2020-21 Fall
HART1023   Introduction to Experimental Animation (1 Credit)

Course Instructor:    Mr. Ken YIU (Email: kenyiu.teaching@gmail.com)
Program Officer:    Jeff Lai (Email: jefflai@ust.hk)
Time:  Mondays | 10:30am – 12:20 pm
Venue:    Online
Office Hours:    By appointment

Course Description

This introductory course aims at guiding students to explore the art of animation through producing drawing, cut-ups, roto-scoping, photographic and object animation with both digital and traditional tools. By introducing non-mainstream techniques and mediums for creating time-based imagery, students will learn both practical skills and theories of animation as a visual art form for artistic expression and communication.

Through brief lecturing, students will acquaint themselves with the history and development of experimental animation and its influences to moving image arts in general. The hands-on activities will allow students to explore freely the principles of animation starting from pencil and paper to digital software and tools.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:
1. Describe and appreciate the history and development of experimental animation
2. Identify and explain the stylistic and narrative elements of experimental animation
3. Develop abstract ideas into experimental animation works
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>ILO(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7 Sep</td>
<td><strong>Part 1 : Creating animation using real-life objects</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Introduction</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• What is experimental and mainstream animation</td>
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<td>• What are the tools and materials for experimental animation</td>
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<td>• How to learn animation from daily life</td>
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<td>• Terms need to know, e.g. frame rates, aspect ratio, etc</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>14 Sep</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Topic: Life techniques for animation I</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• How to create animation using mobile phone</td>
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<td>• Introduction on stop motion</td>
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<td>• Claymation, Object-Motion, Cutout-Motion, Pixilation</td>
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<td>• Tools we need to create stop motion</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>21 Sep</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
<td>2,3</td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Life techniques for animation II</strong></td>
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<td>• Review the testing clips</td>
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<td>• Experiment sound with moving object</td>
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<td>• Create sound effects using daily object</td>
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<td>• Create meaningful actions using stop motion</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>28 Sep</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Life techniques for animation III</strong></td>
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<td>• Students present their stop-motion clips</td>
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<td>• Discussion on the student works</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>5 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Part 2: Create animation using hand-drawn elements</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Hand-drawn Animation I (Midterm 30%)</strong></td>
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<td>• What is hand-drawn animation</td>
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<td>• Tools and Software</td>
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<td>• Integrate hand-drawn elements to real-life photos</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Hand-drawn Animation II</strong></td>
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<td>• The 12 Principles of Animation by Walt Disney</td>
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<td>• How to create character using hand-drawn elements</td>
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<td>• Experiment with real-world objects and environment</td>
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<td>• Create a story using one character</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Hand-drawn Animation III</strong></td>
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<td>• Create a story using character and object</td>
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<td>• Create a story using character and environment</td>
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<td>• Create a story using two character</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>2 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Presentation of Analysis and Proposal (5%)</strong></td>
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<td>Student presentations on project proposals</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>9 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Part 3: Making a complete work of animation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Tutorial on individual project proposals</strong></td>
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<td>Discussion with students on their project proposals, story ideas, and</td>
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<td>problems</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>16 Nov</td>
<td><strong>Lesson</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Topic: Presentation of 1st cut (10%)</strong></td>
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<td>• Critique on 1st cut draft</td>
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<td>• Examples to be shown for specific artistic and technical needs</td>
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<td>Assessment Tasks</td>
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<td><strong>Assessment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
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| Mid-term project (30%) | Mid-term project  
Individual essay  
Each student should find a short animation to discuss. You may analyze its styles, artistic treatments, special skills and experiment intentions found in the work. Also, you may talk about its significance in animation development. The work chosen should be non-mainstream shorts with clear artistic interests and intentions.  
**Due date: 05 Oct 2020 (lesson 05)**  
**Word limit: 1000**  
For late submission, students will have 10% deducted each day from their grade of this project. Submissions will not be accepted after **23 Mar 2020**. | 1, 2 |
| Final project (40%)  
(5% for Proposal & 10% for the first draft) | Final project  
Each student is required to submit a short animation artwork (around one minute). Students may choose any story or visual concepts for this final project and should choose suitable elements for fitting into the one-minute timeframe. All artworks have to be presented during the critique session in **lesson 12**.  
Also, in **lesson 08 (02 Nov 2020)**, students need to present their planning of the final project, including the basic story, characters, structure and organization of different elements. The first drafts are expected to be finished by **lesson 10 (16 Nov 2020)**. | 2, 3 |
| Class Participation (20%) | Class Participation  
Students are evaluated based on their participation and critiques on in-class exercises. | 1, 2 |
| Attendance (10%) | Attendance  
(appplies to Zoom) Attendance will be taken in the beginning of each session after the add/drop period. Students arriving 10 minutes after the beginning of each session will be counted as late. Being late or leaving early twice will be counted as one absence. | NA |
Recommended Reading Materials

Supplementary Reading Materials

DVDs
7. *Animation World of Paul Driessen* [DVD]. Films du Paradoxe

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE
- You must observe and uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty in all the work you do throughout your program of study.
- As members of the University community, you have the responsibility to help maintain the academic reputation of HKUST in its academic endeavors.
- Sanctions will be imposed if you are found to have violated the regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- Regulations for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (http://publish.ust.hk/acadreg/generalreg/index.html)