has the experience and expertise to build and support these programs with excellence.

Thank you for considering this certificate proposal. Your support will make a meaningful difference in the lives of our community and the students that want to stay in Central Oregon for their education and career in creative fields.

Martin Sundberg  
Photographer and Video Director

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