

DART 215-1 (CRN 10186) COURSE SYLLABUS – Spring 2022

Course Code & No. - Section: DART 215 - Section 1
Course Title (Credits): Character Animation (3)
Term & Year: Spring / 2020
Course Ref. No. (CRN): 10186

Instructor: Chris Lanier
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Office: David Hall 202
Office Hours: TR 1pm-4pm., and by appt.

Class Meeting Time: TR 9:00 – 10:45 p.m.
Location: HAMC 208

Prerequisites: none
Corequisites: none
Class website: <http://sncanimation1.blogspot.com/>

Course Description

This course introduces the concepts of computer-aided 2-D animation. Subjects of study include storytelling, timing, character creation and animation “acting.” Flash and video editing software are the primary tools; this is a project-based course where students create their own cartoons.

Student Outcomes

Students will be able to:

- > Understand the basic principles of animation, and be able to execute their ideas for animation using animation software
- > Understand the techniques behind a variety of 2-D animation styles and approaches
- > Prepare work for exhibition on the web and the screen
- > Identify resources for animation history and animation festivals
- > Communicate their ideas and effectively critique work

Methods of Assessing Student Outcomes

Your grade will be based upon the following: finished projects executed during class and as homework; your participation during class, particularly in discussions and critiques; writing assignments and other homework assignments.

If you attend all of the classes, and do the assignments, you will have no problem in passing this class with a decent grade. Only outstanding work will be rewarded with an A. You will be expected to be in class on time and ready to work. Participation is crucial, voicing your ideas, critiquing your peers and asking questions is part of the learning process.

Instructional Strategies

This class will utilize lectures and demonstrations, individual work in class, inquiry learning, and several project assignments.

Required Materials

- > A flash drive or USB/FireWire external drive, for backing up all work. A CD or DVD of all work produced for the class will also be required.
- > A sketchbook, any size, with unlined paper.
- > Depending on timing/availability, we may go on a couple “field trips” if there are interesting animated films or animation events within driving distance.

Attendance

If you miss more than three (3) classes without a written doctor's excuse, your grade will drop by one letter (i.e., from an A to a B). This will continue for every class missed thereafter. If you are tardy by more than 20 minutes or leave class early by 30 or more minutes, this will count as an absence. If you are late (less than 10 minutes) to class you will receive a late mark, every three late marks will count as one unexcused absence.

Special Notice on Screenings

While I will not screen anything in class with the intent to offend, there are some films I may screen that have charged subject matter, which some students may find objectionable. It is not compulsory to sit through a film that you find objectionable; however, it would be preferable that you sit through the film, and bring up your objections to the film in the post-screening discussion.

Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism**The Honor Code**

The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidences of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

1st Offense: Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

2nd Offense: Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

3rd Offense: Student is expelled.

ADA Accommodations

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, hconover@sierranevada.edu or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

The SNC Email System

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year.

Students have a right to forward their SNC e-mail to another e-mail account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

Class Schedule

This is a preliminary schedule of subjects to be covered. As opportunities arise, I reserve the right to alter the order and to add to or subtract from this syllabus.

Week 1

Flipbooks

Week 2

Abstract animation

Introduction to the Adobe Animate interface

Week 3

Work on abstract film

Week 4

Gestures and acting

Pixilation film

Week 5

Work on pixilation film

Week 6

Rotoscoping project begins

Week 7

Work on rotoscope project (contd)

Week 8

Spring Break

Week 9

Rotoscope project concludes

Week 10

Puppet/cutout animation

Week 11

Designing and building puppet

Week 12

Animating puppet

Week 13

Final work on puppet film

Finals Week

The Mission Statement:

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

The Core Themes:

Liberal Arts

Professional Preparedness

Entrepreneurial Thinking

Sustainability