

ANI 14: Color Principles for Screen Arts

Course Overview

SJSU Animation/Illustration majors must have an advanced understanding of color, how color is mixed additively and subtractively for realist effects, and how color can be employed to serve a narrative purpose.

ANI 14 Color Principles for Screen Arts instructs students in all of these topics using traditional media (primarily gouache) and a successful student leaves with considerable painting and color mixing experience.

ANI 14 is a second-semester foundation-level course within our program.

In-depth topics include: extensive study of value and color mixing, saturation and temperature studies, and an introduction to plein-air painting.

While this course may seem equivalent to many introductory color courses in which students create color wheels and experiment with simultaneous contrast effects, it should be understood that this class is much more demanding in both content and execution than such courses, and a much higher level of competence will be expected of articulating students.

Students must be able to achieve highly realistic color and painting effects, and understand how to achieve them in order to be successful in future study.



ANI 14: Minimum Standards

For articulation purposes—at a minimum—students would be expected to possess demonstrable competency with the following skills:

- Able to paint accurate value and color swatches in gouache.
- Able to mix any color at any value with maximum saturation.
- Able to manipulate any paint mixture with a fine control of value, saturation, and hue.
- Able to see and understand temperature and saturation effects of any given light source, in order to paint it accurately.
- Able to envision—and correctly paint or render—shadows and tonal gradations across the planes of an object from any given light source.
- Ability to observe and paint well under plein-air conditions using gouache.



Alternative Means of Credit

SJSU A/I is aware that most schools do not offer any courses that are clearly equivalent to this course. Thus, it is possible that a given student may arrive at SJSU with the prerequisite skills, but without the formal course credit. To address such situations, SJSU A/I is prepared to test incoming students for the competencies expected for this course. Such tests can be conducted during the first week of any given semester. Successful applicants can have the course waived in favor of an elective of their choice.

