



South Portland, Maine 04106

Communications & New Media Studies

Title: 2D Animation

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture (or Lab): Lecture

Office Hours: *ksibole.youcanbook.me*

Catalog Number: CNMS 291-01

Total Contact Hours: 45

Instructor: Kate Sibole, MFA

Contact Information: ksibole@smccme.edu

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is an introduction into understanding and utilizing AfterEffects in the creation of Motion Graphics. Focus will be given on learning the interface in AfterEffects, putting graphics in motion and rendering finished movie and animation projects. Participants will also explore a workflow between Photoshop and AfterEffects. Be prepared for an intensive hands-on learning experience. Prerequisites: CNMS-120 or CNMS-240

Zoom Meeting ID: [943 6360 1627](#) / Fridays 9-11:45am

Course Objectives

After successfully completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Use Adobe After Effects software at a beginning to intermediate level
- Design and animate titles and motion graphics
- Build 2D and 3D video composites and perform basic timeline editing
- Create puppet animations
- Render, convert and analyze digital video files for different specifications

Teaching Methods

This class will operate as an “synchronous” class. This means we will meet during a regularly scheduled class time.

Additionally, frequent ‘workshops’ and check-ins will be posted. These are not required meetings if your schedule does not allow it.

Students will work through the provided tutorials, contribute to a series of discussion threads, and participate in peer critique. Your professor will maintain regular contact, be available to help troubleshoot, and also participate in the discussions. The student voices should dominate the Project / Peer Galleries so please refer to the Critique Etiquette notes if you are unsure of the best and most effective way to communicate critical feedback.

CONTACT

Professor : Kate Q. Sibole, MFA

Email : ksibole@smccme.edu (best way to reach me)

Office Location : Working remotely from my home office Fall 2020

Office Hours : ksibole.youcanbook.me

Phone / Text : 207-619-2339

- **Open Zoom Drop In (Mondays & Fridays 12:30-2:30)**



[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 95931741215

- **Discord CNMS 291:** <https://discord.gg/Vk4ZmDN>

I do my absolute best to respond to emails within 24 hours Monday-Friday; 6am-5pm. If you contact me on the weekend or during a holiday, please understand that I am not able to respond to you right away. The course content is available 24/7, so please plan to look over your assignments sooner rather than later and let me know if you have any questions prior to the weekend.

Email is the absolute best way to reach me. You can also start a Google Video Chat or IM me if you see that I am available thru our school gmail accounts. If you need to book time with me for a face to face meeting, phone meeting or other scheduled access then please use the You Can Book Me link above.

TEXT & MATERIALS

Required

- Adobe CC software
- Adobe After Effects CC Classroom in a Book (2019 or 2020 release)
- YouTube or Vimeo account

Useful

- External drive
- Sketchbook

Honors Recognition

If you choose to pursue the Honor's recognition on your transcript, you will also be responsible for taking and passing the ACA, the Adobe Certified Associate exam. **Please let me know prior to the end of Drop/Add if you intend to pursue the Honors Option.** There is more work and a written component attached to this requirement and can not be satisfied at the last minute. You should purchase the exam from this bookstore.

EVALUATION & GRADING

- Tutorial/Lesson Completion 10%
- Peer Feedback / Discussion Participation 10%
- Project #1 Cut Out Style/ Monty Python Animation 10%
- Project #2 Kinetic Typography 15%
- Project #4 Animated Idiom 15%
- Project #3 Parallax Animation 20%
- Project #5 Title Sequence 20%

Student's work will be evaluated on their knowledge and practice of the online resources, reading, quizzes and design projects; contribution to class discussion and the quality of production skills (this includes technical and aesthetic concerns.) In addition, grading and evaluation will include attention to deadlines and requirements specific to the assignments.

Spelling and grammar count throughout all the components of this course: quizzes, exams, projects, discussion board postings.

Grading Scale (as stated in college handbook)

93-100 : A
90-92 : A-
87-89 : B+
83-86 : B
80-82 : B-
77-79 : C+
73-76 : C
70-72 : C-
67-69 : D+
60-66 : D
0-59 : F

HABITS OF WORK

This is an Advanced 200 level college course and will require a significant amount of time, work, and effort outside of the classroom each week. Classes are designed around 180 hours of committed time.

- 45 hours of classroom/online classroom contact-including but not limited to: lectures, demonstrations, tutorials, critiques, screenings
- 2-3 hours per credit each week on work and study that happens outside of class time-including but not limited to: tutorials, group projects, note taking
- This is a project based course

TIER III Classes

For this 3 credit class, that equates to 8-10+ hours of additional work outside of class, each week. There is a combination of assigned projects, note taking, quizzes, tutorials, reading, and written requirements. You will have the opportunity to rework your assignments up until the end of the semester as long as progress deadlines are met throughout the semester.

ATTENDANCE & MISSED/LATE WORK POLICY

Zoom / Web Cam

My preference is to be able to see you during collaborative class time, however, I can't make it a requirement. I understand that video conferencing can be invasive in your personal space. Consider using one of the digital backdrops available via zoom, design your own graphic, or hang your own backdrop, tapestry, or sheet behind your workspace. When I can see you, I am better able to gauge your understanding of the material. Your teachers are good at reading those visual cues! If you don't have a webcam and need one, let me know and we can sort something out for you.

I get it. It's weird to have your peers and teachers in your personal space! If you choose to not have your camera turned on during class meetings, there is still the expectation that you'll share your presence in other ways. That should go without saying if you're choosing to be visible during a zoom meeting!

All zoom lectures will be recorded and shared via google drive. The link to that drive will be shared so that if you do need to miss a class, the content of the meeting will be archived.

For Classes with any Face-to -Face Component

While the syllabus represents current plans, there may be changes during the semester in response to the on-going Covid-19 pandemic. Depending on the progression of the virus, it is possible that the College may have to suspend face-to-face instruction for part of the semester. If we must stop face to face instruction anytime during the semester, your instructor will contact you via your SMCC email or the Brightspace course homepage to discuss next steps for the course.

There is no required face to face participation in CNMS 180, however there will be voluntary, by appointment only printing opportunities. Please review the schedule when it is made available to you.

Miscellaneous

Cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, headphones and messaging are prohibited during class time. Please "silent" this equipment upon entering the classroom unless directed otherwise. Please do not disturb your fellow classmates during class or during open lab hours. Food and drink in the computer lab is prohibited.

End-of-Course Evaluation

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Students can access the course evaluations beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5 PM following the last day of the class. You will receive an email to your student email account when course evaluations are available.

ADA Syllabus Statement

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (207) 741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

The Learning Commons:

The library, tutoring and writing centers, and reference/research assistance (typically located on the second floor of South Portland's Campus Center and in the Midcoast's LL Bean Learning Commons and Health Science Center) will be fully available online during the fall 2020 semester.

Here you can find free academic support through individually scheduled and drop in, online tutoring. You can also find information literacy/research librarians, and professional academic strategy/planning mentoring online. While the physical space of the Learning Commons will not be available at this time, we can also work with you to set up zoom classrooms for small group study. Services are offered by appointment or as drop-in assistance.

To access services:

- Visit My Learning in My Maine Guide or
- Select the "tutoring needed" button if it appears inside your Brightspace course.

Whether On Site or Online, students have consistently reported that the Learning Commons is a friendly, risk-free, and helpful place to seek academic support. It has also been shown that those who make use of the Learning Commons do better in a course than those who do not. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of this valuable and enjoyable resource.

SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy

Each semester students receive a \$20 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The College's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located in the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 or send an e-mail to helpdesk@smccme.edu.

Refunds

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of the Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

Add-Drop Policy

Students who drop a course during the one-week "add/drop" period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, i.e., 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the Fall and Spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week Summer courses. This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses, usually 75 percent of course meeting times; please check with the Registration Office. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Registration Office. This process must be completed either in person or by using SMCC e-mail accounts.

Plagiarism Statement

If an instructor suspects that a student has knowingly committed a violation defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct, the instructor has the authority to review the alleged misconduct and determine the grade that the student should receive for the assignment and the course. The instructor may assign a failing grade for the assignment or course and may require the student to complete additional work for the course. The instructor may consult with the department chair and/or the College's chief academic officer prior to making such decisions. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a grade appeal. Grade appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus or in the administrative offices in the Learning Commons on the Midcoast Campus. An instructor may also refer the matter to the College's disciplinary officer for review under the procedures of the MCCS Student Code of Conduct.

CNMS GUEST VIRTUAL VISITS		
Lisa Congdon	Friday, October 2, 12:30	 Join Zoom Meeting ID: 99326493571
Aaron Draplin	Wednesday, October 7, 1:30	 Join Zoom Meeting ID: 92948105275
Scott Nash	TBA	TBA
Gail Anderson	TBA	TBA

UNIT/ WEEK	PLAN / ASSIGNMENTS	DEADLINE (Fridays, 9am)
------------	--------------------	----------------------------

1	COURSE OVERVIEW & INTROS		
	Class Meeting Friday, Sept 4 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course review • Syllabus & Outline • Navigating BrightSpace • Creating Critique Culture • Class Exercise: Building a story 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	History of Motion Graphics	September 11
	Tutorial	Lesson 1: Getting to Know the Workflow Setting up YouTube or Vimeo account	September 11
	Project	Project #1: Storyboard Project #1: Monty Python Cut Out Animation	September 11 September 25

2	BASIC TIMELINE DEVELOPMENT & PHOTOSHOP LAYERS REVIEW		
	Class Meeting Friday, Sept 11 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making basic selection in Photoshop • Photoshop layers • Exporting PS and AI files to AE timeline • Building an AE timeline • Keyframes • File dimensions & Resolution • Project #1 Troubleshooting 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Master Study: Lotte Reiniger	September 18
	Tutorial	Lesson 2: Basic Animation & Effects Discussion Topic: Stock Resource Library	September 18
	Project	Project #1: Asset & Timeline development Project #1: Monty Python Cut Out Animation	September 18 September 25

3	ANIMATING TEXT, BASIC AUDIO, INTRO TO RENDERING & EXPORT		
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Sept 18 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screen vs. Print fonts • Project #1 Troubleshooting • Importing audio • Converting editable text • Rendering Pt. I 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Master Study: Mary Ellen Bute Oskar Fischinger	September 25
	Tutorial	Lesson 3: Animating Text	September 25
Project	Project #1: Monty Python Cut Out Style Animation	September 25	

4	KINETIC TYPOGRAPHY & ILLUSTRATOR LAYERS		
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Sept 25 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinetic Typography • Null Objects • Parent/Child Controllers • Importing Illustrator Layers 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Peer feedback Project #1 Master Study: Mary Blair	October 2
	Tutorial	Lesson 4: Working with Shape Layers	October 2
Project	Project #2: StoryBoard Project #2: Kinetic Typography	October 2 October 16	

5	PRECOMPOSING, MOTION PATHS, AUDIO		
	Class Meeting Friday, Oct 2 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project #1 Critique hilites • Rendering Part II: Adobe Media Encoder / Codecs 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Master Study: Norman McLaren	
	Tutorial	Lesson 5: Animating a Multimedia Presentation	October 9
	Project	Project #2: Asset & Time Line Development Project #2: Kinetic Typography	October 9 October 16

Lisa Congdon	Friday, October 2, 12:30	 Join Zoom Meeting ID: 99326493571
---------------------	--------------------------	--

Aaron Draplin	Wednesday, October 7, 1:30	 Join Zoom Meeting ID: 92948105275
----------------------	----------------------------	--

6	ANIMATING LAYERS		
	Class Meeting Friday, Oct 9 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project #2 Troubleshooting 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Master Study: Ken Burns	
	Tutorial	Lesson 6: Animating Layers	October 9
	Project	Project #2: Kinetic Typography	October 16

7	MASKING		
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Oct 16 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photoshop retouching review • File dimensions & Resolution • Special Topic: “The Kid Stays in the Picture” effect 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Project #2: Peer Feedback Master Study: e.d. Films / Daniel Gies	October 23
	Tutorial	Lesson 7: Working with Masks	October 23
Project	Project #3: Topic & Storyboard Project #3: Parallax Animation	October 30 November 6	

8	DISPLACEMENT MAPS / PUPPET TOOLS		
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Oct 23 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project #2 Crit Hilites • Project #3 Troubleshooting • Displacement Map animation 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Project #2: Peer Feedback Master Study: Faith Hubley / Emily Hubley	October 23
	Tutorial	Lesson 8: Distorting Objects / Puppet Tools	October 30
Project	Project #3: Asset & Timeline Development Project #3: Parallax Animation	October 30 November 6	

9	ROTO BRUSH / CHROMA KEY		
	Class Meeting Friday, Oct 30 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project #3 Troubleshooting Importing masks & alpha channels from PS 	
	TASKS		
	Online Learning	Master Study: Floyd Norman / Leo Sullivan	November 6
	Tutorial	Lesson 9: Roto Brush	November 6
Project	Project #3: Parallax Animation	November 6	

10	ROTO BRUSH / CHROMA KEY		
	Class Meeting Friday, Nov 6 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera Views 3D Layers 	
	TASKS		
	Online Learning	Project #3 Peer Feedback Master Study: Retta Scott	November 13
	Tutorial	Lesson 10: Performing Color Correction	November 13
Project	Project #4: Topic & Storyboard Project #4: Animated Idiom	November 13 November 27	

11

Class Meeting

Friday, Nov 13

9-11:45 am



[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 943 6360 1627

- Project #3 Crit Hilites
- Project #4 Troubleshooting

TASKS

DEADLINE

Online Learning

Master Study: Miwa Matrayek

November 20

Tutorial

Lesson 11: Creating Templates

November 20

Project

Project #4: Asset & Timeline development
Project #4: Animated Idiom

November 20
November 27

12

Class Meeting

Friday, Nov 20

9-11:45 am



[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 943 6360 1627

- Project #3 Crit Hilites
- Project #4 Troubleshooting
- Nested Animation

TASKS

DEADLINE

Online Learning

Master Study: Andrew Stanton

November 27

Tutorial

Lesson 12: Using 3D Features

November 27

Project

Project #4: Animated Idiom

November 27

13		
	NO Class Meeting Friday, Nov 27	THANKSGIVING BREAK
	TASKS	
	Online Learning	Project #4 Peer Feedback Take a break. Check out the watch list to chill out with over this short little break!
		DEADLINE
		December 4

14		
	Class Meeting Friday, Dec 4 9-11:45 am  Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catch Up Open Zoom Studio for group and one on one help
	TASKS	
	Online Learning	Master Study: Saul Bass
	Tutorial	Lesson 13: 3D Camera Tracking
	Project	Project #5: Asset & Timeline Development Project #5: Title Sequence
		DEADLINE
		December 11 December 11 December 11 December 18

<h1>15</h1>			
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Dec 11 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch Up • Open Zoom Studio for group and one on one help 	
	TASKS		DEADLINE
	Online Learning	Master Study: Mia Lee	December 18
Project	Project #5: Title Sequence Final Portfolio Collection	December 18	

<h1>16</h1>		
	<p>Class Meeting Friday, Dec 18 9-11:45 am</p> <p> Join Zoom Meeting ID: 943 6360 1627</p>	<p>FINAL CLASS PRESENTATION!!</p> <p>Review of Project 5 Virtual end of semester celebration!</p>