

DESN2801: Animation Process

Newcastle City Precinct
Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description The course introduces students to varying forms of animation practice. It will provide students with an introduction to design, techniques and story development in animation, including movement, timing, materials and design for animation and interaction.

Student projects may involve work integrated or research integrated learning opportunities; projects that involve external stakeholders; group / collaborative projects; speculative or more theoretically oriented projects; professionally oriented projects; projects based on competition or award briefs.

Academic Progress Requirements

Nil

Contact Hours

**Newcastle City Precinct
Lecture**

Face to Face On Campus
1 hour(s) per week(s) for 1 week(s) starting Week 7

Lecture

Face to Face On Campus
1 hour(s) per week(s) for 1 week(s) starting Week 1

Self-Directed Learning

Face to Face On Campus
1 hour(s) per week(s) for 10 week(s)

Tutorial

Face to Face On Campus
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 5 week(s) starting Week 2

Tutorial

Face to Face On Campus
2 hour(s) per week(s) for 5 week(s) starting Week 8

Unit Weighting

10

Workload

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Newcastle City Precinct Dr Andrew Howells Andrew.Howells@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 5357 Consultation: Consultation outside of scheduled class sessions can be organised by emailing the course coordinator.
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences NU Space, Level 4 409 Hunter Street Newcastle HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	Topics will include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Animation forms and styles;2. Visual and production design;3. Movement and timing, storyboarding;4. Production planning and shooting methods.
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Demonstrate an understanding of key animation principles including timing and design for animation;2. Analyse key animation forms and identify animation styles;3. Articulate and apply basic animation theory in the development of their work;4. Design and produce a small animations from concept to delivery
Course Materials	Further details on readings, lectures and other learning resources will be available on the course Canvas website.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	LECTURE 1: Introduction to Animation Process	Introduction to studio spaces, projects and tools	
2	4 Mar	Introduction to cut-out animation	In-class Task 1: Cut-out/Puppet techniques	In-class Task 1
3	11 Mar	Introduction to Rotoscoping	In-class Task 2: Roto techniques	In-class Task 2
4	18 Mar	Drawn animation techniques - 1	In-class Task 3: Drawn techniques 1	In-class Task 3
5	25 Mar	Drawn animation techniques - 2	In-class Task 4: Drawn techniques 2	In-class Task 4
6	1 Apr	Animation preproduction and planning for Assessments 3 & 4	In-class Task 5: Concept development, storyboards & production schedule/plan	In-class Task 5
7	8 Apr	LECTURE 2: Animation Process and Production design	Studio session: Composition development & perspective	Assessment 1 (20%) DUE: April 12 th , 11:59pm
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	Visual Design / Animation principles and planning	Studio session: Lip Syncing techniques	Assessment 2 (30%) DUE: May 3 rd , 11:59pm
9	6 May	Studio production	Studio Session: Style guide, FX and visual treatment	
10	13 May	Studio production	Studio Session: Production troubleshooting and feedback	
11	20 May	Studio production	Studio Session: Production troubleshooting and feedback	
12	27 May	Studio production	Studio Session: Production troubleshooting and feedback	
13	3 Jun			Assessments 3 (20%) & 4 (30%). DUE: Jun 7 th , 11:59pm
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Tutorial Exercises	Week 7, April 12th - 11:59pm	Individual	20%	1, 3
2	Animation Portfolio	Week 8, May 3rd - 11:59pm	Individual	30%	1, 2, 3
3	Creative Process Journal -	Week 13 - June 7th - 11:59pm	Individual	20%	1, 2
4	Short Animation	Week 13 - June 7th - 11:59pm	Combination	30%	1, 2, 3, 4

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Tutorial Exercises

Assessment Type	Tutorial / Laboratory Exercises
Purpose	These exercises are focussed on developing key competencies related to the animation processes required to complete assessments 3 and 4 for this course.
Description	This assessment involves completing and submitting weekly in-class tutorial exercises. Each short practical exercise is aimed at developing skills and experience in an area of animation process.
Weighting	20%
Length	5 X animation samples_5 secs duration each. Each short animation sample will need to be uploaded as a 1080X1920p aspect ratio movie file.
Due Date	Week 7, April 12th - 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria for each lab/studio exercises included in the assessment will be provided in the exercise brief discussed in class and uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Return Method	In Class
Feedback Provided	In Class - Ongoing feedback will be provided in-class during practical studio sessions

Assessment 2 - Animation Portfolio

Assessment Type	Project
Purpose	This project is focused on the development of pre-production skills and related animation process knowledge for an animation production.
Description	This assessment requires each student to submit a short portfolio of animation concept outcomes. These outcomes are an extension of the in-class exercises applied to the development of a short animation. The focus of these outcomes is on animation methods, techniques, and process. Required outcomes include; a short animation description, a storyboard, an animatic, a character style guide and any concept art developed in preparation for the proposed production. All outcomes will be discussed in class time with a specific brief uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Weighting	30%
Length	1 X 1-minute animatic (1080X1920p aspect ratio movie file. + 10 X A4 page (minimum) support folio
Due Date	Week 8, May 3rd - 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria for each of the required assessment 2 outcomes will be provided in the briefing document discussed in class and uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	In Class - Ongoing feedback will be provided in-class during practical studio sessions

Assessment 3 - Creative Process Journal -

Assessment Type	Journal
Purpose	The purpose of this Journal is to document the processes used in the development of the final animated outcome for Assessment 4.
Description	This assessment is focused on the development of a visual journal that documents the creative process undertaken in the production of Assessment 4. The journal requirements will be discussed in class with a specific brief uploaded to the course Canvas Site.
Weighting	20%
Length	Approximately 6 X A4 pages of development documentation.
Due Date	Week 13 - June 7th - 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria for the visual Journal required for assessment 3 will be provided in the Assessment 3 briefing document discussed in class and uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	In Class - Ongoing feedback will be provided in-class during practical studio sessions

Assessment 4 - Short Animation

Assessment Type	Project
Purpose	This project is focused on the application of key animation pre-production, and production processes covered in class to the development of a finished short animation production.
Description	This assessment requires students to produce a short animation (1 min duration) based on a prescribed theme. This short animation requires students to apply the production processes discussed in tutorial sessions and explored through applied weekly exercises to the development of a short animation. The short animation requirements will be discussed in class with a specific brief uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Weighting	30%
Length	1 X 1-minute finished animation uploaded as a 1080X1920p aspect ratio movie file.
Due Date	Week 13 - June 7th - 11:59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	The assessment criteria for the short animation required for assessment 4 will be provided in the Assessment 4 briefing document discussed in class and uploaded to the course Canvas site.
Return Method	Not Returned
Feedback Provided	In Class - Ongoing feedback will be provided in-class during practical studio sessions

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential

improvement.

Oral Interviews (Vivas) As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35> .

Adverse Circumstances The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:
<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

Important Policy Information The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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