

Sam Houston State University
College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication
Department of Art

ARTS 3354.01 CRN 80730 :: EXPERIMENTAL ANIMATION [3 CREDIT HOURS]
FALL 2017 – T-TH 12:30-3:20

INSTRUCTOR

Edward Morin

Associate Professor

Computer Animation Program Coordinator

Department of Art

OFFICE HOURS (ART D-100): M-W 4-5pm, Friday - By Appointment Only

PHONE: 936.294.1320

EMAIL: emm026@shsu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an exploration of alternative techniques in the creation of animation to include cutout animation, pixilation, lo-fi animation, as well as other emerging processes. Coursework will also focus on experimental approaches to story and content generation. Readings and discussions will focus on technical, aesthetic, and theoretical issues relating to these disciplines.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

ARTS 1313 WASH | ARTS 1314 WASH | ARTS 1315 WASH

ARTS 1317 LIFE DRAWING I

ARTS 2313 FDA

ARTS 2343 AC&T

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Once students have completed this course, they will be able to demonstrate that they have explored different thematic and material approaches to the discipline of animation, and have been engaged in an examination of the history of experimental animation. In order to facilitate this, students will produce a series of experimental animations focused on both digital and hands-on approaches.

REQUIRED RESOURCES

- VIMEO ACCOUNT
- DROPBOX ACCOUNT
- SOFTWARE: Audacity, Photoshop, Illustrator, and After Effects
- Other basic art materials will be required (e.g. paper, colored pencils, tracing paper, cutting surface, etc.)

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CONTACT

- **DO NOT** call the Art Office for any reason if you need to contact me
- I would prefer that all correspondences be made via email (I check that more often than my phone)
- Only use your SAM email account to contact me, do not use a personal email account

GRADING POLICY

Your final grade will be weighted using the following ratios:

- Projects: 90%
- Class Participation: 10% [e.g participation in critiques and class discussions]

In this class 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D 59-0=F.

The grade of 'C' is considered **average**. If work meets the minimum stated requirements for the project, it will be considered average in terms of design, concept and craft. Work that exceeds that basic expectation will have points added and fall into the 'B' range. Exceptional work will earn an 'A'. Work that fails to meet the minimum criteria for the project will receive a non-passing grade ['D', or 'F']. Please note that a grade of a 'C' is considered as not being BFA quality work. You must have an ART GPA of a 3.0 in order to receive the BFA. You must also receive a 'C' or better in this course to advance in the program.

For Exercises, you will receive a numeric grade from 0-100 that will represent the level of completion. Grades for exercises will be posted, along with comments and feedback if needed, within 3 weekdays of the due date.

For Projects, you will receive a letter grade, which may include a "plus" or a "minus," for example: C+, B+, A-. This grading system will only apply to project grades, and not your final course grade. SHSU does not currently allow for "plus" and "minus" grades for the final course grades. Grades for projects will be posted within a week of the due date. For the projects, instructor feedback may include comments and/or a short video critique of the work, which will be made available to you within a week of the project due date.

MAKE UP POLICY

All work must be submitted on time in order to receive full credit. For exercises, no late submissions will be accepted. If the submitted exercise is incomplete, you will receive partial credit based upon the level of completion. For projects, I will give you ONE additional class day to submit work for reduced credit. After one additional class day, a 'B' is the highest mark the submission can receive: an 'A' would equal a 'B', a 'B' would equal a 'C', etc.

If a project is not submitted after one additional class day, you will receive an 'F.' Under special circumstances, work may be turned in after the due date without penalty. Extra Credit work is not allowed.

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TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE [subject to revision]

- **Weeks 1 – 6 Workshops**
 - **One Second Animations**
 - **Visual Sound Project (weeks 2-4)**
 - **Collage Animation**
 - **Cutout Animation**
 - **Paper to Pixel: Rotoscope Project (weeks 5-6)**
- **Weeks 7 – 15 Open Projects**

POLICIES REGARDING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, AND STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTP://WWW.SHSU.EDU/SYLLABUS/](http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/)

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (ACADEMIC POLICY #810213)

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [Dean of Student's Office](#)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY (ACADEMIC POLICY #811006)

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities.

For a complete listing of the university policy, see:
<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY (ACADEMIC POLICY #861001)

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf/www/aps/documents/861001.pdf>

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

THE BFA REVIEW

The purpose of the BFA Review is to ensure that students have learned basic principles and techniques needed for advanced art courses.

All Art students must successfully complete all of the Art Foundation courses and the BFA Review before being accepted into a BFA program in Computer Animation, Photography, or Studio Art or Graphic Design. Graphic Design students must also pass a separate Graphic Design Review after the BFA Review.

The Art Foundation Courses are WASH, Drawing, and Foundations in Digital Art. (ARTS 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, & 2313). Students must pass each course with a grade of C or higher to take the BFA Review and proceed to upper level courses.

The semester after all of the Foundation courses are complete, students must sign up for the BFA Review. Students should see an art advisor every semester to ensure they take the BFA Review on time. It should be taken the semester immediately following the completion of the Foundation Courses.

Students who do not pass the BFA Review may re-take it the following semester. Students who do not pass on the second attempt will not be allowed to continue as BFA majors, but may follow the degree plan for the BA in Art. Non-participation after signing up or being advised to sign up will count as a failure of that semester's review.

Graphic Design students must pass the BFA Review, complete Principles of Graphic Design (ARTS 2323) and participate in a BFA Review at the end of the semester that they are enrolled in Typography (ARTS 3322).

For more information on the BFA review see the Department of art web page:
<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/review/>

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USE OF MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Restrict use of mobile technologies and social media, incoming and outgoing, for emergency use only. You may use your allotted break time for non-emergency use of these media. Use of these media during testing, lectures, and critiques is strictly prohibited.

DEFACING UNIVERSITY PROPERTY

Defacing University property is prohibited by University policy. It is also a criminal offense. Students will be held responsible for the cost of damages to the facilities. Violations will be reported to University Police.

Students should not paint on concrete, asphalt, trees, sides of buildings, interior walls or floors of buildings, locker doors, etc. When using any kind of paint use a drop cloth or tarp to protect the surface from overspray.

DEPARTMENT OF ART LAPTOP REQUIREMENT

Students in the Department of Art are required to own a laptop as specified by each BFA program. Macintosh laptops are strongly recommended and can be purchased at discounted rates for students. The specifications for each BFA program and links to the Apple Store can be found on the Department of Art website:

<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/art/resources/laptop-initiative.html>

Students will be required to have laptops and the Adobe Creative Suite software in art courses that require computers. Laptops must meet or exceed the specifications described and be capable of interfacing with Department printers and other peripheral devices.

**ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES POLICY
(ACADEMIC POLICY # 861001)**

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/bb0d849d-6af2-4128-a9fa-f8c989138491.pdf>