

College



Dragon Age

**PC, Xbox 360, Xbox One,
PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4**

Dragon Age is actually a series of three (so far) fantasy RPGs. On the outside there's a lot of dragon-fighting and magic involved. But the games are very much about culture, history, and politics. Players make choices, both moral and mundane, about how to navigate a treacherous medieval world.

Mass Effect

**PC, iOS, Xbox 360,
PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Wii U**

Mass Effect, like Dragon Age (both are made by the game developer BioWare), is a trilogy of games. Mass Effect is a space opera. But it delves into complicated issues surrounding war, genocide, romance, and politics. It allows players to make their own choices about how the main character develops as the commander of a space ship.

BioShock

**Windows, iOS,
PlayStation 3, Xbox 360**

BioShock is a first-person shooter set in an underwater city called Rapture in the year 1960. What was designed as a completely unregulated society has gone horribly awry. Many of the city's residents have succumbed to an "addiction" to genetic modifications. Rapture is a beautiful and immensely creative environment. The story is also one of the best that can be found in a game.

Life is Strange

**PC, iOS,
PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4,
Xbox 360, Xbox One**

Life is Strange might not be your first choice for a summer game since it takes place in a high school. However, there are a lot of ideas in this game that are well worth discussing and exploring in your time off. Players take on the roll of a teenager who finds herself with a strange new ability—time travel.

The Last of Us

PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4

The Last of Us is a zombie apocalypse survival game (and a first-person shooter to boot). It explores the fraught relationship between a teenage girl and her sort-of father figure. There's plenty of zombie-killing in this game, but there's also a lot of emotion.

Sunset Overdrive

Xbox One

Sunset Overdrive is an action game where you play as a survivor of an apocalypse caused by the consumption of an untested energy drink. The game pokes fun at gaming conventions and general pop culture. It probably contains the most profanity of any game you've ever played. But it's well written and vastly entertaining to play.

Assassin's Creed Unity

**PC, PlayStation 4,
Xbox One**

Assassin's Creed Unity is a historical fantasy game in which you play as Arno Dorian, an Assassin in Paris during the French Revolution. There's a lot of stabbing to be sure, but the game is laced with historical events and characters like Napoleon Bonaparte and Robespierre.