

ANI 341 | PRODUCTION III

Fall 2021

TU-TH 1:30 – 3:00PM

Room: CDM 527

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Office: Zoom



©Animade

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course asks students to create a short, animated film. Students are expected to demonstrate a high level of technical skill with animation and to exhibit maturity in concept development and storytelling. Successful planning and project management is critical.

Prerequisite: ANI 340 Animation Production II

This class will focus on work habits, organizational strategies, and motivation for long-term projects. We'll also work on polishing films and making work that draws attention (for the right reasons).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will produce a polished animated short film in the style, technique and format of their choosing
- Students will use the critique process to develop a sophisticated concept for a short animated film
- Students will demonstrate a high level of competence in animation technique

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Being late to class 2 times counts as one absence. More than two unexcused absences will result in a full letter grade reduction for the course. Any student missing more than 4 classes will receive an "F" for the quarter. If you have any personal or medical issues, you must contact the **Dean of Students** directly. They will then contact me regarding excused absences. The student is responsible for any lectures or assignments missed.

GRADING

This class is project-based and work-intensive.

Participating in weekly critiques 20%

Making weekly deadlines 50%

Finished Film 30%

All assignments and grades will be listed on our D2L site: [https:// d2l.depaul.edu](https://d2l.depaul.edu)

- **Work in progress:** You will be graded weekly. The film projects are done in stages (look at production plan). Your project will be evaluated by making the deadlines stated on the production plan of your choice.
- **Project not submitted** in time for critique equals grade lowered 1 full grade, and an additional grade for each additional class until submitted
- **Final:** You are expected to submit a finished film with proper compositing, sound, fluid movement, no rough sketches, fully colored and a title card.
- If an assignment is listed on the syllabus you are still responsible for completing the assignment on time and submitting it to the designated folder on D2L.
- There is no extra credit available for this course.
- Always back up your work! Lost work is not an excuse for an incomplete assignment. You can also use online File Storage Site to backup work if you forget your USB/External Hard Drive (Box.net, Dropbox.com)

EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS & SUPPLIES:

SOFTWARE

You have free access to following animation software in animation labs at CDM building:

Adobe Creative Cloud, including After Effects, Photoshop, Animate, and Premiere
 TvPaint
 Toon Boom Harmony and Storyboard Pro
 Dragon Frame (Only available via stop-mo room)
 Maya

CRITIQUES

We will have weekly group critiques. Unless I tell you otherwise, assigned work must be completed and submitted through D2L 30 minutes BEFORE class starts. Handing in something unfinished is always better than nothing at all. Attendance at critiques is important for feedback, so your project grade will be lowered if you aren't there, whether you've handed the project in or not:

Course Policies

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.

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>.

Posting work on online sites, such as Hero

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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.

PRODUCTION PLAN

During the course of the quarter you will be making an approximately 100 second music video (± 15 second). Your film can be narrative or experimental, or in between these two, with your choice of software, material and technique. Below you can find 3 different production plans based on your medium. Your grade will be assessed based on the deadlines stated on these charts.

2D PRODUCTION PLAN

	WEEK	DEADLINE	TO DO LIST
PRE-PRODUCTION	1	9/14	Find Music that you'll be animating, create mood board
	2	9/21	Art Direction: Character design, abstraction design, Style Frame, Concept design, Story board (1)
	3	9/28	Record: Sound / FX, color script Story board (2) / animatic
PRODUCTION	4	10/5	Animation path 1 - key frame (timing, motion, emotion)
	5	10/12	30% CHECKPOINT : Animation path 2 – corrected key frames
	6	10/19	50% CHECK POINT SCREENING-MIDTERM: Animation Path 3- In between
	7	10/26	Animation path 4- In between, Cleaning up (line art, color) Finalizing sound
POST PRODUCTION	8	11/2	70% CHECKPOINT Animation path 5- finishing up Texture Mixing sound
	9	11/9	Compositing, Credits, title Rendering
WRAP	10	11/16	95% CHECKPOINT
SCREENING	Final	11/18	11:30AM

3D PRODUCTION PLAN

	WEEK	DEADLINE	TO DO LIST
PRE-PRODUCTION	1	9/14	Find Music that you'll be animating, create mood board
	2	9/21	Design: Character design / Art Direction/ Concept design/ mood board/ Modeling Story board (1)
	3	9/28	Record: Sound / FX Story board (2) / animatic layout / UV mapping
PRODUCTION	4	10/5	Rigging
	5	10/12	30% CHECKPOINT : character rigged and textured, Animation layout (path1)

	6	10/19	50% CHECK POINT SCREENING-MIDTERM: Animation Path 2- In between
	7	10/26	Animation path 3- In between, Cleaning up Finalizing sound
POST PRODUCTION	8	11/2	70% CHECKPOINT Animation path 4- finishing up Mixing sound
	9	11/9	Compositing, Credits, title Rendering
WRAP	10	11/16	95% CHECKPOINT
SCREENING	Final	11/18	11:30AM

STOP-MO PRODUCTION PLAN

	WEEK	DEADLINE	TO DO LIST
PRE-PRODUCTION	1	9/14	Find Music that you'll be animating, create mood board
	2	9/21	Design: Character design / Art Direction/ Concept design/ mood board/ Modeling Story board (1)
	3	9/28	Record: Sound / FX Story board (2) / animatic
PRODUCTION	4	10/5	Due: Character/ world/set building
	5	10/12	30% CHECKPOINT : Animation 15 seconds
	6	10/19	50% CHECK POINT SCREENING-MIDTERM: 30 seconds Animated
	7	10/26	60 seconds animated Finalizing sound
POST PRODUCTION	8	11/2	70% CHECKPOINT 80 seconds animated Mixing sound
	9	11/9	Compositing, Credits, title Rendering
WRAP	10	11/16	95% CHECKPOINT
SCREENING	Final	11/18	11:30 AM

IMPORTANT NOTE:

I do not recommend using copy righted music.

There are many royalty free websites that musicians upload their work and you can use them for your film for free as long as you credit the composer properly.

There are also websites that you can purchase the right to use a track for a small fee. Example:

<https://freemusicarchive.org/>

If you download a track from a website, you are responsible to figure out the licensing for using the track.