



GAME DESIGN DOCUMENT

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INTRODUCTION

Alloy: Athena is an Xbox 360 Community Game developed by Xander Davis.

HIGH CONCEPT

Monsters versus Mechs! 4-Player Online Co-Op!

GAME PREMISE SUMMARY

ALLOY: ATHENA

After the forces of Ancient Greece barely survived a small alien invasion, the recovered technology changed humanity's path forever. Now, centuries later, the aliens have returned in larger numbers, but the great Empire of Athens is ready. You and your mech infantry, the ALLOY, will not only fight for survival, but also discover the secrets behind the invasion of Earth.

PUBLISHING PLATFORM

XBOX LIVE COMMUNITY GAMES

The Flash game franchise will be distributed through XBOX LIVE COMMUNITY GAMES.

See also [XNA Creators Club Online](#).

PROCESS

1. Pre-Production
 - Establish Team
 - Brainstorm Ideas
2. High Concept
 - Determine Project
 - Establish Art Direction
3. Design Document



- Develop Design
 - Create World Map
- 4. Prototype/Demo
 - Establish Technology
 - Establish Tools
- 5. Production
 - Create Levels
 - Create Art Assets
 - Add Features
 - Revise Content
- 6. Alpha
 - Improve Content
 - Replace Art Assets
 - Fix Problems
- 7. Beta
 - Fix Problems
- 8. Final Candidate
 - Publish to XNA Community
 - Fix Major Problems
 - XNA Approves Game
- 9. Gold Master
 - Publish to Community Games

TEAM

PROJECT LEAD

Xander Davis

DESIGN

Xander Davis

PROGRAMMING

Spencer Putt

Xander Davis

WRITING

Xander Davis

STORY

Xander Davis

SCENARIO DESIGN

Xander Davis

ART

Xander Davis

COVER ARTIST

Name Here



SOUND DESIGN

Xander Davis
Iohann M. Miller

MUSIC

Francois Jolin

VOICE RECORDING DIRECTOR

Xander Davis

VOICE ACTING

- Name Here as Plato
- Name Here as Socrates
- Name Here as Aristotle

INTERNAL QA

Xander Davis
Spencer Putt
Brian Watts
Lauryl King
Shelby Putt

COMMUNITY MANAGER

The Flashy Man
(Brian Watts)

GAMEPLAY

Solo

The game can be played solo. This will require the player to be a Warrior-class mech. Game difficulty will be scaled back to balance appropriately for one player, while still providing that single player a challenging and manageable experience.

Team Based 4-Player Co-Op

4 Mech Types:

WARRIOR:

Main offense: machine gun, grenades

COLOSSUS:

Support offense, heavy weapons: missiles, flame thrower

GUARDIAN:

Heals team shields & can make self and target invincible

SPECTRE:

Sneak behind enemy lines using cloak, take down enemies by surprise

Competitive Stat Tracking

The game will track statistics on each player's performance and then make them available to see at any time by the press of a button or at the end of each level. This offers an incentive for players to play and get better at playing.

"Badges"

Virtual achievements (since Community Games can't award achievements). These badges recognize performance accomplishments and save the awards to the user saved-game data for tracking. No points can be awarded, but it offers a nice gameplay mechanic for recognizing performance.

CONTROLS

- **LEFT STICK** = Movement
- **RIGHT STICK** = Look
- **RIGHT TRIGGER** = 1st Fire
- **LEFT TRIGGER** = 2nd Fire
- **RIGHT BUMPER** = Swap 2nd Weapon
- **LEFT BUMPER** = RollerThrust
- **D-PAD UP** = Map Overlay
- **X** = Quick Boost
- **A** = Action
- **B** = Cancel
- **Y** =
- **Start** = Menu
- **Back** = Exit Game

TIMELINE

-2810 DC
(3300 BCE)

Alien ship, severely damaged from attacks, makes a crash landing in Greece, at what will become the Acropolis ("high city"). Its crew awaits rescue and goes into hiding. Rescue, however, never arrives.

-2710 DC
(3200 BCE)



Humans overrun the ship and kill its crew. They build a hill-fort around the ship, establishing Athens, a city meant to keep the ship secret.

**-2000 DC
(2490 BCE)**

Athens brings the sharpest minds from the corners of their known world to the ship, trying to activate its onboard Archive. They realize they are missing a central component, which they are incapable of finding or replacing.

**-910 DC
(1400 BCE)**

Athens becomes an important center of the Mycenaean civilization, as top leaders of the region know it is in possession of the ship.

**-60 DC
(550 BCE)**

The Temple of Olympian Zues was constructed by the tyrant Pisistratus to provide a place to secretly reverse-engineer alien technology from the crashed ship. The temple was not completed when Pisistratus was overthrown in 510 BC.

**1 DC
(490 BCE)**

Miltiades leads Athenian forces into a clash against the invading Persians, guided by King Darius, at the Battle of Marathon. During the battle, aliens invade the battlefield, taking prisoners. While the aliens attack both the Athenians and the Persians, more attention is placed on attacking the Persians. Most Persians were wiped out, while a handful of Athenians managed to slay several aliens and escape the battlefield alive. After the aliens move on, Miltiades orders his soldiers to recover slain alien bodies and their technology, which would be studied back in Athens. Miltiades captures one living alien, returning it to Athens as a prisoner of war for interrogation. The interrogations go nowhere, but the alien is kept in isolation, alive.

**10 DC
(480 BCE)**

Because Persia has the greatest army in the region, the aliens have inferred that they are in possession of the Archive. They launch a massive offensive against the entire Persian army. Xerxes abandons all campaigns against Greece to defend his might, believing he is being challenged by the gods themselves. Xerxes, megalomaniacal, accepts this challenge against impossible odds, believing himself a god. Meanwhile, Athens was hard at work learning how the aliens functioned and how Attica might stand a chance against them.

**15 DC
(475 BCE)**

Cimon of Athens identifies Theseus in a coffin.

**21 DC
(469 BCE)**

Socrates is born.

**30 DC
(460 BCE)**

The aliens finish off the Persian Empire, capturing Xerxes and torturing him for the location of the Archive. Out of desperation during the torture, Xerxes says the Archive is in Europa, a complete lie. The aliens put Xerxes in cryo-stasis.

31 DC**(459 BCE)**

The aliens launch a massive invasion into Europa, unwittingly following Xerxes' lies. Completely unprepared, Europa quickly begins to fall.

37 DC**(453 BCE)**

In Athens, a young Socrates offers his assistance to the Assembly, proposing unique and groundbreaking ideas about the aliens. His philosophies and prophecies were not viewed as heresy, as they might have been. Out of fear, the Assembly rejected notions of their flawed traditions and old ways of thinking, instead embracing Socrates. They began to desperately rely on his unique viewpoint, in hopes of surviving the same deadly and grotesque fate as the far larger Persian Empire.

40 DC**(450 BCE)**

The Assembly of Athens voted to create a new calendar based on the first invasion at the Battle of Marathon, establishing Year One of the Delian Calendar for that event. The Battle of Marathon was selected to define year one, because that was the year the open world learned of the existence of aliens. The Assembly viewed it as the day humanity entered a new era, where war had put them onto a now cosmic battlefield. The crash of the alien ship or the establishment of the hill-fort around it were not selected, mainly because their exact dates were not known.

41 DC**(449 BCE)**

Construction begins on the Temple of Hephaestus and Athena Ergane, also known as Hephaisteion or Theseion. Officially, it was a treasury. Unofficially, it was to be an alien prison in the secret bunker below.

43 DC**(447 BCE)**

Construction begins on the Temple of Athena, later known as the Parthenon. Officially, it was to be used as a treasury for the Delian League, and eventually the Athens Empire. Unofficially, it was a laboratory to decipher alien technology. The Assembly had already decided that Socrates would be posted there, in charge of the entire laboratory.

50 DC**(440 BCE)**

Socrates manages to finally communicate with the alien prisoner through telepathy. Through these conversations, he discovers the secrets behind the carcasses of the aliens, unlocking a great technology for Athens. Men become known as "scientists", working to reverse engineer this technology under Socrates' guidance.

52 DC**(438 BCE)**

Socrates leads a division within the Athenian military to force the prisoner to help them reverse-engineer alien technology. Plans to begin building alien-inspired weapons are set in motion.

53 DC**(437 BCE)**

Against the pleas from Athens and other Attica neighbors, the tempered army of Sparta sends its full military into the southern borders of Europa, where the alien forces had set up camps in their campaign to find the Archive. Several aliens are slain, but the entire Spartan army is eradicated and consumed.

59 DC**(431 BCE)**



The Temple of Athena was completed. Socrates was immediately posted there, in the secret underground bunkers below the temple. He began directing efforts to invent new Athenian technology based on alien technology.

63 DC

(427 BCE)

Plato is born.

67 DC

(423 BCE)

Europa human civilization has been completely wiped out by alien forces. The aliens exhaustively re-scour the land for the Archive, but it is nowhere to be found. Some within the alien ranks begin to realize Xerxes lied.

68 DC

(422 BCE)

Athens now is unquestionably the Greek hegemony, bringing together all Attica neighbors under its name and promises of superior battle technology, derived directly from the beasts. Using giant robotic tanks made of metal and a strange fusion-based enginery recovered in disabled alien battle craft, Athenian soldiers were trained to pilot these "mechs" into combat. Meanwhile, scouts report the aliens are mobilizing southbound from Europa, making their return to Greece with confidence and vengeance.

69 DC

(421 BCE)

The Battle of Penteli. The first Athenian Mech Infantry, known as the ALLOY, engage the alien foe on the precipice of Athens. The alien hordes are in far greater numbers than ever before. After an incredibly arduous battle, ALLOY teams prove most effective. Athens is victorious, but still suffers high losses. Having barely survived the battle, the Athenians recover more alien war technology to study and reverse-engineer. There were more survivors, taken prisoner for interrogation.

70 DC

(420 BCE)

Socrates interrogates the survivors, learning a fleet of more aliens are already on the way to destroy the entire Earth. They will stop at nothing to find the Archive. It is still unclear to all Athenians what specific purpose the Archive possesses.

70 DC

(420 BCE)

Plato makes huge breakthroughs in interrogation. He learns of the Archive's purpose. It is a vast database, also known as The Complete History of the Super Cluster Array. The Archive is a stand-alone ancient database computer, which holds the sum of all intergalactic knowledge, a vast encyclopedia. Knowledge is power, which is why everyone seems to want it. There is too much information in the Archive to have ever backed it up elsewhere or transferred it over any kind of network. It had to be physically transported between worlds. This was the purpose of the ship that was attacked. It made an FTL jump to escape the huge ambush battle for the Archive, arriving near a habitable planet, Earth, farthest from the attack. Severely damaged, the ship crashed into Greece. Now, these aliens have discovered the Archive's location and will stop at nothing to retrieve it. Possession of the Archive would grant anyone unlimited power. The Archive was previously in the custody of a Super Cluster Array ultimate monarchy, who should also be coming to Earth to retrieve it from the humans too.

75 DC

(415 BCE)

The Temple of Hephaestus and Athena Ergane is completed.



91 DC

(399 BCE)

Facing death from illness, Socrates volunteers to undergo a dangerous experiment using alien technology. He grafts a bio-mechanical computer system into his body, becoming an immortal cyborg, a god. Immediately, Athens makes intense preparations for war with an all consuming invasion, a charge with most responsibility given to Socrates.

106 DC

(384 BCE)

Aristotle is born.

143 DC

(347 BCE)

Plato follows in the footsteps of his mentor and also becomes an immortal cybernetic god.

168 DC

(322 BCE)

Aristotle joins Plato and Socrates as immortal cybernetic gods of the Athenian Empire. Together, they form a triumvirate council to advise the Assembly and develop advances in technology based on that found within the alien carcasses. Combined, they became known as the Golden Mean.

190 DC

(300 BCE)

The Athens Empire has expanded to cover most of the Earth. Many nations have voluntarily joined forces with the Athenians, appealed by their way of life (freedom and democracy), superior reverse-engineered alien technology and proven resilience in battle against the aliens.

278 DC

(212 BCE)

A full-scale alien invasion descends upon Earth by multiple alien factions. ALLOY infantry are deployed to meet them in this last stand, this glorious battle for the blood of every man, woman, and child on this world now and forevermore.