

DePaul University
Winter 2019

ANI 394 Capstone SYLLABUS

Meeting time: Monday and Wednesday 11:50am – 1:20pm

Location: Lab 722

Instructor: Amy Lockhart

Office: CDM 516 (5th Floor)

Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-5pm

Contact:

Email: alockha3@cdm.depaul.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This production-based course comprises the first of a two-course sequence that provides the student with an Animation capstone experience. These courses connect the student's Animation coursework with their overall Liberal Studies coursework through three components: class lectures and discussions, independent analysis and reflection, and the creation of a significant animation project. Students will employ the knowledge they have learned and the skills they have acquired in all their Animation courses to date to produce a significant animation project. The course sequence is designed to be taken in two consecutive quarters.

OBJECTIVES

This course will concentrate on facilitating the student's production of animation 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.

The purpose of this class is to help you succeed in creating your animation.

WORK EXPECTATIONS - The Two Rules

Rule 1: The most important thing this quarter is that you dedicate quality work time each week towards your film. This isn't the type of project you can do all at once at the end of two quarters!

Rule 2: You must bring something to work on during each class regardless of what is due that day.

CLASSWORK – Assignments

The majority of your grade for each assignment will be based on whether or not you actually completed the work. Work that has been thrown together thoughtlessly or is incomplete will earn you a C or D. Work that is completed will be given a B or A. Your actual grade within that range will depend upon the quality of what you did complete.

Late work: Because the majority of the grade for each assignment is based off of completeness, any late assignments will be an automatic F for that assignment.

- **Written Assignments:** Must be typed.

- **Digital Assignments:** All assignments handed in digitally must be in the following format
 - lastnameFirstname_projectname.extension
 - example: lockhartamy_Animatic.mp3
- ***FOR VIDEO EXPORTS: PLEASE REFER TO EXPORT SETTINGS INFO ON D2L*****

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 on a regular basis and always save incrementally if working on a computer.

Special Accommodations: If you have any special considerations please see the instructor.

CRITIQUES

Unless I tell you otherwise, assigned work must be completed and submitted through D2L. This will keep us from wasting valuable class time. **Handing in something unfinished is always better than nothing at all.** Due to the large size of our class, and the limited class time, not everyone's work will get a full review during class. If you'd like more feedback, arrange to discuss your work with me during my office hours. We will view and discuss everyone's final project during the last class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

More than two absences will automatically result in a one-letter grade reduction for the course. Any student missing four or more classes will receive an "F" for the quarter. 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.

No incompletes will be given without documented proof of circumstances beyond your control. You may not miss the final class date. Doing so will equal an automatic two letter grade reduction of your final grade. If for some reason you cannot make our final you must contact your instructor BEFORE the class. Excuses given after the fact will not be accepted.

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.

GRADING BREAKDOWN

GRADING:

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|---|----|
| ASSIGNMENT 01: SO... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? | 5 |
| ASSIGNMENT 02: DO IT. TRY. SOMETHING. ANYTHING. | 5 |
| ASSIGNMENT 03: CONCEPT YOUR CONCEPT | 10 |
| ASSIGNMENT 04: ANIMATION TEST | 5 |
| ASSIGNMENT 05: FINAL STORY CONCEPT PITCH | 10 |
| ASSIGNMENT 06: STORYBOARD | 10 |
| ASSIGNMENT 07: ROUGH ANIMATIC | 10 |

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|---------------------------------|----|
| ASSIGNMENT 08: MILESTONE 01 | 10 |
| ASSIGNMENT 09: FINAL SAG SCRIPT | 10 |
| ASSIGNMENT 10: FINAL | 20 |
| PARTICIPATION: | 5 |

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

| | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| 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 |

STUDENT RESONSABILITIES

Each student is responsible for his or her 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.

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.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

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

WEEK ONE:

Jan 7 (MON)

Introductions

In class exercise – SO..... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

Jan 9 (WED):

DUE: Assignment 01: SO.... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

CRIT

WEEK TWO:

Jan 14 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 02: DO IT. TRY. SOMETHING. ANYTHING.

CRIT

Jan 16 (WED):

Lecture: Concept Art

Class exercise: free drawing

Jan 21 – no class Martin Luther King Jr. Day

WEEK THREE

Jan 23 (WED)

DUE: Assignment 03: CONCEPT YOUR CONCEPT

CRIT

Jan 28 (MON)

Lecture: Production Path/animation test

WEEK FOUR

JAN 30 (WED)

Working class

FEB 4 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 04: ANIMATION TEST (animation test/rig in progress)

WEEK FIVE

FEB 6 (WED)

Lecture: character and world bible

FEB 11 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 05: FINAL STORY CONCEPT PITCH (character and world bible)

WEEK 06:

FEB 13 (WED)

Lecture: Storyboarding

Class Exercise: drawing beats

FEB 18 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 06: STORYBOARD

CRIT

WEEK 07:

FEB 20 (WED)

Lecture: Animatic

FEB 25 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 07: ROUGH ANIMATIC

CRIT

WEEK 08 :

FEB 27 (WED)

Working class and one on one meetings

MAR 4 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 08: MILESTONE 01: 2D - 8 sec animation complete (no colour), 3D – One character model complete, Stop-Motion – one puppet completed, Experimental TBD

WEEK 09:

MAR 6 (WED)

Working class and one on one meetings

MAR 11 (MON)

DUE: Assignment 09: Final SAG Script

Working class and one on one meetings

WEEK 10:

MAR 13 (WED)

Working class and one on one meetings

MAR 18 (MON) EXAM 11:30am – 1:45pm

DUE AT 12:01AM (so very late March 17th, and/or very early March 18th)

FINAL:

2D:

- ANIMATIC with 20 sec of animation in it. Doesn't have to be coloured but animation must be clean and finished.
- SERIES OF CONCEPT ANIMATION TESTS OR RENDERS, work in progress adding up to 10sec animation
- Final scripts and casting breakdowns

3D:

- ANIMATIC
- One character textured and rigged, 3 main props modeled
- SERIES OF CONCEPT ANIMATION TESTS OR RENDERS, work in progress adding up to 10sec animation
- Final scripts and casting breakdowns

STOP-MOTION:

- ANIMATIC
- Two puppets completed
- SERIES OF CONCEPT ANIMATION TESTS OR RENDERS, work in progress adding up to 10sec animation
- Final scripts and casting breakdowns

EXPERIMENTAL:

- TBD by instructor and student
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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.

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.

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