

Visual Effects, Animation, and Motion Graphics

CS 2880 12 Spring 2012
Lang 213 11:00 a.m. MWF

Mark Jacobson

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Office hours: TBA to be announced later;
and by appointment almost anytime

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URL: **http://www.cs.uni.edu/~jacobson**

VIP: Please notify in advance by email or after class whenever possible! Appointments are best and can also be arranged almost anytime outside of office hours and on weekends too.

Spring 2012 class schedule: 11:00 MWF; 12:30-1:45 TTh; 5:30-8:20 Th

Textbooks: **After Effects Apprentice by Trish and Chris Meyer, 2nd edition**

Grading on exams, homework and quizzes.

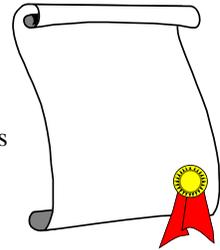
1. **Eight quizzes will count for 30 %.** There will be a 10 to 15 minute quiz every Wednesday, starting during week #4. On Wednesday February 1st we will have quiz one at the end of the 10th class. There will be no quiz during week #15, which is the very last week of class. Most or all of these 8 Wednesday quizzes will be at the end of the class.
2. **The final exam will be held on Tuesday, May 1st from 10-11:50 a.m. The comprehensive final exam constitutes 25 % of your grade in the course.**
3. **The laboratory and lecture sessions and class participation/citizenship/attendance will count for 10 % of your grade.** Taking notes and having your notebook out is part of class participation. Being an active, helpful part of group exercises and a good model of a UNI Panther student citizen is part of class participation.
4. **The homework assignments and projects will be worth 35 % of the total grade.** Some of the homework assignments will be completed and checked off or uploaded to the web server sunny.uni.edu in the lab classes.

Where to use Adobe After Effects and Flash at UNI:

- Labs that will have Adobe After Effects on campus: Of course, our Lang 213 lab has it. The KAB labs have After Effects on Macintosh computers. All of the SCC labs have Adobe Flash CS5, but do not have AE. The 2nd floor of the old East Gym, 108 ITT, is called the Production House. Its hours are 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. It is on 2nd floor of the old East Gym, which is now called ITT or ITTC for Innovative Teaching and Technology Center. My office is ITT 307, on 4th floor of the old East Gym. My office is nearest the Maucker Union corner of ITTC and near the computer science department office. I have another office in Wright Hall 338A where you can also often find me doing statistical consulting.
- You can purchase Adobe CS5.5 packages at the bookstore. The Adobe Master Collection costs about \$500. The Adobe Production Premium CS5 package costs about \$300. If the bookstore has to order it for you and you wish to start using CS5 immediately, you can go to the www.adobe.com web site and download whichever package you are going to buy. It will work for 30 days after you install and activate it. When you get your purchase, you can then enter the serial numbers and license info and not have to reinstall. *Probably a good idea to do this first anyway, to ensure your computer can handle the Adobe CS5.5 software, if its an older computer.*
- Adobe After Effects gives you a free 30 day trial period. This is good for each computer, so if you have two computers or your roommate is willing to cooperate you can get 60 days use of Adobe After Effects. A good strategy to use if you are not going to buy After Effects is to wait until after spring break to use your 30 day trial. That is when you will be doing the most work on your own final project and other assignments.

Miscellaneous topics:

- * Any student who requires some modification of seating, testing, or other class requirements should speak with the instructor at the beginning of the semester.
- * When sending email, sign with your first name at the end of the note. ***Sign your first name*** to email notes, always!!!!
- * CS 1010 (Microcomputer Systems) is offered every fall. It focuses on Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Flash and Adobe Fireworks and will emphasize web publishing, motion graphics and computer graphics. It will introduce students to Excel VBA macros. It will include some Photoshop and Illustrator, now that UNI SCC labs have Creative Suite Web Premium Adobe package. Web Standard was discontinued in CS5, so UNI now has the additional Photoshop and Illustrator in all SCC labs!.
- * Feel free to leave early for an appointment or whatever as that is never a problem but it is always nice to be told before class starts.
- * The four classes CS 1000, CS 1010, CS 1020 and CS 1130 give you microcomputer certification from the computer science department. 12 hours of credits is required. You can substitute CS 2880 Topics in Computing for one of these classes. If you take it under a different topic, such as Maya 3D Graphics, you can substitute those two DIFFERENT topics classes for TWO of the above classes. The LAC class CS 1025 can also be used.
- * CS 2880 (Topics in Computing: ???) also counts for certification. It will be offered again in fall of 2012. It can be substituted for CS 1000 or CS 1020 or taken as an extra class in addition to the certification classes. It can be repeated as a different topic.
- * CS 2880 Topics in Computing: Maya 3D Graphics will probably be offered again this year, i.e. in the fall of 2012.
- * CS 1025 Computational Modeling and Simulation is a class that covers topics in Adobe Flash and Adobe After Effects not covered in this class, along with some graphics software such as Scratch and NetLogo turtle graphics.



Class web page URL

<http://www.cs.uni.edu/~jacobson/AE/>

This URL should be checked at least 3 times per week! There will almost always be something added between classes that reviews the previous class and/or previews the next class. It is VIP, very VIP, very very VIP to do this, especially since we do not have a required textbook.

DigitalCompositing.html This first assignment is due on Friday, January 20th. Paper and pencil or paper and pen. Does NOT require that you do anything outside of class with After Effects.

<http://www.cs.uni.edu/~jacobson/23/AE/DigitalCompositing.html>

Assignment Note: *All future assignments that will be announced in class will be due at least one week from that day they are handed out or shown in class! In other words, assignments will be announced at least one week ahead of time. The same applies for the Wednesday quizzes.*
