

# Experimental Web Animation

Spring 2004

60-420, Section A

Mon, Wed 6:30-9:20 pm

CFA 318

<http://www.crudeoils.us/shawn/classes/ema.html>

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## **Abstract:**

This class is intended to be an instructional framework for the student to experiment and explore animation. Students will complete smaller structured assignments, while larger projects will be open for testing the boundaries of animation. During the semester we will be screening and discussing various artists who are based in film, video, and digital media. Our goals are to expand previous notions of animation, build a knowledgeable tool base, and contextualize previous and current work against our own.

## **Key Points:**

- Be on time; if you miss something ask a friend or myself during break or outside of class time.
- Spend time outside of class learning the tools; you may need to spend several hours in addition to class time preparing projects or digging more in depth with the tools.
- Participate in class; this accounts for both critiques as well as normal class days.
- Ask questions; most likely someone else is wondering the same thing.
- No audible cell phones; if you decide to take the call, please exit the classroom to talk, and catch up on what you missed from a friend.
- Crash and burn with style; you will learn more from your mistakes than easy successes. Ambitious failures are rewarded more than simply attained goals. We are not a 'demo or die' culture, but we should view everything available.
- Email; use it to communicate with me outside of class. I will also use it to communicate with you, so please check regularly. I will respond as soon as possible, but understand that email between 11pm and 8am will most likely wait until the next morning.

## **Supplies:**

Required:

- Media to carry your work, i.e.: Zip disks, CD-R disks, portable hard-drive, laptops, whatever works best for you and is reliable. Failure to show work due to poor media will not be an acceptable excuse.

Suggested:

- For those interested in learning basics, examples, and help guide:

[Javascript for the World Wide Web](#), Tom Negrino and Dori Smith. ISBN: 0-201-73517-2

[Macromedia Flash MX 2004: Training from the Source](#), Jen deHaan. ISBN: 0321213424

- For the very serious only:

[Javascript, The Definitive Guide](#), David Flanagan. ISBN: 1-56592-392-8

[Object Oriented Macromedia Flash MX](#), William Drol. ISBN: 1590590147

## **Grading:**

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Attendance ..... 30 %

- Three absences will equal a loss of one final letter grade.
- Three tardy occurrences will equal one absence.

Participation .....20 %

- Ask questions, give answers.
- Constructive critiques and clear, well thought out presentations.

Creativity, Development, and Quality of projects/ assignments .....50 %

- Late projects or assignments will receive a loss of one letter grade for that project or assignment.
- Conceptually fulfilled projects are as important as personal technical achievements within the media.

## **Schedule:**

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### **January**

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Mon 12 • Introductions	Wed 14 • tools, animation basics and instances
Mon 19 • adv tweening, shape, mask, path	Wed 21 • images, work time
Mon 26 • Crit 1st experiment	Wed 28 • No Class • Shawn in Chicago

### **February**

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Mon 2 • Action script, mouse (button)	Wed 4 • random walk, object control
Mon 9 • Crit 2nd experiment	Wed 11 • sound, video
Mon 16 • No Class • President's Day	Wed 18 • No Class • Shawn in Seattle
Mon 23 • present midterm idea, work on mid	Wed 25 • work on mid

### **March**

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Mon 1 • Mid Crit	Wed 3 • Mid Crit
Mon 8 • No Class • spring break	Wed 11 • No Class • spring break
Mon 15 • text control, events	Wed 17 • variables, functions, properties
Mon 22 • particle systems	Wed 24 • loading movies and layers
Mon 29 • Crit 3rd experiment	Wed 31 • survivalist Javascript, Image

### **April**

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Mon 5 • windows, frames, communication	Wed 7 • basic DHTML, cookies
Mon 12 • Crit 4th experiment	Wed 14 • Javascript & Flash together
Mon 19 • present final idea, menus, scrolling txt	Wed 21 • draggable, drawing
Mon 26 • work on final	Wed 28 • work on final

### **May**

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Mon 3 • Final Crit	Wed 5 • Final Crit
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- changes to syllabus may be made at instructor's best discretion •