

**PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MASTER SYLLABUS**

**DIGITAL ANIMATION I
VPT 1061**

Class Hours: 3.0

Credit Hours: 3.0

Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Revised: Fall 2017

Catalog Course Description

The course is designed to increase student skill with ToonBoon Harmony and StoryBoard Pro as well as other industry standard software for the purposes of animation. Topics include exploration of animation workflows from conceptual development through final production and opportunities for students to refine the ability to apply traditional animation principles.

Prerequisites

VPT 1060

Co-requisites

None

Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials: Required Textbook

Williams, R. (2012) The Animator's Survival Kit - Revised Edition. New York: Farber Inc. ISBN# 978-0-86547-897-8

Required items for the class are

- A portable/external USB 3.0 hard drive or flash/jump drive with minimum 32 GB of space
- Pencils/Erasers
- Micron Pens or fine point markers
- Sketch Book
- 4x6 Index Cards

Week/Unit/Topic Basis

Week Topic

- 1 Getting started; discuss syllabus and desired outcomes of this course. General assessment of class for median starting point. An in-depth look at animation around the world and how different cultures use animation to communicate.
- 2 Overview of the stages of animation production.
- 3 Introduction to the art of conceptual and character design. Discussion of

the language of posing the human body to communicate a character's emotional state

- 4 Introduction to StoryBoard Pro. Introduction to the Menus, Tools, Panels and workflows of StoryBoard Pro.
- 5 StoryBoard Pro tutorial 01 and 02. Creating storyboard panels, animating layers and cameras. Timing in StoryBoard Pro.
- 6 StoryBoard Pro tutorial 03. Using StoryBoard Pro's 3D tools to create dynamic scenes. Animation Basics in Toon Boom tutorial. Discussion of the X-Sheet and the art of in-betweening.
- 7 (MIDTERM) Color theory in animation. Colors in StoryBoard Pro and ToonBoom Harmony Tutorial. Discussing the art of the "Pitch" and "pitching" for animation.
- 8 Study of "Pose to Pose" animation versus "Straight Ahead" animation. X-sheet tutorial - a breakdown of exposures versus drawings in ToonBoom Harmony.
- 9 The importance of layout in animation. Key layout and staging terms defined and standard camera moves and cuts.
- 10 Layout and camera functions within ToonBoom Harmony. Importing image backgrounds into ToonBoom Harmony Tutorial.
- 11 Compositing for animation. Building 3D backgrounds and assets in CINEMA 4D tutorial.
- 12 Capturing and mixing audio for animation production. Editing Animation: A review of Adobe Premiere tutorial.
- 13 Group Animation Project Work Days
- 14 Group Animation Project Work Days
- 15 Final and Group Animation Project reviews and critiques

Course Goals

NOTE: Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the VPT program.

The course will

- A. Guide students to develop a working knowledge of storyboarding. I, II, III
- B. Enhance students' ability to communicate a character's emotional state through the posing of the human body. I, III

- C. Introduce students' to the industry standard storyboard and animatic creation software. II
- D. Expand students' use of color theory in the conceptualization and final production of animation. I, III
- E. Develop students' skills to effectively pitch ideas to an audience using proper methods of visual and verbal communication. I, III

Expected Student Learning Outcomes

NOTE: Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

The student will

1. Create animations that communicate the desired message to the intended audience. A, D
2. Use a wide variety of industry-standard equipment, techniques, software, hardware and materials to produce the appropriate content. C
3. Demonstrate advanced proficiency in the fundamental principles of animation. B, D
4. Demonstrate advanced proficiency in the understanding of industry standard terms and workflows. A, B, C, D, E
5. Successfully communicate ideas to an audience in a pitching scenario. E
6. Effectively work in a group setting to complete an animated short film, displaying advanced proficiency in all phases of production using the industry standard animation software. A, B, C, D, E

Evaluation

Testing Procedures: 20% of grade

Midterm — cumulative

Final exam — cumulative

Laboratory Expectations: 80% of grade

30% Three major assignments covering major disciplines of successful communication through animation.

20% Final Project Working in a group to conceptualize, pitch and successfully produce a 3-5 min. animated short form production.

30% Class Participation

Field Work: None

Other Evaluation Methods: None

Grading Scale:

A=90% to 100%

B=80% to 89%

C=70% to 79%

D=60% to 69%

F= Below 60%

Policies

Attendance Policy

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of Academic Affairs, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of Academic Affairs.

VPT Program Attendance: The VPT program believes a more stringent requirement is realistic because of the contractual commitment made by the College with local area employers. Therefore, to successfully complete VPT courses, students must attend at least **85% of classes**. To be considered in attendance, students are expected to be in class at the scheduled starting time for that class. Students will be considered tardy from that time until 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time. Three such tardies shall constitute an absence. Students arriving any time after 10 minutes beyond the scheduled starting time for a class will be considered absent.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.

- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

Please see the Pellissippi State Policies and Procedures Manual, Policy 04:02:00 Academic/Classroom Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions for the complete policy.

Accommodations for disabilities

Students that need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Disability Services (DS) in order to receive accommodations in this course. [Disability Services](http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/) (<http://www.pstcc.edu/sswd/>) may be contacted via [Disability Services email](#) or by visiting Alexander 130.

Other Policies

Any act of misuse, vandalism, malicious or unwarranted damage or destruction, defacing, disfiguring, or unauthorized use of property/equipment belonging to Pellissippi State is subject to disciplinary sanction.