

Extended Realities or XR has become a staple field of interest over the last decade. It has infiltrated our homes, businesses and has become an everyday component of education at many different levels. While there is still a lot of skepticism around the value of this technology, curiosity by many has allowed for different disciplines to engage through it. Its novelty has instigated new questions, spawned new methods of co-creation, and has forced anyone working with it to move beyond the safety of tacit knowledge and find new answers through broader collaborations.

The course is an introduction to the use of XR in a design profession. Using a variety of tools (Arkio, Unity) that focus on virtual reality, the course will allow students to engage the technology for research, testing and documentation. Folded into the MWell research project, the work developed will study the design of health-care spaces. Within this space we are interested in enhancing patient-provider relationships, effective communication and encourageing sacred moments. Students will develop research as the visuospatial liaisons bringing a specific and critical body of knowledge based on design thinking for the envisioning and shaping of a patient care room. The seminar will be completed in parallel to a course from the School of Nursing. The objective is to allow architecture students and nursing students to share knowledge and experience specific to their respective disciplines as a way to question known methods and foster non-traditional outcomes for working in and designing co-creatively.