

## **ANI 357/457 HYBRID Animation SYLLABUS**

Meeting time: Monday 1:30 pm – 4:45 pm  
Location: Lab 922

Instructor: Meghann Artes  
Office: CDM 518 (5<sup>th</sup> Floor)  
Office Hours: Mondays 11:40pm – 1:20pm  
Wednesdays 11:40pm – 1:00pm

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

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This is an animation production class consisting of lectures, demonstrations and assignments culminating in the creation of a final project that combines more than one animation technique. Students will complete the assignments and final project using mixed media with the choice of animation techniques, content and form left to the individual or group. Some topics covered in this class will be pixilation, rotoscoping, and creative use of green screen, among others.

A basic knowledge of After Effects is encouraged.

### **GOALS/OBJECTIVES**

- To work in a studio environment, where students and instructor share their knowledge and impressions
- To explore different types of animation through class assignments
- To discuss each other's work in meaningful, thoughtful and yet critical ways
- To sharpen your creative skills and challenge yourselves as animators
- To explore the expected and unexpected results of creating hybrid animation

### **ATTENDANCE**

Students are expected to attend every session and arrive prepared for the class at the indicated start time. Since this class meets only once a week, students are not expected to exceed more than one unexcused absence. A second unexcused absence will result in the lowering of your final grade one full letter. Any student missing three unexcused classes will be given a grade of "F" for the semester. Contact me before class if you are unable to attend. Being late to class two times counts as one absence.

\*You are responsible for any missed lectures and assignments. If you miss a class, it is still your responsibility to turn in the assignment on time. We have very tight deadlines that are in place for the timely completion of your film.

**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 on your final overall grade for the quarter.

## **CLASS WORK**

- **Late work:** Late work will not be accepted to the class in which it is due without PRIOR approval or accompanied by a valid medical excuse.

\* **Special Accommodations:** If you have any special considerations please talk to me.

\* **BACK UP YOUR WORK:** Failure of computer software and/or hardware will not be accepted as an extenuating circumstance for late projects or incomplete grades - so back up your work daily with your own drives.

## **GRADING BREAKDOWN**

Fantastic Loop	5
Methods of Motion Movie	10
Stop Motion Loop	10
Character Description	5
Keyed Pixilated Character Frames	5
Final Hybrid Pixilated Movie	15
Group Final Project Animatic	10
Group Production Packet & Style Frame	5
Group 7 seconds of Final Animation	5
Group Final Animation Project	25
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\*\*

A indicates excellence, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D work is unsatisfactory in some respect, F is substantially unsatisfactory work.

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

## **Course Schedule**

### **Week 1 – Monday, September 11**

Introduction to the class  
Review syllabus  
View: hybrid and loop examples  
Group presentations - animation techniques  
Visit Maker space

Work in class on Fantastic Loops

### **Week 2 - Monday, September 18**

**Assignment Due:** Fantastic Loop—quicktime of your loop needs to be uploaded to D2L as well as brought to class on paper cut-out to receive credit

Introduction to the 7d camera  
In-class photo shoot involving your Fantastic Loop animation.

Lecture: Building a composition, registering, rendering and looping in AE

**Week 3 - Monday, September 25**

**Assignment Due:** Methods of Motion movie / Screen and Critique

Lecture: Stop-motion tutorial and intro to Stop-motion room

**Week 4 - Monday, October 2**

**Assignment Due:** Stop Motion loop

Lecture: Key Light, rotoscoping and working with masks in AE

View: Pixilation examples

Introduction to green screen

Work in class – form Pixilation groups work on Character Description assignment

**Week 5 – Monday, October 9**

**Assignment Due:** Character Description along with props / costumes for shoot

In-class green screen shoot. You will act as crew, director and possibly actor today during our in-class pixilation shoot.

**WE ARE MEETING AT CINESPACE FOR THIS ENTIRE CLASS- Don't miss the shuttle**

**Week 6 – Monday, October 16**

**Assignment Due:** Pixilated character frames composited and keyed (YOU NEED TO TURN IN A QUICKTIME FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT)

Lecture: TBD

Work in Class and individual meetings with Meghann

**Week 7 - Monday, October 23**

**Assignment Due:** Final Hybrid Pixilated Movie with sound / Screen and Critique

Lecture: Working with Alpha mattes, rotoscoping and 3d layers

Select groups for final project

**Week 8 - Monday, October 30**

**Assignment Due:** Group Final Project Animatic presentations / Screen and Critique

Lecture: Tracking

**Week 9 - Monday, November 6**

**Assignment Due:** Group Final Production packet including final style frame

View: Mixed Media and animation examples

Lecture: TBD

Work in class

Individual meetings

**Week 10 - Monday, November 13**

**Assignment Due:** 7 seconds of your final group animation due

Work in Class

Individual Meetings

**Week 11 - Monday, November 20**

**Final meets from 2:30pm-4:45pm**

Screen And Critique Group Final Projects

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

**STUDENT RESONSABILITIES**

Each student is responsible for their own time management and for meeting the expectations in the syllabus. The instructor is not responsible for reminding students of assignment deadlines in class. In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor for an assignment sheet detailing any homework. If an assignment is listed on the syllabus you are still responsible for completing the assignment on time.

**DEADLINES**

Video production requires strict adherence to deadlines, therefore late assignments will not be accepted for grading and written feedback will be given at the instructor's discretion. You will NOT be eligible for an A in the class unless you turn in all assignments on time.

**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.

**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.

**Midterm and Final Class Exam** - Attendance is mandatory. Students who do not show up will get their final grade reduced by 2 letter grades. 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.

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

## **College Policies**

### **Online Course Evaluations**

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

### **Academic Policies**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: [cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment](http://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment).

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

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