

**Course Syllabus  
ART 473W 01  
The History of Animation  
3 Credit Hours  
Summer 2 2008**

**Art F 107  
M-F 9:00-10:50**

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**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: ART 370

**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 lectures and presentations of animated movies. Students will be assigned readings and write a paper about a topic in animation. Exams will cover material presented in lectures and the text.

**Required Texts**

*Animation Art*

*From Pencil to Pixel, the Illustrated History of Cartoon, Anime & CGI*

Jerry Beck General Editor

### **Attendance is mandatory**

According to University policy, a student may miss 3 hours before their final grade is affected.

In this course, you may miss two class periods before your final grade is affected. Use your absences wisely. I suggest saving them for when you are sick or absolutely unable to come to class. Please do not ask me if you can miss class for personal reasons. If you have 3 absences, your final grade will be lowered 5 points, 4 absences -10 points, 5 -15, 6 -20, 7 -25. If you miss more than 7 classes, you will not pass the course. Students who are more than 20 minutes late will be counted absent. Students are expected to remain in class the entire period. You are responsible for all assignments and information given in class even if you are absent.

### **Assignments, Exams and Grading**

This is a writing enhanced course. The grade for the course will be determined by the student's performance on exams and a research paper. The exams will consist of multiple choice and essay questions. Students will choose a topic from the course for the research paper. The paper is expected to cover the historical facts related to the topic as well as aesthetics, content, and cultural significance.

Quizzes and Midterm	25%
Final Exam	25%
Research Paper	50%

### **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:

<http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

### **Classroom Rules of Conduct**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus impedes the mission of the university. Cellular telephones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing or engaging in any other

form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Students must abide by the posted lab rules concerning use of computers or lab privileges will be revoked.

No Food is allowed in the lab. Drinks may be brought in as long as they are kept on the center table and not placed on the computer tables. Please dispose of any trash (including newspapers) that you bring into the room. The privilege of consuming beverages in the classroom will be revoked if it is abused.

### **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.

### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

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 are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. 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 Counseling Center 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 Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/811006.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.html)

### **Religious Holidays**

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](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf)

#### Calendar

Week 1	Precursors and Origins of Animation	
T July 7	Pre Film and Pioneers	Chapter 1
W July 8	Early Techniques	
Th July 9	First Studios McCay, Disney, Fleischer	
F July 10	Movie: <i>The Adventures of Prince Achmed</i>	
Week 2	Development of the Art Form	
M July 14	<b>Exam 1</b> <b>3 Topics for Paper Due</b> Early Disney and Sound	Chapters 2-4
T July 15	Fleischer	
W July 16	Warner Brothers	
Th July 17	Racial Stereotypes and Propaganda	
F July 18	Movie: TBA	
Week 3	Post WW 2-Golden Age	
M July 21	<b>Exam 2</b> Disney Features: Nine Old Men	Chapters 5-7
T July 22	Warner Brothers: Termite Terrace	
W July 23	Chuck Jones, Tex Avery	
Th July 24	UPA and other styles. Movie: TBA	
Week 4	Television and the Sixties	
M July 28	<b>Exam 3</b> <b>Outline of Paper Due</b> Hannah Barbera	Chapters 8-10
T July 29	TV Studios	
W July 30	International Styles	
Th July 31	Movie: <i>Fritz the Cat</i>	

Week 5	Contemporary Trends	
M August 4	Development of Computer Animation	Chapters 11-12
T August 5	Pixar	
W August 6	Movie TBA	
Th August 7	<b>Final Exam Research Paper Due</b>	