San José State University
Design Department
ANI 117A-01, ADVANCED ILLUSTRATION, Spring 2016

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: John Clapp
Office Location: ART 219
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Office Hours: T/TH, 11am-12pm by appointment. Email for appointment.
Class Days/Time: M/W: 8:30 a.m.- 11:20 a.m.
Classroom: ART 243
Prerequisites: ANI 114

Course Description

Narrative problems for illustrative assignments, professional processes and technical accomplishment.
Prerequisite: ANI 114; Allowed Declared Majors: Animation

Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Paint efficiently, accurately, and with considerable skill, in Photoshop, to the degree that one can imitate both photographic and traditionally rendered images.
2. Follow through a complex visual illustration project in a manner similar or equivalent to standard industry workflow and practice, and at a similar level of quality.
3. Solve complex illustrative projects requiring significant research, critical analysis, and high-level visual communication and design skills.
4. Self-manage their time, efforts, and skills while working on complex multi-stage projects in such a way as to meet all deadlines with acceptable work.
5. Self-evaluate their work, and their strengths and weaknesses as they relate to studying visual development.
Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no required text for this course, however students are expected to consult various books, websites and blogs as needed to supplement their education.

Other Readings

All widely available at libraries and bookstores:

**How to Render**, Scott Robertson, ISBN 978-193349283-4

**How to Draw**, Scott Robertson, ISBN

**Atlas of Human Anatomy for the Artist**, Steven Rogers Peck

**Figure Drawing for All it’s Worth**, Andrew Loomis, http://www.saveloomis.org

**Drawing People**, Barbara Bradley

**Mindset**, Dr. Carol Dweck, ISBN 345472322

**Make it Stick**, Peter C. Brown, ISBN 97806744419391

**Talent Is Overrated**, Geoff Colvin, ISBN 9781441605368

Other equipment / material requirements

Students are expected to have an available laptop (PC or Mac) with some kind of tablet drawing ability or a Wacom equivalent device. Regardless of platform or input, the laptop should be well-prepared for high-end graphics processing.

See class supply list on first day of classes for further information.

Library Liaison

For assistance in finding library resources, you may consult:

http://libguides.sjsu.edu/animation

and/or contact MLK Librarian Teresa Slobuski.
(teresa.slobuski@sjsu.edu, or 408-808-2318.

Course Requirements and Assignments

The primary goal of this course is to help students take what they have learned about observational drawing and painting, combine that knowledge with the principles of illustrative design, and eventually interpret abstract ideas into communicative illustrations executed with the highest degree of craft and finish.

The class will include instructor lectures, demonstrations, and numerous one-on-one critiques of student work. Particular emphasis will be placed on illustrative fundamentals, both observed and constructed, and an enthusiasm for working on such fundamentals will be essential to student success.

Students should expect and plan their schedules to accommodate significant “homework” periods after each class session. Students are expected to bring and maintain prepared materials and be ready to work at the beginning of—and throughout—each class session. Failure to do so will affect one’s grade. It is always the student's responsibility to be prepared for class even if absent from the previous class.

Students will receive significant homework assignments every weekend, with smaller assignments between in-week sessions, and several assignments that will be completed within a given class. All assignments will be progressively and cumulatively building towards each of the course learning objectives. With the exception of the final project (15%) and classroom participation in critiques and lecture discussions (15%), each large
assignment will comprise about 3% of the final grade, with in-week, and in-class assignments accounting for approximately 1%. (All of the above subject to change with fair notice via email.) A final critique will be held on the final exam day in the usual classroom at the time and date indicated by the university final exam schedule. Please consult the sjsu.com website to reserve those times in your calendar immediately.

For more detailed information about classroom activities, please refer to the handouts distributed for each weekly assignment. (Available on the class Yahoo Group.)

ALL students should be subscribed to the following two Yahoo Groups and are expected to monitor both groups for relative messages’
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SJSU_Animation_Illustration/
http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/117A/

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (normally three hours per unit per week), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

**Grading Policy**

Students will be held accountable for meeting all deadlines with acceptable work. Directions given in class and for assignments must be followed accurately or grades will be lowered accordingly. Late work will not be excepted unless the instructor has given prior approval. Students are responsible for completing all work assigned during any absences, and absent students must make arrangements for their work to be turned in (on due date) by another student. No extra credit projects will be accepted for this class.

Class participation will be assessed and includes active engagement in critiques, intelligent questioning, peer mentoring, and proactive learning behavior.

Obviously, the quality of the work, both conceptually and its final execution, is the primary component of the grade; but as mentioned above, the student’s grade is also determined by their professional attitude, their conduct, their work ethic, and their ability to meet their deadlines and the educational challenges posed by the assignments. Above all, students are graded on the intelligence they demonstrate while they pursue, question, attempt, evaluate, struggle, succeed and/or fail at their assignments.

While it is possible to pass a class with a grade as low as a C-, students should be aware that grades below the “B” range demonstrate a lack of effort and are not considered adequate for pursuing the Animation/Illustration BFA degree, and forecast poor professional prospects within this aspect of our industry. Students receiving grades of B- or lower should therefore be on notice that their work as completed is barely adequate to maintaining their degree status and better efforts are expected. They may want to consider pursuing another degree and/or career path.

Grades may be reviewed privately at any time by arranging a meeting with the instructor. If you want to know your grade—ask.

Note that “All students have the right, within a reasonable time, to know their academic scores, to review their grade-dependent work, and to be provided with explanations for the determination of their course grades.” See University Policy F13-1 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F13-1.pdf for more details.
Classroom Protocol

All Animation/Illustration students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Whether in class or working after hours, students must respect the facilities and fellow students and are expected to present themselves and their work in a clean professional manner. Students will be held accountable for both classroom participation and contributing to the creation of a positive atmosphere for education.

Classes and events are to be treated as business appointments and students are expected to be in attendance, fully prepared, and on time. Fully prepared means having all necessary materials needed to work on class projects, having prepared according to instructions, and having made significant progress on assignments from the previous class. Failure to accomplish any of the above will significantly lower your grade.

The occasional absence is unremarkable, but if an absence is unavoidable, students are expected to notify the instructor immediately, and contact their peers to both turn in work on the due date and stay current with class assignments they may have missed.

Cell phones should be turned off during class, and students should refrain from eating food others can smell. At the end of classes, students are expected to leave the classroom cleaner than they found it.

Finally, students should maintain an awareness of the safety of their surroundings, belongings, and classmates. In particular, when working in the building and entering or leaving after hours, students should accompany one another in the interest of safety or call the University Police for an escort. Report any suspicious persons or behavior to the University police at 408-924-2222 or by picking up a blue emergency phone.

University Policies

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester’s Catalog Policies section at http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the Academic Calendars webpage at http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/. The Late Drop Policy is available at http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the Advising Hub at http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/.

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

University Policy S12-7, http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf, requires students to obtain instructor’s permission to record the course and the following items to be included in the syllabus:

- “Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor’s permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.”
  - It is suggested that the greensheet include the instructor’s process for granting permission, whether in writing or orally and whether for the whole semester or on a class by class basis.
- In classes where active participation of students or guests may be on recording, permission of those students or guests should be obtained as well.
- “Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.”

With all of the above in mind, I (the instructor) hereby grant all of you permission to record my classes provided you adhere to the restrictions above.

**Academic integrity**

Your commitment, as a student, to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf) requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical Development website is available at [http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/).

**Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf) requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/aec](http://www.sjsu.edu/aec) to establish a record of their disability.

**Accommodation to Students’ Religious Holidays**

San José State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date that he/she will be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at [http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf).

**Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center at [http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall and in the Associated Students Lab on the 2nd floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library. A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include DV and HD digital camcorders; digital still cameras; video, slide and overhead projectors; DVD, CD, and audiotape players; sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

**SJSU Counseling Services**

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Salvador, in the Student Health Center across from the Event Center. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic
issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling.