

**Course Syllabus**  
**ART 3382 01**  
**The History of Animation**  
**3 Credit Hours**  
**Fall 2017**

**This is an ONLINE and Writing Enhanced Course**

**MICHAEL HENDERSON**  
**Office 103 ARTF**  
**936 294 1318**  
**mhenderson@shsu.edu**  
**Office hours by appointment**

**Course Description**

This course is a survey of the history of Animation from pre-photographic zoetropes through contemporary computer animated special effects and 3D characters. The political, artistic, and social uses of animation will be explored as well as the aesthetics.

Prerequisite: ARTS 3385

**Course Objectives**

The objectives of this course are to

- give students an overview of the history and development of animation
- contextualize contemporary trends in this history
- familiarize students with some of the more obscure works of animation
- demonstrate the political and social uses of animation throughout history
- encourage students to think of animation as an art form and appreciate the aesthetics and expressiveness of animation.

**Methodology**

This course will be taught through online assignments that include reading, discussions, and viewing of historical examples of animated movies. Students will have writing projects based on assigned textbook reading and research. Exams will cover material presented in assignments and the text.

Students will be required to watch at 3 full-length films on DVD. These DVD's are available in the Art Resources Library in Art Building E room 113. The Visual Resources Library is open Monday-Friday 8am – 4pm. DVD's cannot be checked out, and must be viewed on site. Students who cannot come to campus to view the DVD's must make other arrangements to view them through purchase or rental. Some may be available online at minimal or no cost if.

**Required Text**

***A New History of Animation***

Maureen Furniss, Thames and Hudson, ISBN 99780500292099

**Attendance is mandatory**

Students are required to log in to the online course every week during the semester to receive assignments, participate in discussions and turn in work.

Weekly Units will be available for one and half weeks, from Wednesday until Friday of the following week.

**Assignments will be posted every Wednesday and be due Friday of the Following Week unless there is an exam.**

## Calendar (Tentative)

Unit Becomes Available	Unit Title	Unit Assignment	Assignment Due Date
<b>Unit 1</b> Wednesday, August 23	Introduction to Class. Animation and PreHistory	Journal Entry: Pre- History	Friday, September 1
<b>Unit 2</b> Wednesday, August 30	Pre Film and Pioneers/Early Techniques	Discuss Unit 2	Friday, September 8
<b>Unit 3</b> Wednesday, September 6	Birth of the Industry	McCay and Fleischer Blogs	Friday, September 15
<b>Unit 4</b> Wednesday, September 13	Stop Motion and Sound	<b>Exam 1</b>	Friday, September 22
Monday September 11	<b>Research/Textbook Unit 1</b>		<b>Monday, October 16</b>
<b>Unit 5</b> Wednesday, September 20	Fleischer and Disney Studios	Discuss Unit 5	Friday, September 29
<b>Unit 6</b> Wednesday, September 27	Warner Brothers Studio	Discuss Unit 6	Friday, October 6
Monday, October 16	<b>Research/Textbook Unit 2</b>		<b>Monday, November 17</b>
<b>Unit 7</b> Wednesday, October 4	Tex Avery and Chuck Jones	Discuss Unit 7	Friday, October 13
<b>Unit 8</b> Wednesday, October 11	Racial Stereotypes and Propaganda	Racial Stereotype Essay	Friday, October 20
<b>Unit 9</b> Wednesday, October 18	Chuck Jones and UPA	<b>Exam 2</b>	Friday, October 27
<b>Unit 10</b> Wednesday, October 25	Stop Motion	Discuss Unit 10	Friday, November 3
<b>Unit 11</b> Wednesday, November 1	Animation Outside the U.S.	Discuss Unit 11	Friday, November 10
<b>Unit 12</b> Wednesday, November 8	Computer Animation	Discuss Unit 12	Friday, November 17
Friday, November 17	<b>Final Research Project</b>		<b>Friday, December 1</b>
Monday, December 4	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	Monday, December 4

**Make Up Policy**

After the period for a discussion board or assignment ends, it cannot be made up. Exams will be available only on the days they are scheduled and cannot be made up.

**Assignments, Exams and Grading**

This course will be composed of three units.

The **Weekly Units** will include reading assignments from the textbook and online sources, and assigned viewings of animated films. Each Weekly Unit will conclude with a discussion, a short exam or an assignment. There are 12 Weekly Units.

The **Research/Textbook Units** will consist of short writing projects based on Textbook reading assignments. Students will have several weeks to complete each one of these projects. There are 4 Research/Textbook Units. As part of these Units, you will be required to watch some films in the Visual Resources Center or through other sources.

There will be 4 **Exams** during the semester.

The final grade in the course will be determined by the following formula:

Weekly Units	33%
Exams	33%
Research/Textbook Unit	34%

**Academic Dishonesty**

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](#)

**Writing Center**

The Sam Houston Writing Center, located in Farrington 111, is open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday, and 2 - 7 p.m. on Sunday. Writing tutors will work with you at any stage of the writing process (brainstorming, generating a draft, organizing a draft, or revising a draft) for any written assignment. The Writing Center operates on an appointment system, so please call (936) 294-3680 to schedule a session with a writing tutor. Skype sessions are available for distance students, and a tutor is available at the University Center. See website for more information: [www.shsu.edu/wctr](http://www.shsu.edu/wctr).

**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](mailto: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 3 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:

</dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>

### **Department of Art 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/>

### **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.



