CISC 3667 - Game Design and Development

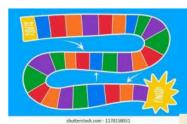
**Group Project 1: Race to the End!** 

**Objective:** Design a simple "race-to-the-end" board game prototype in small groups (4 students each)

#### Step 1: Draw a Path

- Create a race track/path with a start and an end.
- o Shape can be linear, branching, or looping.





# • Step 2: Theme / Objective / Narrative

- Decide what players are racing toward or away from.
- Examples:
  - Catching/getting away from robbers (bank heist)
  - Escaping captivity ("freedom from X")
  - Reaching the pot of gold
  - Reaching the top of the corporate ladder

### • Step 3: Movement

- Decide how players move:
  - Dice roll
  - Drawing cards
  - Answering trivia questions

- Skill-based task
- Everyone moves together
- Decide on end condition: exact landing vs. overshoot allowed vs. special win condition.

#### • Step 4: Conflict

- Decide how players interact:
  - Speeding/slowing others
  - Swapping places
  - Blocking
  - Losing turns / gaining extra turns

#### • Step 5: Playtest & Iterate

- Quick playtest in class with another group.
- Document at least one design change made based on feedback.

## **Assignment (Group Report + Reflection)**

- Each group submits a short write-up (2–3 pages or equivalent slides) including:
  - The Game Itself
  - Path sketch (photo or digital drawing)
  - Theme/objective
  - Movement mechanic & end condition
  - Conflict rules
  - Iteration log: change made after playtesting, and why
  - Theoretical Analysis:
    - Is your game a "game" according to at least two of the four definitions (Maroney, McGonigal, Schell, Crawford)?
    - Identify at least two different Types of Fun (LeBlanc) your game can evoke, with justification.
    - Identify at least one Bartle Player Type who would enjoy your game, and why.

Submit your group report to Brightspace; only one member from each group is required to submit, and each member of the group is required to complete the following reflection form: <a href="https://forms.gle/f7QyHgnHjqP6hhD96">https://forms.gle/f7QyHgnHjqP6hhD96</a>

#### **Grade Breakdown (100 points total)**

#### Group Report (70 pts total, submitted once per group)

#### 1. The Game Itself (30 pts)

- Path sketch (clear, creative, playable) 10 pts
- Theme/objective (coherent, engaging) **5 pts**
- Movement mechanic & end condition (clear, workable, interesting) − 5 pts
- Conflict rules (how do players interact with each other?) 5 pts
- Iteration log (documented change after playtest, with reasoning) 5 pts

#### 2. Theoretical Analysis (30 pts)

- Application of at least two "What is a game?" definitions (accurate, thoughtful) – 10 pts
- Identification of at least two Types of Fun (with justification) 10 pts
- Identification of at least one Bartle Player Type (with explanation) 10 pts

#### 3. Completeness, Clarity, & Organization (10 pts)

- Report is 2–3 pages or slides equivalent
- Writing/presentation is clear, organized, and easy to follow
- All required parts are present

#### Individual Reflection Form (30 pts total, submitted by each student)

- Personal contribution clearly described 10 pts
- Collaboration reflection (positive example + handling of disagreement) 5 pts
- Game design reflection (strengths, weaknesses, possible improvements) 5 pts
- Theory reflection (Types of Fun experienced + Bartle Type alignment) 5 pts
- Learning reflection (about game design + about self as collaborator) 5 pts

# ▼ Final Notes for Students

- Everyone in the group gets the same **Group Report score** (70 pts).
- Each student's **Individual Reflection (30 pts)** is graded separately.
- Total = **100 points**.