

History of Animation- ANI 206

Winter 2024/ Mon/Wed 1:30pm – 3:00pm / CDM Room 220

Instructor: Jason Sandri

Email: jsandri@depaul.edu

Office Hours: **Monday & Wednesday:** 8:30 am – 10:00 am

Location: CDM 617

By Appointment Only. You must email or otherwise notify me to request a meeting within the times above. The week(s) of finals, office hours may be different or unavailable.

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the history and development of the field of animation. We will explore this subject from various perspectives: by chronology, from its prehistory before the invention of film to the present day; by form, including method and medium; by culture, comparing the US to Japan, Russia, Europe and others; by subject; and by personality, concentrating on the figures who have shaped the art form and continue to influence it through their example. Students are expected to bring an enthusiastic interest in the medium, and to devote serious effort to reading about, viewing, researching and discussing animation and the artists who have created it.

During our examination of the artwork, we will pay special attention to the attitudes and influences of race, gender, technology, culture, and the conflict between art and industry. There are several writing assignments, reading questions, and quizzes throughout the quarter, in addition to a final exam.

Prerequisite(s): None

Liberal Studies Arts and Literature Domain Description:

ANI 206 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 who take course in this domain 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.

Course Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Explain, in well-written prose, what a work of art is about and how it was produced ○ Articulate and explain the “content” of that work and/or its methodology of production.
- Comment on the relationship between form and content in a work.
 - How does the 14-line sonnet both enable and inhibit its practitioner, for example?
 - What are the generic expectations of a particular form? ○ How does an artist complicate, enrich, or subvert such expectations?
- Assess the formal aspects of their subject and put those qualities into words, using, when appropriate, specialized vocabulary employed in class and readings.
- Contextualize a work of art.
 - Do so with respect to other works of art in terms of defining its place within a broader style or genre.
 - Contextualize a work of art in terms of contemporaneous aesthetic, social, or political concerns, discussing how these might shape the work’s reception and how that reception might differ amongst various peoples and historical periods.

Required Text:

The World History of Animation by Stephen Cavalier, University of California Press; 1 edition (September 9, 2011), ISBN: 9780520261129

...The Fine Print...

Masking: Per the current university guidelines, masking is encouraged but optional. If you are recovering from being sick, please be courteous to others and wear a mask.

Testing: Tests, quizzes, and reading questions in this course will be administered and completed online through the “quizzes” section of our class D2L page. Tests, quizzes, and reading questions will be completed at your convenience during the allotted time window for that exam, quiz, or assignment. Tests and quizzes will be timed, and are not intended to be “open note”. Reading questions are not timed. Make-ups will **only** be allowed for those unable to participate due to **excused absences**. If you are registered with the CSD and have extended test accommodations, it is your responsibility to remind me prior to online tests so that I may enter your accommodations into the system.

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: Per the course objectives, writing is a required part of this course. The expectation is that all of your work in this class is your own. You will be writing about **your** impressions, analysis, and ideas about various questions, topics, and artistic works, Use of AI writing in these assignments is not your ideas, it is plagiarism. **Any use of AI writing will constitute a zero for the assignment, and may lead to an automatic F for your final grade.** 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 **AND** academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx

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.

Eating and Drinking: Eating and drinking is allowed. Out of respect to the class and the equipment, if you eat or drink, you must be quiet, clean, and dispose of any trash.

Cell Phones & Laptops: If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, phone use is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course. Laptops should be used with the same courtesy to your fellow students, and use will be limited to notes and class-relevant activities. Failure to be attentive and respectful will be reflected in your attendance and participation grade, up to and including a zero for the semester A&P grade.

Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to attend and participate in each class, be present for the start of class, and remain for the duration. Arriving late or leaving early is considered a tardy. Two late arrivals or early departures will be counted as one full absence. **Over 20% absence earns a 0% for your attendance and participation grade, and may constitute failure of the course.** Since this class meets twice weekly, 20% equates to **four** meeting dates. It is the responsibility of the student to keep up on any materials and assignments missed from absence, and due dates and expectations are not adjusted for absence, except for students with excused absences (described below). Additionally, if you arrive to class after attendance is taken, **it is your responsibility to let me know you arrived tardy at the end of class that day**, otherwise your absence will not be changed. You are required to attend on the day of the final if an in-person class is scheduled. Participation will be measured by in-class presence and/or interaction, and students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic and peer work. Failure to be attentive in class may result in an A&P final grade reduction up to and including a zero. Examples of non-participation may include but are not limited to: Phone and computer use not related to class, sleeping, wearing headphones, or otherwise being not attentive in class. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student.

If you require an absence due to religious observance, medical, mental health, or personal emergency please let me know and I will happily excuse these cases individually. In the case of an excused absence that **exceeds two consecutive days** (medical, mental health, and/or personal crises) please submit documentation via the absences notification form to the Dean of students' office. The Deans office will notify me and your absence will be excused. The link to the policy and form are located at the following link:

<https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/support-services/academic/Pages/absence-notification.aspx> **If you contract COVID-19 or any other communicable sickness please follow the university guidelines and do not attend class while ill.**

Professional Correspondence: Like it or not, email is still the preferred professional means of written communication. 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.

Lastly, I do my best to answer emails within a few 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.**

***I teach multiple classes back-to-back, have limited time for questions between classes, and do not have a photographic memory. **If you speak with me before or after class about attendance, grades, assignments, or anything pertinent to class, it is your responsibility to follow up on our conversation with an email to confirm and document our conversation.**

Additional "Things to Know": We will be completing multiple written assignments in this course, and these should be submitted typed. Please submit your written work as a .doc, pdf, or other universal file type so that I may open it without issue on my end. If you are using Apple Pages, **do not submit as a pages file**, please save as one of the other above mentioned options.

We will also be watching animated films and discussing/analyzing them verbally and in written form. Some of the films may contain subject matter, imagery, or dialogue that is discomforting or offensive to some. I will do my best to notify you of such content in advance so that each student may decide their own comfort levels for viewing. Critical film analysis will be something discussed and practiced throughout this course. Your goal should be to expand your understanding of art and animation, as well as its impact and role throughout history, and convey this understanding in these discussions and assignments. You are expected to put

thought and effort into your comments, assignments, and writing. Spelling, grammar, and content are always assessed on academic writing in this course. **Per the “Academic Integrity and Plagiarism” section above, any use of AI writing in this course will constitute a zero for that assignment, and may constitute a zero for the course.**

Notes: Much of the material on the tests and quizzes will come from the reading, lectures, and film viewings. I do not give study guides or notes from lectures—this is a college course, and you should be taking your own notes as necessary to retain important information from unit to unit. Lecture slides with the red “thinking” head icon in the corner indicate that material from that slide may appear on a test or quiz.

D2L COL Recording: We will be using D2L in this course, and most of our classes will be recorded. You may revisit the content of each class on D2L. I suggest that you log in and test this function so that you know how it works, as it is a useful tool. “The D2L videos didn’t work for me” is **NOT** an acceptable excuse for late assignments—figure it out BEFORE the last minute! If you miss a class, it is expected that you review the missed material on the D2L recording. **The recordings are accessible on our D2L class homepage on the right-hand side, midway down under the heading “CDM COL Recordings”.** These are a great asset for reviewing or studying the class lectures.

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!** 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.**

Final: The final day and time will be Wednesday, March 20th, from 11:30am to 1:45 pm. The final paper will be due during this period, and no attendance is required. The final exam will be due by midnight on this date.

Grading:

15% Attendance & Participation

15% Reading Questions

15% Quizzes

20% Writing

20% Final Paper

15% Final Exam

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.**