

After Effects Workshop- ANI 150

Winter 2021 / ONLINE

(New lecture recordings will be published during our weekly Zoom class meetings)

Instructor: Jason Sandri

Email: jsandri@depaul.edu

Office Hours **Monday:** 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Location: Online Zoom meetings only.

You must email me to request a meeting during the time above. I will email you a link to access our meeting room for the scheduled time. If you have not used Zoom, please enter the meeting 5 minutes early to set up your free user account.

Course Description: This class will introduce students to the fundamentals of After Effects, including key-framing, compositing and rendering. Topics and techniques covered during lectures will be reinforced through in-class exercises and projects.

Prerequisite(s): None

Course Objectives: Upon completion, students should be able to effectively display knowledge and understanding of fundamental After Effects tools and techniques including those necessary for key-framing animation, compositing multiple still and video elements together, and rendering their work for viewing.

Required Materials & Hardware:

- Portable storage device 8 GB or larger (Required)
- A computer that meets the requirements listed in the “News Feed” section of our class D2L page. If your system does not meet these requirements, **you must drop this course. Continuation of the class without the ability to use the required software will result in an F for the course.**

...The Fine Print...

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.

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.

Students with Disabilities: Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) enabling you to access accommodations and support services to assist your success. There are two office locations:

Loop Campus - Lewis Center #1420 - (312) 362-8002

Lincoln Park Campus - Student Center #370 - (773) 325-1677

Students can also email the office at csd@depaul.edu

Students who are registered with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact me privately to discuss how I may assist in facilitating the accommodations you will use in this course. This is best done early in the term. Our conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible.

Professional Correspondence: Like it or not, email is still the preferred professional means of written communication. Texting is great, but it lacks the detail and formality required to convey important information and ideas. If you need to contact me outside of class, email is the best means, and if you do contact me, it is expected that you format your emails in a professional format, **not written in shorthand or text lingo**. You should include a salutation (Hello, Good Afternoon, etc..) as well as who you are and from what class (my name is X from your Thursday ANI 101 class). You should format your email in a logical way, and **be sure to clearly state your question or issue that you need help with, and attach applicable files if necessary**. Lastly, sign your email with your name. Once we have started an email chain, less formal responses are perfectly fine, but your initial message should be formatted as above. It's always a good idea to quickly proof-read your emails before sending them.

Professional email is the quickest, easiest, and most respectful way for us to clearly communicate and quickly answer questions and solve issues.

Lastly, I do my best to answer emails within 2 hours, but I am not always near my computer or phone. Please use common sense when emailing about issues with projects—I probably can't do much to help you with problems when the assignment is due the next morning or later that day—don't wait until the last minute to ask for help. **Emails sent after 9 pm will be addressed the following day.**

Additional “Things to Know”: You should anticipate to spend at least 1-2 hours per week on course work, and you are expected to wisely manage your time. Much of your work will be on a computer—file storage and safety is **your** responsibility. There will be **no** exceptions made if you don’t adequately save and back up your work—computers crash, flash drives get lost, and cloud storage can fail. You should back up all of your work to a minimum of two devices. All assignments must be completed and turned in by the due date listed on D2L, *period*.

The software we will be using in this course is complicated, especially for first time users. I will make every effort to clearly explain the tools we will be using in the programs, but students are expected to survey their own learning curve and perform accordingly. This means if you don’t understand something, you should be asking questions, and some students may require additional hands-on time outside of class.

~~Lastly, if you choose to work at home, be advised that DePaul labs and your personal computer may be using different versions of Adobe software, which may cause your files to be incompatible, and possibly corrupt or damage your files. Adobe is constantly publishing updates, and if you have Adobe Creative Cloud set to “Auto Update” (which is the default), your software may update without your knowledge, causing you problems. You should turn off “Auto Update” in your Creative Cloud preferences settings, and “roll back” your software version at home to match the DePaul labs. All assignments must be completed using the current software version on DePaul computers. **Instructions on how to turn off auto update and “roll back” your software version are in the contents section of D2L.**~~

Zoom Meetings and Panopto Recordings: This class will consist of a short weekly Zoom meeting during our normally scheduled class time, paired with weekly Panopto recordings covering our tutorials and assignments. The Zoom meetings are required and will be around 15 minutes for questions and discussion of the coming week and assignments. The Panopto recordings are also required, and will be published for the upcoming week at the same time as our live Zoom meeting for that week. These recordings will cover our regular weekly content, and students may access and view the recordings any time during the applicable week for each recording, but recordings and assignments **must** be accessed, watched, and completed **prior** to the following week’s Zoom meeting. Students may start, stop, or pause recordings, and follow along at their own pace. Each weekly Panopto recording and the applicable weekly files will be accessed through the “Content” section of our class D2L page.

Attendance and Participation: Because of the unique Online situation this semester, Attendance and Participation will be assessed by student presence for our weekly scheduled live Zoom meetings during our regular class time, as well as weekly Panopto recording access. You must be logged in to the zoom meeting no later than 3 minutes after the start time in order to be counted as “present”. Students with a good record of attendance and course access will receive full A&P credit toward their final grade. Students who fail to attend our weekly scheduled Zoom meetings, or access class Panopto recordings within the week they are posted more than 4 times will receive half A&P credit toward their final grade. Students who fail to attend our weekly scheduled Zoom meetings or access class Panopto recordings within the week they are posted more than 8 times will receive a 0 for A&P toward their final grade.

...More Important Stuff...

Assignments: It is your responsibility to fully read all assignment descriptions located in the D2L “Submissions” section, and clarify any questions with me prior to the due date. All assignments are due by the date and time listed on D2L, **no exceptions! We will adhere to local Chicago time for this course, Central US time zone.** Assignments uploaded within one hour past the due time will be docked 50% of the total points for the assignment, prior to grading. Assignments turned in later than one hour past the due date/time will be given a zero. Don’t fail because of late work—be on time! **Keep your email “submission receipts”.** **If you do not receive one, double check that you properly submitted your work to D2L.**

Students are permitted to rework or correct assignments and resubmit them for up to full credit only if the original submission was turned in on time. Only legitimate attempts at the full assignment will be eligible. Incomplete “Works in progress” or place-holder files are not to be considered legitimate attempts at assignment completion and will not be considered for resubmission. Additionally, assignments turned in after the due date and time will not be eligible. The final project is not eligible for re-submission. **The cut-off time and day for resubmissions is the same as the due date and time of the final project.** There will be a few opportunities for extra credit, so please take advantage of those when they are available.

Final: Because of our unique online situation this semester, your final projects will all be due at **11:59 pm, March 19th 2021.** Projects not submitted by 11:59 pm on March 19th will be subject to the grading conditions listed above in the “Assignments” section.

Grading:

15% Attendance & Participation
65% Weekly Assignments
20% Final Project

A = 100-93, A- = 92-90, B+ = 89-88, B = 87-83, B- = 82-80, C+ = 79-78, C = 77-73, C- = 72-70, D+ = 69-68, D = 67-63, D- = 62-60, F = 59-0.

*This information is subject to change pending alterations to semester outline. Any changes will be clearly communicated to students in class and in writing. **It is your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by this course syllabus.**