

431 (19431R) The Imagination of Animation

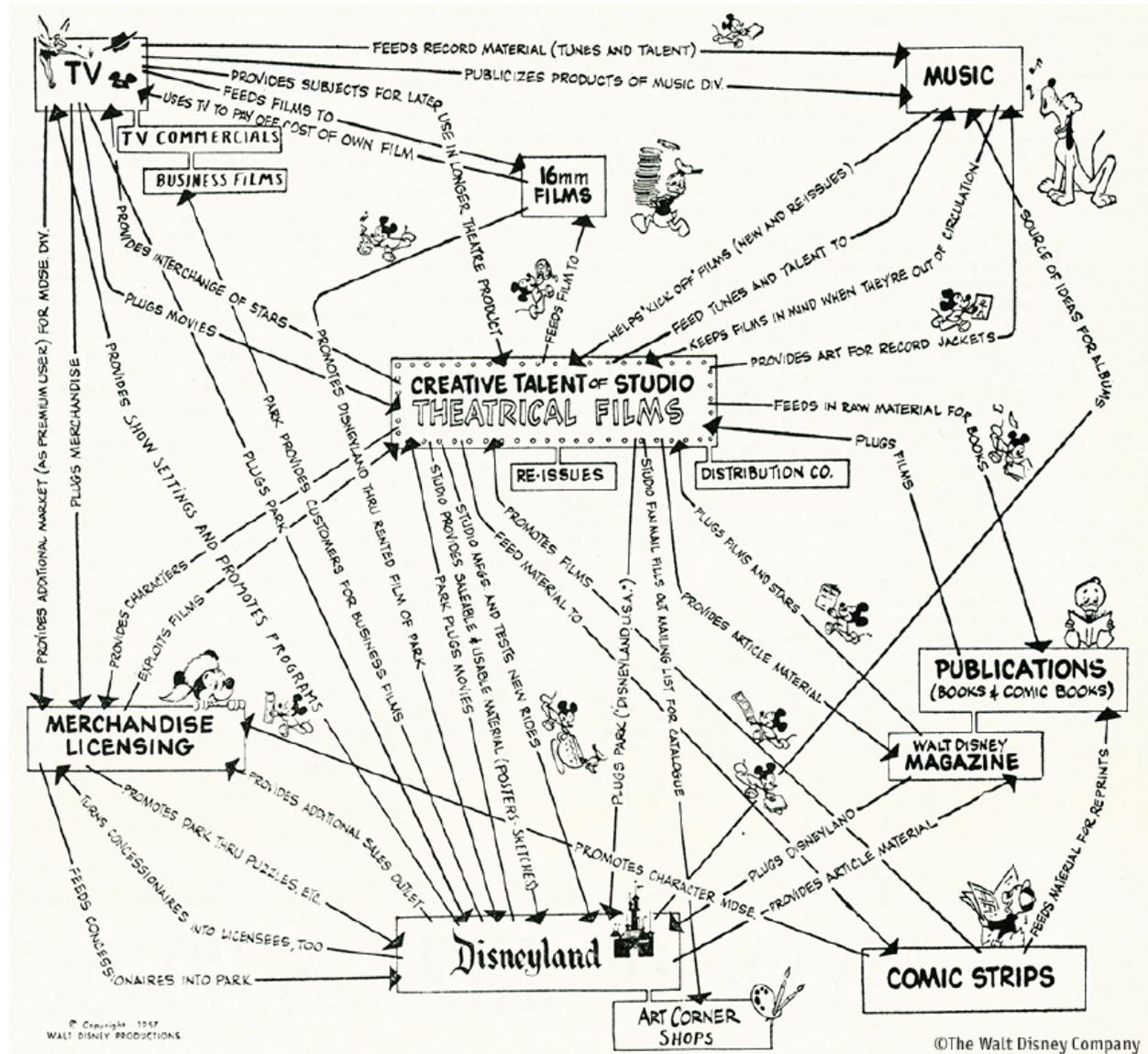
Instructor: Paul Foley

foleypaulraymond@gmail.com

Tuesday 7 - 10:00

SCI 106

Office Hours: By appointment



"Animation can explain whatever the mind of man can conceive. This facility makes it the most versatile and explicit means of communication yet devised for quick mass appreciation."

- Walt Disney

Mission Statement:

Animation has become one of the most varied, popular and profitable forms of entertainment being made today. "Cartoons" have become serious business and because every aspect of every frame represents a conscious, often collaborative decision, animated entertainment provides filmmakers an opportunity to examine how timeless stories are created, how institutions can encourage creativity and how cultural icons are leveraged for fun and profit.

This class is about choices – how and why they were made, and what we can learn from them. From the beginning, animation has offered the ability to tell stories without limits and its ability to reach across cultural and generational divides continues to be unmatched.

Why?

This class is inquiry based. The questions asked and the conversations they are meant to inspire are designed to help you internalize the information presented.

The more you contribute, the more you will get out of the class.

Midterm:

Short Answer & Multiple Choice

Final:

Short Answer & Multiple Choice

Notebook:

All students are required to have a central place where they keep track of all the animation they encounter over the course of the semester. This includes commercials, trailers, apps and assorted surfing on Youtube.

Animation is everywhere. I want you to start keeping track.

A definitive typed list is DUE AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER and should be submitted with the final.

Required Scripts & Articles:

Are in the class Dropbox (please check your USC email after the first week of class) and students with tablet computers will occasionally be encouraged to read the script while watching the movie in class.

Students are also encouraged (but not required) to print out hardcopies that they can read and mark-up on their own.

Required Text:

Creativity, Inc.: Overcoming The Unseen Forces That Stand In The Way of True Inspiration, Amy Wallace and Edwin Catmull, Transworld Publishers Limited
April 8, 2014

https://www.amazon.com/Creativity-Inc/dp/055384122X/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Laptops & Cellphones:

The instructor acknowledges that we live in the 21st century. He doesn't have to like it: Students caught e-mailing, surfing the interweb, texting, etc. will lose their technology privileges for the rest of the semester.

Requests to regain technology privileges must be submitted in essay form via the U.S. Postal service, in triplicate. Essays may be written with either a fountain pen or typed on carbon paper using an IBM Selectric II.

Instructor Conferences:

Communication is key. I can't help you if I don't know you're having trouble.

Grading Criteria:

20% Notebook
30% Midterm
50% Final

Course Schedule:

1/10 The 12 Basic Principles of Animation & Pixar's 22 Rules

- *Persepolis* (2007)

1/17 Iterative, Imitative, Improvisational & Institutional

Pixar: *The Blue Umbrella*

Hanna-Barbera: *Fred Flintstone & The Honeymooners*

Adult Swim: *Rick and Morty*

Warner Bros: *Bugs Bunny What's Opera Doc*

Disney: *Get a Horse*

1/24 Origins

- *Spirit of Christmas* (Stone & Parker)
- *Milton, Frog Baseball* (Judge)
- *Next Door* (Doctor)
- *Somewhere in the Arctic* (Stanton)
- *The Lady and the Lamp* (Lassiter)
- *The Life of Larry* (Macfarlane)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7H1HYKplBE>
- *Shut Up Little Man* (Mitchell)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqGBbrBWPrM>
- *Simpsons* (O'Brien) *Marge vs. The Monorail*

1/31 *Six Days To Air* (2011)

2/7 Crude, Ugly, Meta, Anti & Ironic

- *Dr. Katz*
- *Bob's Burgers*
- *Adventure Time*
- *Bojack Horseman*

2/14 Pixar #1: *Inside Out*

- Creativity Inc. #1

2/21 Midterm: *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*

2/28 GUEST SPEAKER

3/7 Miyazaki: *Spirited Away*

3/21 Disney: *Princess and the Frog*

- Creativity Inc. #2

3/28 **Fox:** *Book of Life*

4/4 **Dreamworks:** *Shrek*

4/11 **Pixar #2:** *Finding Dory*

- Creativity Inc. #3

4/18 **Universal:** *Despicable Me*

4/25 **Disney:** *The Little Mermaid & Moana*

5/7 **FINAL**

* The instructor reserves the right to change any part of this syllabus in order to meet the needs of the class.

Writing Division Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class. Two unexcused absences will result in your grade being lowered by one full point (ex: A to a (A-)). A third unexcused absence will result in your grade being lowered another full point (ex: B to a (B-)). Your grade will be lowered by one point for every absence after. Two late arrivals equate to one full absence. In order for absence to be excused the student must have approval from the professor and provide documentation at the next attended class session.

Please note that if you are a Writing for Screen and Television major/minor you must receive a grade of a C or better in order to receive degree credit. If you have any questions about the minimum grade required for credit please check with your home department. If you have an emergency and must miss class please contact your professor prior to class.

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems:

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated

by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the Department of Public Safety <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/departmentpublic-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems:

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language

Institute <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

Disruptive Student Behavior:

Behavior that persistently or grossly interferes with classroom activities is considered disruptive behavior and may be subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior inhibits other students' ability to learn and an instructor's ability to teach. A student responsible for disruptive behavior may be required to leave class pending discussion and resolution of the problem and may be reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs for disciplinary action.

PLEASE NOTE: FOOD AND DRINKS (OTHER THAN WATER) ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ANY INSTRUCTIONAL SPACES IN THE CINEMATIC ARTS COMPLEX

