

# **ANI 240 Animation Production I SYLLABUS**

Meeting time: M/W 10:10 pm – 11:40 pm  
Location: Room 722  
Instructor: Meghann Artes  
Office: CDM 518 (5<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
Office Hours: M/W 11:40am-12:10pm  
M/W 3:00pm-4:00pm

Contact: 312-362-5877  
Email: [martes@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:martes@cdm.depaul.edu)

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will concentrate on facilitating the student's production of animated projects. The topics of idea generation, experimentation, problem solving, planning and time management, and the process of critical analysis will be applied to the student's work, with the choice of animation technique, content and form left to the individual. Students will learn the importance of bringing projects to completion. Be prepared to spend a large amount of time outside of class finishing the assignments and final project.

## **FORMAT**

Through a combination of lectures, demonstrations, and critiques students will take a film from their initial idea all the way through the presentation of their completed work.

## **GOALS/OBJECTIVES**

- To explore different avenues of expression through the completion of class assignments
- To work in a studio environment, where students and instructor share their knowledge and impressions
- To encourage a curiosity for different types of animation
- To become comfortable giving and receiving critiques
- To become comfortable organizing and creating an animated project from start to completion

## COURSE SCHEDULE

### Week 1

#### 1-5 Monday

Introductions

Review syllabus

Treatment assignment given

#### 1-7 Wednesday

**Assignment Due:** Treatment –Bring 2 paper copies to class

Title assignment given

Watch Title examples in class

### Week 2

#### 1-12 Monday

**Assignment Due:** Title Storyboard Presentations (5-8 panels)

#### 1-14 Wednesday

Continue Storyboard Presentations

Lecture: Setting up your project in After Effects, render settings & Vimeo

### Week 3

#### 1-19 Monday

**Assignment Due:** Title Milestone

Work in class / Individual meetings

#### 1-21 Wednesday

**Assignment Due:** Final Title Animation / Screen and group critique

### Week 4

#### 1-26 Monday

Continue Title critiques

#### 1-28 Wednesday

Lecture: What Makes A Good Animatic?

ABC assignment given

### Week 5

#### 2-2 Monday

**Assignment Due:** ABC Animatics / Screen and group critique

#### 2-4 Wednesday

Continue group critique of ABC Animatics

### Week 6

#### 2-9 Monday

**Assignment Due:** ABC Milestone

Work in class / Individual meetings

**Week 6 Con't****2-11 Wednesday**

Work in class / Individual meetings

**Assignment Due:** Final ABC Style Frame due during class

**Week 7****2-16 Monday**

**Assignment Due:** ABC Animations Due / Screen and group critique  
Screen and group critique ABC Final Animations

**2-18 Wednesday**

Continue group critique of ABC animations  
PSA assignment given

**Week 8****2-23 Monday**

**Assignment Due:** PSA Animatics / Screen and group critique

**2-25 Wednesday**

Continue group critique of PSA animatics

**Week 9****3-2 Monday**

**Assignment Due:** PSA Milestone  
Work in class / Individual meetings

**3-4 Wednesday**

Work in class

**Week 10****3-9**

**Assignment Due:** Final PSA Style Frame due  
Individual meetings

**3-11 Wednesday**

Work in class

**Week 11- Final Exam Time is 8:45AM -11:00AM****3-16 Monday**

**Assignment Due:** PSA Final Animation / Screen and group critique

**\*\*\*Schedule subject to change\*\***

## GRADING BREAKDOWN

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Treatment             | 5   |
| Title Storyboards     | 5   |
| Title Final Animation | 10  |
| ABC Animatic          | 10  |
| ABC Final Style Frame | 2   |
| ABC Final Animation   | 15  |
| PSA Animatic          | 10  |
| PSA Final Style Frame | 3   |
| PSA Final Animation   | 20  |
| Milestones            | 15  |
| Class Participation   | 5   |
| Total                 | 100 |

|           |            |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| A =100-93 | A- = 92-90 | B+ =89-87  |
| B = 86-83 | B- =82-80  | C+ =79-77  |
| C =76-73  | C- =72-70  | D+ = 69-67 |
| D =66-63  | D- =62-60  | F = 59-0   |

**\*\*Your grades are based upon completion of assignments when due, quality of work, active class participation and attendance.\*\***

## TEXTS AND MATERIALS

### **Recommended Text:**

The Animators Survival Kit by Richard Williams

### **External hard drive and flash drive:**

For this course I encourage you to purchase an **external firewire** drive. I will go over options in class.

## COURSE POLICIES

In addition to DePaul University course policies (see student handbook), the following special policies will apply to this course:

**Class/Workshop Rules** - there will be **no** net surfing, phone calls, email checking, text messaging, or IMing during class at any time, except when I give you permission to do so.

**Attendance** – is mandatory; 3 unexcused absences will result in a lowering of one letter grade (from A to B, for instance). Any student missing 4 unexcused classes will be given an F for the quarter. An excused absence is allowed in the case of a medical or personal emergency (illness with doctor's letter; death in the family). An absence is defined as not showing up for class or showing up 10 minutes or later for class. A tardy is defined as showing up after role has been taken. Being tardy twice will equal 1 absence.

**Extra Credit** - If you have not been tardy or missed a class during the quarter **AND** you actively participate in critiques and discussions you will receive extra credit points on your final overall grade for the quarter.

**Assignments and Exercises** – must be completed by the due date as indicated

in the syllabus. Late work will not be accepted without prior consent of the instructor.

With certain exceptions, assignments in this class will be submitted digitally either via D2L or vimeo. The instructor will specify the preferred method of submission for each assignment.

All assignments submitted in digital format online, are **due** a minimum of 2 hours prior to class. Assignments may be submitted earlier, however.

**Milestones-** This assignment is a check-in so I can monitor the progress of your projects. Please post a lo-rez quicktime of your work-in-progress animation before class on the dates listed in the syllabus. In order to receive maximum credit for your milestone your work-in-progress must demonstrate a considerable amount of time and effort. If your milestone is not turned in on time you will receive zero points.

**Class Participation** - is encouraged and students will be graded on the extent to which they are involved throughout the quarter. Participation is an amazing tool for learning and should be done in a constructive way, especially when giving or receiving project critiques.

**Final Class Exam** - Attendance is mandatory. Students who do not show up for the final critique will get their final grade reduced by 1 letter grade. If for some reason you cannot attend, contact the instructor before the final class. Excuses after the class will not be accepted.

**Changes to the Schedule** – Depending on time factors, the assignments projected for the term may require slight alteration or rescheduling.