

# Special Proj. in 3D

Spring 2006

ARTS 4961-01

Tuesday, Friday 2:00pm- 3:50am

Sage Lab, VAST Studio 2411

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“Those who cannot begin do not finish” – Robert Henri: The Art Spirit

## **Abstract:**

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Advanced Digital 3-D Projects is studio based and consists of longer projects with attention to concept, process, and finish. The student will either work individually or as a member on a team and be expected to have a vision or concept they are driven to create. The student is expected to keep up as this course consists of mainly one large project. Additional topics covered advanced modeling techniques, advanced shader networks, compositing, and non-photorealistic rendering.

## **Supplies:**

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Required:

- Data storage – And lots of it. Whichever means of saving your files is most trustworthy and effective for you. You are responsible for your data, no excuses.

Suggested:

- Calendar to help plan your process.

## **Important Points:**

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Be on time:

Attendance will be taken every class. Excused absences must be cleared and accepted on instructor's conditions before the start of class by phone, email, or in person. See Grading and Excuses for further explanation.

Excuses:

Excuses pertaining to anything are only acceptable in the following four scenarios: death of family member, a note from doctor or documentation of hospitalization, viable religious observance, and presentation or exhibition of academic work or research at a conference, symposium, gallery, museum, etc. Singular sick days are excusable without documentation within a reasonable limit – for example: two. Illness spanning two or more consecutive class days is not excusable without documentation.

Responsibility:

It will be the student's responsibility to keep track of their performance and all aspects pertaining to it, this includes accepting responsibility for previous actions, attendance, and performance.

**Procrastination:**

Waiting until the last minute would not be advisable in this course. Animation does not have a "quick solution," and you will have several difficulties when rushing through it.

**Studio Format/ Work Load:**

This course does not require everyday attention, although it is a studio course and will require six to ten hours of work outside of class each week on average.

**E-mail:**

E-mail is the most effective communication 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 10 pm and 8am will most likely wait until the next morning.

**Cell Phone:**

No audible cell phones; if you decide to take the call, please exit the classroom to talk.

**Computing:**

Instant Messenger and/ or other open non-class related applications; if you running any extraneous distracting applications other than what is being taught and you ask for help, then you may be denied the help until you start paying attention.

**Studio Critique:**

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**Monitors/ Laptops/ etc:**

- All audio/visual devices other than the equipment being used to present work will be turned off.
- Refusal to turn off monitors, close laptops, etc will result in receiving an absence for that day.

**Participation:**

- You will be required to speak and present your work.
- You will also be required to speak about your colleague's work.
- A simple like, dislike, or opinion must be followed with substantiating reasons.
- Please give positive feedback. Our class has a mix of disciplines, and not everyone is accustomed or prepared for a full critique forum.
- Allow everyone a chance to speak.
- Use common sense and play nice: don't interrupt; do wait for your turn, etc.

**Ideas:**

- Ideas that cause any physical or emotional harm to the student or anyone else will not be accepted.
- All other ideas will be accepted for conversation.
- A student may excuse themselves for a short duration if there is a conflict of religious beliefs with the content presented.

**Grading:**

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Assignments:

- WebCT
  - All assignments, grades, and written comments will be dispersed through WebCT.
  - Read the assignment and follow it exactly, this includes where to turn in assignments and their formatting requirements.
  - Additional submitted samples or supplementary materials not specifically required may be in any cross platform format.
  - Assignments will be due on the date listed in WebCT regardless of whether they were officially assigned in class.
  - Question? Ask it.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of class.
- Ten percent of an assignment's total points will be deducted per day late. Days are calculated by the time an assignment is due. After ten days, an assignment will be graded with a zero.
- Voluntary extra assignments for an increase in a final grade will not be entertained or accepted.
- Redoing an assignment for a potentially higher score is acceptable only if the assignment was originally turned in on time.

Attendance:

- Attendance is mandatory and taken at the beginning of class. Tardiness will be calculated when either of the following happens first: the end of opening announcements or ten minutes.
- Only disputes brought to the instructor's attention within one week of the infraction will be considered and discussed. All other disputes will not be considered.
- Attendance and tardy final grade modifications as follows:
  - Each three tardies equal one absence.
  - Each three absences equal reduction of total points by one letter grade.
  - Work in Class days are not "free" days.
- Attendance to Final Critique during exam week is mandatory. Failure to appear will result in the reduction of total points by one letter grade.

Overall:

- Grades will be based on an appropriate level for continuation into an industry related profession.
- Any appeal for grades must be brought to the instructor during office hours or at a scheduled time convenient to both parties. Keep in mind that an appeal has the potential to raise or lower your grade.
- Incompletes will only be granted for the death of family member during the semester, note from doctor or documentation of hospitalization representing a significant period of time.
- No additional work after the conclusion of a semester will be accepted for a change of grade.
- There is no rounding of the thousands place.

Grade Expectations	Percentage
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A	Consistent outstanding work, presentation and effort, turned in on time.	100	- 90
B	Good work, presentation and effort presented on time.	89.99	- 80
C	Most work presented on time, some participation and effort.	79.99	- 70
D	Some work presented on time, little participation and effort.	69.99	- 60
F	Failure	59.99	- 0

## **Academic Integrity**

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### Trust:

Student-Teacher relationships are built on trust. Students must trust that teachers have made appropriate decisions about the structure and content of the courses they teach. And, teachers must trust that the assignments which students turn in are theirs. Acts which violate this trust undermine the educational process.

### Plagiarism:

All work produced in this course must be original and created by the student. First infraction will result in a failure for the course and a report to the Office of the Dean.

### Collaboration:

Collaborative work and discussion is encouraged. Instructor must be notified of student's intention to collaborate on assignments well ahead of that assignment's deadline. Instructor will determine whether or not collaboration will be allowed. Upon assignment completion, there must be documentation of each member's contribution to the finished assignment. The instructor reserves the right to award members of the collaboration different grades.

**Project Assignment Schedule:**

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Projects are due on the date that matches the end of their time block. For example, the first assignment “Design” is due Jan 24th not Jan 27th. Readings are supplied for students’ use in relation to project assignments. Discussion about readings will not occur unless otherwise notified during the class time in which they are assigned.

Day	in Class		
17-Jan	Advanced Modeling Techniques	Modeling	Design
20-Jan	Advanced Modeling Techniques		
24-Jan	Critique Designs		Story Board
27-Jan	Critique Designs		
31-Jan	Advanced Shader Networks		
3-Feb	Advanced Shader Networks		
7-Feb	Critique Story Board		
10-Feb	Critique Story Board		
14-Feb	Full Body IK		Leica Reel
17-Feb	IK, FK		
21-Feb	No Class - Mon Schedule		
24-Feb	No Class - Shawn Boston		
28-Feb	Critique Leica Reel	Rig	
3-Mar	Critique Leica Reel		
7-Mar	Work in Class	Animate	
10-Mar	Work in Class		
14-Mar	No Class - Spring Break	Lighting	
17-Mar	No Class - Spring Break		
21-Mar	TBA		
24-Mar	Work in Class		
28-Mar	Work in Class	Animate SFX	
31-Mar	Critique Playblast		
4-Apr	Critique Playblast	Rendering	
7-Apr	Render Layers		
11-Apr	Render Layers	Compositing	
14-Apr	Shake Compositing?		
18-Apr	Work in Class		
21-Apr	Work in Class		
25-Apr	Work in Class		
28-Apr	Work in Class		
2-May	Last WIC	End	
8-12 May	Critique		

- Changes to syllabus may be made at instructor's best discretion with notification to the student •