

ANI 101_502: ANIMATION FOR NON-MAJORS | Winter Quarter 2024

Monday January 8, 2024 –Wednesday March 20, 2024

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 3:10am - 4:40 in Room CDM 00218 LOOP

Instructor: Iain Collins | email: icollins@depaul.edu Office Hours: TBD

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the art of animation. Screenings, lectures, papers, readings, discussions, and personal animation projects designed to create an understanding and appreciation of the art of animation.

LEARNING GOALS

By the end of this course students can expect to have gained an understanding of: The principles and mechanics of animation

Animation terminology & techniques

The use of narrative strategies

How to analyze and interpret animated films

How to create short animated projects that incorporate basic principles of animation

Apply class experience to one's own work in terms of artistic expression

LEARNING DOMAIN DESCRIPTION

ANI 101: Animation for Non-Majors is included in the Liberal Studies program as a course with credit in the Arts and Literature domain. Courses in the Arts and Literature domain ask students to extend their knowledge and experience of the arts by developing their critical and reflective abilities. In these courses, students interpret and analyze particular creative works, investigate the relations of form and meaning and through critical and/or creative activity to come to experience art with greater openness, insight, and enjoyment. These courses focus on works of literature, art, theatre, or music as such, though the process of analysis may also include social and cultural issues. Students choose three courses from such choices as literature, the visual arts, media arts, music, and theater. No more than two courses can be chosen from one department or program.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will be able to explain, in well-written prose, what a work of art is about and how it was produced (i.e. they should be able to articulate and explain the "content" of that work and its methodology of production).

HOW LEARNING OUTCOMES WILL BE MET

A number of short written reaction/response papers; one longer research or analysis paper (comparative or critical); readings; screenings; and a number of practical experience (or "lab") assignments.

HOW THE WRITING EXPECTATIONS WILL BE MET

For the short response/reaction papers, students will choose from a number of questions and/or topics and respond in writing. For the Final Paper, students will choose from the following: 1) Comparative Analysis Paper, the student compares two pieces of animation, or two animation styles or genres, or two animators, or two animation studios in terms of their social, cultural and aesthetic differences and similarities. 2) Critical Analysis Paper, the student makes an argument about a particular animation, style, genre, animation studio, or animator. 3) Research Paper, the student analyzes a perspective or argues a point, then backs up their thinking with others' ideas and information, complete w/ citations.

MATERIALS

Access to DePaul lab computers.

Optional - a personal computer that can run Adobe After Effects and Photoshop
Students will do several "lab" assignments using Adobe After Effects and Adobe Photoshop software. The Adobe suite of creative software is available in the student labs of the CDM building. In addition, students enrolled in ANI 101 will also have free access to the Adobe Creative Cloud for installation on their personal computer for the duration of the quarter.
Required - Smart phone (android or iPhone) with camera for Stop Motion Project
Optional - A tripod or grip for your smart phone

SOFTWARE

We will be using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe After Effects in this class. All DePaul CDM Lab computers have this software already loaded. Learn the locations and hours the DePaul CDM Labs.

[CDM Labs | DePaul CDM](#)

[Adobe Creative Cloud Sign-In Requirement for Classroom and Lab Computers](#)

You can also install the Adobe suite of software on your personal computers.

[Adobe Creative Cloud Home Use: Student Access](#)

PRE-REQUISITE: NONE

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Post-pandemic, we strive to provide some flexibility where we can. The attendance guidelines for this course are as follows:

GUIDANCE ON CLASS ATTENDANCE

This is an On-Campus class. If you feel ill at all please stay home to get well and avoid infecting others. Please familiarize yourself with the following guidelines:

[COVID-19 Updates and Guidance | DePaul University, Chicago](#)

It is understood that students may not be able to document mild illnesses for which they received no medical care. If a student does seek medical attention for an illness, the Dean of Students Office (DOS) will assist students in collecting documentation and notifying faculty of students' absences.

REMEMBER: It is the student's responsibility to access the materials on D2L and keep up with the coursework. View the class recording(s) as soon as possible after missing class.

Be aware of the deadlines to add and drop classes ([below](#)). If you don't intend to remain enrolled please drop the course promptly to allow for waitlisted students to enroll.

This section of ANI 101 has been designed so that six (6) class meetings will be scheduled to take place in a CDM computer lab. The scheduled lab sessions are noted in the weekly schedule in this syllabus. Students will be notified in advance of the lab location for that day.

If the instructor is feeling mildly unwell but still well enough to teach, contingency plans for a Zoom session at the regular class time will be posted or an alternative (pre-recorded lecture) will be announced on D2L and an email will be sent to the class that morning, so check your email regularly.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Notwithstanding the stresses of these challenging times in a post-pandemic world and the flexibility of the attendance policy in accordance with those challenges - students remain responsible for completing all required assignments and demonstrating that they have successfully addressed the learning outcomes for the course.

Please do not attempt to handle attendance or homework issues after class. If you need to speak with the instructor about an issue that does not concern the whole class, please use email for tracking purposes and if needed a zoom meeting or time during office hours will be scheduled.

LATE WORK

Late work will be accepted at the instructor's discretion.

IMPORTANT DATES WQ2024

Friday January 12, 2024 - Deadline to add classes

Friday January 19, 2024 - Last Day to drop classes with no penalty Saturday January 20, 2024 - Grades of "W" assigned for classes dropped on or after this day

Monday January 22, 2024 - Last day to select pass/fail option

Friday February 23, 2024 - Last day to withdraw from WQ2024 classes Thursday March 21, 2024 - Final Project (Paper) Due @ 11:59pm

<https://academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>

COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

All course materials, submissions, grades, etc. will be sourced on D2L <https://d2l.depaul.edu>

GRADING

Your grades are based on completing the assignments on time and the quality of your work

PAPERS – 35%

Three short papers (1 page minimum each) - 5 points each

One research paper (w/ citations); -OR- analysis paper (comparative or critical) (3 pages minimum) – 20 points

ANIMATION ASSIGNMENTS – 65%

Flipbook – 5 points Parallax Effect – 5 points Bouncing Ball – 10 points Rotoscoping – 20 points

Stop Motion Animation – 25 points

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

A Excellent

B Very Good

C Good

D Acceptable

F Unacceptable

WEEKLY PLAN (Subject to changes)

Week 1 | 1/08 & 1/10 What is Animation? | Flipbook Project

Mon

Introduction to Course

What is Animation?

Wed

Screening: Forging the Frame [30:00] Discussion: Why Animation?

Demo: Flipbook

★Animation Assignment #1: Flipbook Due Wednesday 1/17 (1 week)

Week 2 | 1/15 & 1/17 Early Milestones in Animation

Mon

SCHOOL CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY

Wed

★DUE Flipbook Animation

Lecture/Screenings: Disney, Fleischer, and early studio innovation

★Writing Assignment #1 (1-2 pages) – Due Wednesday 1/24 (1 week)

Week 3 | 1/22 & 1/24 Early Animation Studios, Animators, Directors; Parallax Effect Project

Mon

Lecture/Screenings: Early Animation Studios, Animators, Directors

Demo: Parallax Effect

Wed

LAB1 Parallax Effect in Photoshop

★DUE Paper #1

★Animation Assignment #2: Parallax Effect - Due Wednesday 1/31 (1 week)

Week 4 | 1/29 & 1/31 Principles of Animation; Bouncing Ball Project

Mon

Lecture: Principles of Animation

Demo: Bouncing Ball in After Effects

Wed

LAB2 Bouncing Ball in After Effects

★DUE Parallax Animation

★Animation Assignment #3: Bouncing Ball - Due Wednesday 2/07 (1 week)

Week 5 | 2/05 & 2/07 Reference in Animation; Rotoscope Project

Mon

Video and Live Action reference in animation; Where to find movement inspiration

Wed

LAB3 Rotoscope in Photoshop

Demo: Rotoscope in Photoshop

★DUE Bouncing Ball Animation

★Animation Assignment #4: Rotoscope - Due Wednesday 2/21 (2 weeks)

Week 6 | 2/12 & 2/14

Mon

LAB4 Rotoscope Work in Class

Wed

LAB5 Rotoscope Work in Class

★Writing Assignment #2 (1-2 pages) - Due Wednesday 2/22 (1 week)

Week 7 | 2/19 & 2/21 Storyboarding and Concept Development

Mon

Lecture: storyboarding for animation and film: similarities and differences

Wed

Lecture: Concept art and preproduction

★DUE Rotoscope Animation

★DUE Paper #2

★Writing Assignment #3 (1-2 pages) - Due Wednesday 2/29 (1 week)

Week 8 | 2/26 & 2/28 Stop Motion

Mon

Stop motion and Practical VFX

Wed

LAB6 Stop Motion Animation Demo:

Stop Motion Software

★DUE Paper #3

★Animation Assignment #5: Stop Motion Animation - Due Wednesday 3/20
(Final Animation Project - 3 weeks)

Week 9 | 3/04 & 3/06 The Studio Pipeline

Mon

From conception to completion: how animation gets made

Wed

Studios then and now

Week 10 | 3/11 & 3/13 Editing and adding SFX

Mon

Demo: Editing and adding sound in Adobe Premiere Pro

Wed

I will be in class to answer questions and provide critiques of in progress
finals

FINAL EXAM 3/20

No class (unless you guys wanna watch your final projects together???)

Final Paper Due @ 11:59pm

Final Animation Stop Motion Due @ 11:59pm

DEPAUL POLICIES

COVID-19 Health and Safety Precautions

Keeping our DePaul community safe is of utmost importance in the pandemic. Students, faculty and staff are expected to (1) wear a mask as required at all times while indoors on campus; (2) refrain from eating and drinking in classrooms; (3) keep current with their COVID-19 vaccinations or exemptions; (4) stay home if sick; (5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing; (6) complete the online Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus training; and (7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory. By doing these things, we are Taking Care of DePaul, Together. The recommendations may change as local, state, and federal guidelines evolve. Students who do not abide by the mask requirement may be subject to the student conduct process and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Students who have a medical reason for not complying with any requirements should register with DePaul's Center for Student with Disabilities (CSD).

Respect for Diversity and Inclusion at DePaul University as aligned with our Vincentian Values At DePaul, our mission calls us to explore "what must be done" in order to respect the inherent dignity and identity of each human person. We value diversity because it is part of our history, our traditions and our future. We see diversity as an asset and a strength that adds to the richness of classroom learning. In my course, I strive to include diverse authors, perspectives and teaching pedagogies. I also encourage open dialogue and spaces for students to express their unique identities and perspectives. I am open to having difficult conversations and I will strive to create an inclusive classroom that values all perspectives. If at any time, the classroom experience does not live up to this expectation, please feel free to contact me via email or during office hours.

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.

Please see <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/Pages/online-teaching-evaluations.aspx> for additional information.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. All students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy which prohibits cheating and other misconduct in student coursework. Publicly sharing or posting online any prior or current materials from this course (including exam questions or answers), is considered to be providing unauthorized assistance prohibited by the policy. Both students who share/post and students who access or use such materials are considered to be cheating under the Policy and will be subject to sanctions for violations of Academic Integrity.

More information can be found at <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/academic-integrity/Pages/default.aspx>

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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: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval.

Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found at

<http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx>

Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at <http://policies.depaul.edu/policy/policy.aspx?pid=332>

Students with Disabilities

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

Loop Campus (312) 362-8002

Lincoln Park Campus (773) 325-1677 Email: csd@depaul.edu

Students who register with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact Dr. Gregory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he may assist in facilitating the accommodations to be used in a course. This is best done early in the term. The conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible.

Please see <https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/csd.aspx> for Services and Contact Information.