DePaul CDM – ANI 230-401

3D Modeling and Design

Fall quarter 2019-2020
Monday & Wednesday afternoons from 3:10pm – 4:40pm
Room: CDM 801

Instructor

Heinz Schuller – contact hschulle@depaul.edu 312-362-0037
Office Hours – Monday 11:50am to 1:20 pm, in CDM building #471

Course Description

Students will use computer modeling to explore the principles of 3-dimensional design. Projects involving object, character and architectural modeling will emphasize the aesthetic concepts of spatial proportion (scale, angle and position), silhouette, negative space, rhythm, balance, light/shadow and texture. Students will emerge with the ability to create well designed 3D models, and be familiar with the basics of polygonal modeling, texturing, lighting and rendering for animation, computer games and cinema.
PREREQUISITE(S): NONE

Course Objectives

After completing this course, students will have:
1. Gained basic concepts and understanding of tools related to 3D production.
2. Become comfortable with basics of modeling, lighting, texturing and rendering.
3. Understand the fundamentals of strong 3D design.

Recommended Texts (*not required*):

Introducing Maya 2016 *by Dariush Derakhshani*
Publisher: Sybex ISBN-13: 978-1119059639

Reference Websites

Lynda.com tutorials - DePaul Login Portal
https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/le/content/489335/viewContent/3095366/View

also

www.autodesk.com
www.learning-maya.com
www.creativecrash.com
www.awn.com
www.animationlodge.blogspot.com

Course Management System & Class Work

Assignments must be handed in on time. On time means your work is submitted through D2L (Desire To Learn system) by the specified time. Work submitted after the deadline may receive partial credit or no credit at the instructor's discretion. Students who use lecture time to finish assignments the day they are due may forfeit the right to hand in that assignment. Class time is for working with the material at hand, not finishing late assignments. Assignment due dates and times will be indicated on D2L.

Attendance:

Students are expected to attend every class. We cover an enormous amount of material, and missing even one class can be a significant setback.

Three absences can result in the lowering of your final grade **one full letter**. **Any student missing 4 classes may be given a grade of "F" for the semester.**

The student is responsible for any lectures or assignments missed. If an assignment is due a week that you are absent, it is your responsibility to make sure it still arrives on time. A good portion of our class time will be spent doing hands on tutorials, screening films, and critiquing work. Lecture notes will not make up for these missed learning experiences.

Participation:

One of the best ways to learn in a classroom environment is through active participation in discussions and critiques. In general, we will be following a pattern of creating animation and then discussing it in critique in the following week. When I open up the floor for you to speak, please make the effort to voice your honest and constructive opinion. You are likely to find that this will greatly improve your overall learning process.

Critiques:

Unless I tell you otherwise, assigned work must be completed and submitted through D2L BEFORE class starts. This will keep us from wasting valuable class time. Handing in something unfinished is always much 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.

Attitude:

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the classroom. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

Civil Discourse:

DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be Socially Responsible Leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues.

Cell Phones/On Call:

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 undisruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting 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.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, Sep. 17 2019 – Last day add (or swap) classes to AQ2019 Schedule (11:59pm Deadline)
Tuesday, Sep. 24 2019 - Last day to drop classes with no penalty
Tuesday, Sep. 24 2019 – Last day to select pass/fail option
Wednesday, Sep. 25 2019 - Grades of "W" assigned for classes dropped on/after this day
Tuesday, Oct. 29 2019 - Last Day to Withdraw from AQ2019 Classes

More calendar info can be found at this link.

Class Schedule*

**NOTE: Details of activities and assignments are subject to updates and/or revisions on-going. I will notify you in class, but please check on-line for the latest syllabus when needed.*

Week 1:
Wednesday September 11
Monday September 16

Week 2:
Wednesday September 17
Monday September 23

Week 3:
Wednesday September 24
Monday September 30

Week 4:
Wednesday October 2
Monday October 7

Week 5:
Wednesday October 9
Monday October 14

Week 6:
Wednesday October 16
Monday October 21

Week 7:
Wednesday October 23
Monday October 28

Week 8:
Wednesday October 30
Monday November 4

Week 9:
Wednesday November 6
Monday November 11

Week 10:
Wednesday November 13
Monday November 18

Week 11:
FINAL PROJECT DUE: Monday November 25 2019
There is NO final exam for this course. The final exam period will be an open lab to help anyone finish their projects. This takes place on Monday November 25 2019 from 2:30pm to 4:30pm and is optional.

More final exam schedule info at this link.

Turning In Assignments:

All assignments handed in digitally must be in the following format (please note upper and lower case usage)

- lastnameFirstname_projectname.extension
- example: SchullerHeinz_projectOne.mb

Special Accommodations: If you have any special considerations please see the instructor so you can be accommodated.

Backing 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 please back up your work daily.**

Maya features an 'incremental save' option – USE IT. Hardware or software failure is no excuse for academic or professional project failure. **Pro Tip:** Don't use a USB thumb drive as the only place to store your work, they inevitably will fail and result in agony and possibly tears. Make redundant copies across your home & school computers and/or a cloud service like google drive.

Grading

Your grade will depend on your performance measured against the following criteria:

- Meeting Project Deadlines
- Creativity and personal input into execution of project
- Coming prepared to class, including assigned reading and assignments
- Showing in-progress work, which can benefit from suggestions, rather than presenting entirely new work at critiques
- Effective visually aesthetic solutions to all problems assigned
- Taking initiative to work outside of class and research
- Hard work and sweat
- Participation in critiques and discussions

Grade/Score Ranges

	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**

Grade A:
Not only did you successfully complete all assignments, you went above and beyond in working with your teammates and coming up with effective solutions.

Grade B:
You have successfully completed all assignments, contributed equitably to group projects, and you demonstrate a solid understanding of the class topics.

Grade C:
All work turned in.

Grade D:
Requirements for projects are only partially fulfilled.

Grade F:
Student fails to meet minimum course requirements.

Requesting an incomplete grade:

An incomplete grade may only be assigned to a student if the student has experienced an extenuating circumstance near the end of the term, the student is in good standing in the class, and before the last day of the quarter before final exams. See:
http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx

Standards for Achievement

Students will be measured on the following criteria-

Following Directions and paying attention to Specifics
Consistent use of Reference Imagery as a basis of design work
Willingness to investigate problems, ask questions in pursuit of solutions
Ability to utilize technical knowledge to create visually sound artwork
Understanding and utilization of visual concepts like silhouette, repetition & variation
Demonstrating knowledge and proficiency with the basic CG art pipeline
Drawing upon their own backgrounds and experiences as inspiration

Changes to Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

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.

Statement on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

University guidelines on academic integrity and plagiarism can be found on the Web and in the Student Handbook and are hereby incorporated in this document. The following items are not intended to contradict the university guidelines, but to emphasize or explain areas of particular note for this course.

- Plagiarism applies to any sort of material used on the Web, including for example sound, graphics or images, as well as text.
- Students are responsible for insuring that they use material only with permission and that, when such permission is subject to giving credit, they credit sources appropriately.
- Students who use images, text, sound, trademarks, or other materials developed or owned by others without their permission can be held legally liable. "Academic use" is not a legal defense.
- DePaul University and the professor take no responsibility for any student's use of materials developed or owned by others without their permission.

Reuse of materials:

Anything developed or submitted for an employer or another course cannot be submitted for an assignment in this course without PRIOR permission of the instructor.

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://cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

Notes regarding Class Participation:

Active class participation includes, among other things, on-time attendance, taking part in lecture discussions, asking meaningful questions, completing homework assignments on a timely basis, participating in the class, Blackboard discussion forums, and volunteering to demonstrate one's website or other sites of relevance to the class. Students will have the opportunity to complete a self-evaluation of their class participation, which will be considered (but will not be the sole determinant) when computing the class participation portion of their grade.

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.

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.
Phone number: (312)362-8002
Fax: (312)362-6544
TTY: (773)325.7296