## Visual Dev & Character Design

## ART2050 351

## **Instructor Information**



## **Course Description**

Design and stylization of human and animal characters, environments, and props for visual storytelling applied to concept art, comic books, and cartoon illustration.

Prereq: ART 1120 and ART 1260.

Semester: Fall

## **Course Student Learning Outcomes**

- Design and stylization of human and animal characters, environments, and props for visual storytelling applied to concept art, comic books, and cartoon illustration.
- Demonstrate quality DRAWING as it relates to visual development and creating character designs.

- Demonstrate skillful use of the following as it relates to quality DESIGN and VISUALLY COMMUNICATING character traits.
- Demonstrate skillful use of CHARATER as it relates to relates to visual development and creating character designs.
- Demonstrate skillful use of HUMAN ANATOMY as it relates to relates to visual development and creating character designs.
- Demonstrate skillful use of ANIMAL ANATOMY as it relates to relates to visual development and creating character designs.
- Demonstrate skillful creation of ENVIRONMENTS and PROPS relating to visual development and character designs.
- Demonstrate PRODUCTION workflow as it relates to character designs.
- Self Critique.
- Demonstrate TOOLS OF THE TRADE as they relates to character designs.

## **Course Prerequisites**

It is the student's responsibility to examine each course description for details of prerequisite classes. It is expected you have taken the prerequisites for this course. SLCC VAD requires students to receive a C grade or better in pre-requisite classes, some 4-year institution's require a C+ or better. It is expected you have taken the prerequisites for this course and passed them with a C grade or better.

- ART 1260 Figure Drawing is required
- ART 1120 Design is required
- Stories developed in ART 1660 Storyboarding can also be helpful

This class is not a prerequisite for any subsequent classes, but course work created in this course can be helpful in other Visual Art courses. Consider the following examples.

- The model packet can be used to develop stories in ART 1660, and get a head start on production for ART 2670 Animation Production Workshop
- Turnarounds can be modeled in ART 2630 3D Modeling & Sculpting

• Work in this class can be further developed and reworked in Digital Painting, Portfolio, and other and Illustration Classes

## Required Text or Materials

# Title: All content provided on Canvas, See Required Material page for list of supplies

For more information on textbook accessibility, contact Accessibility & Disability Services at <a href="mailto:ads@slcc.edu">ads@slcc.edu</a>.

## Class Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Critiques & Revisions	Quiz	0
	General Questions	Discussion	0
	Observational Sketchbooks	Quiz	0
	Roll Call Attendance	Assignment	100
	Water Cooler Discussion (Optional)	Discussion	0
	Working @ Home	Discussion	0
1/16	Story & Design Principles	Discussion	40
1/20	<u>Syllabus Quiz</u>	Quiz	6
1/23	Silhouette, Shape & Line	Discussion	40

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
1/30	Anatomy Review, Gender & Age Differences	Discussion	40
2/1	Observational Sketchbook Check 1	Assignment	10
2/6	Caricature & Facial Expression	Discussion	40
2/13	Stereotypes- Heros, Villains, & Sex Appeal	Discussion	40
2/20	Costumes/Clothing Simplification	Discussion	40
2/27	Animals 1 - Mammals	Discussion	40
3/12	Animals 2 - Non- Mammal & Imaginary	Discussion	40
3/19	Emulation 1 - Moving Image Designers	Discussion	40
3/21	Observational Sketchbook Check 2	Assignment	20
3/26	Emulation 2 - Print  Designers	Discussion	40
4/2	Written Description - Milestone 1	Assignment	8
4/9	<u>Characters Finalized</u> - <u>Milestone 2</u>	Discussion	4
4/16	Environment and Props - Milestone 3	Discussion	4
4/23	<u>Line Quality &amp; Color -</u> <u>Milestone 4</u>	Discussion	4

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
4/25	Artist Analysis	Discussion	40
4/25	Final Observational Sketchbook Check	Assignment	40
4/30	College Course Evaluation	Assignment	0
4/30	End of Course Survey	Quiz	20
4/30	Model Packet Final	Discussion	200

## Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

You will be asked to demonstrate the course outcomes through several projects that explore aspects of animation that will show evidence of your ability to apply the principles covered in this course and by and participating in critiques and discussions. Meaning you will publicly share your drawings and animation. All submissions will be uploaded directly to Canvas, shared in person or over video meeting, or as a link to syncSketch. Do not use Google Drive, YouTube, or Office 360 to submit assignments.

## Assignments – 70% of grade

This is a studio class with all assignments given in class. Each assignment each is outlined on a page on Canvas, and when completed will be presented for a peer review. See attached schedule.

## Artist Analysis - 10% of grade

Each student will prepare a 5-7 minute oral report on a favorite comic, illustration, concept or animation artist. You will show samples and lead a discussion on this artist. Be prepared to turn in digital samples of the artists work.

## Sketchbook - 20% of grade

You are required to keep a personal sketchbook that shows drawings representing your ideas and observations from life as well as from your imagination. Sometimes called Cafe Drawings, these are observations of people and things you see going about the everyday routines of life. Study the gestures and attitudes of various types of people, at the store, on the beach, on the street, or in your own home. Feel free to use your sketchbook to record detailed studies as well as thumbnails and compositional explorations. Sketchbooks will be checked after last day to add, at midterm, and submitted with the Final.

#### Final

We will meet on the day of the Final to complete an End of Course Survey, and to critique your Model Packet assignment.

Time for the Final is different than our usual class, See Schedule

## **Grading Scale**

My professional experience and aesthetic preferences are factors that influence my judgment. Specific objectives for each project will be outlined on Canvas and explained in-modules. Assignments are generally graded on a rubric with 4 points scale. Rubrics let you know how you will be assessed on your assignments. Canvas has a tutorial for how to view rubrics for assignments, how to view rubrics for discussion boards, and how to see rubric scores and comments. Canvas also has a tutorial for how to view comments and annotations made by your instructor on assignments.

#### Example of Rubric Criteria and Scoring

Criteria	4	3	2	1	0
Criteria	Professional	Adequate	Needs Work	Inadequate	No submission
Criteria	Every time	Most Times	Few Times	No times	No Submission
Criteria	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Submission

Project grades will foremost be based upon the excellence of the project work. Students will receive point value for work that meets the criteria as given. You can view your grades right in Canvas, and they will be updated on a regular basis. Check frequently to make sure your grades are accurate. You can use the What-If Grades feature to find out how your grades will be affected by ungraded or upcoming or resubmitted assignments.

There is no assigned extra credit in this class. Final Grades will be given in the following breakdown as recommended by the Visual Art &Design Department.

- A (93% 100%)
- A- (90% 92.9%)
- B+ (86% 89.9%)
- B (83% 85.9%)
- B- (80% 82.9%)
- C (70% 79.9%)
- D (60% 69.9%)
- E (0% 59.9%)

### Academic Honesty

Academic Honesty will be strictly enforced in this course. Any behavior deemed unethical or that does not abide by reasonable academic honesty will result in action by the professor. Students caught cheating in this course will forfeit their right to pass this course!

#### Deadlines

Submission due dates are stated with each assignment and an overview may be seen in the Canvas Calendar. Deadlines are not negotiable. No late work will be accepted. Every effort should be made to get your assignment submitted on time. Drawing, design, story, animation are processes of constant improvement. We have frequent critiques to review the progress of your work. If your work is not finished you are still expected to submit it and participate.

#### Revisions

## "Half of my life is an act of revision." - John Irving

Projects that are turned in on time will not receive a final grade until the final at end of the semester so you will have the opportunity to make revisions. You will receive a temporary grade at the time each is due. When the revisions are completed a final grade will be assigned to each, if the revisions are done poorly the grade will not be improved and may even drop. Projects should be reworked based on the critique comments until they are as strong as possible.

- preferred turned in on time, finished can be resubmitted for a better grade
- acceptable turned in on time, unfinished work in progress can be resubmitted for a better grade
- unacceptable not turned in, late, or work not started, submitted a placeholder cannot be resubmitted for a better grade

#### **Exceptions:**

- sketchbook checks
- project milestones
- projects that are a required iteration or revision
- the final

#### **Institutional Policies**

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

You can access the document by clicking on the following link: <a href="https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus">https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</a>

## **Learning Support and Tutoring Services**

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab: <a href="https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus">https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</a>. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

## Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, please visit the Institutional Syllabus under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab: <a href="https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus">https://slcc.instructure.com/courses/530981/pages/institutional-syllabus</a>. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

## Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

SLCC Student Academic Calendar

## Accessibility

Every known effort has been made to format this course to be as accessible as possible for all students, including closed captioning, alt tags, video and image descriptions, etc. However, due to the visual art nature of this course, not all visual elements within the course can be formatted in an accessible way that allows students needing visual assistance sufficient accommodations to use them independently. For example, students must create drawings that are visually appealing based on observation, or synchronize audio with animation. Students needing additional accommodations should work with the DRC on a case-by-case basis.

#### Catch All

I don't claim to know everything and am a fallible human being. I will inevitably make factual errors, draw unjustified conclusions, and sometimes pass my opinions along as fact. When appropriate, please let me know when I have messed up, and suggest ways my instruction or this course can be improved. The course evaluations at the end of the year are helpful, but the changes brought about through that feedback will be too late to help you.

## Don't wait to address a problem!

I am not an umpire who is trying to call you out. I'm not a competitor who is trying to outsmart you. I'm not a prosecutor who is trying to convict you. I'm a teacher who wants your progress, dedicating my days to provide you opportunities to help you succeed as you make efforts toward your goals.

Items on this syllabus may be added to or changed to better achieve the course goals and needs of the student and instructor as situations present themselves.