**USC**School of Cinematic Arts

# CTAN 451-17888R The History of Animation

Fall 2017 2 units

Fridays- 9:30 AM- 12:20 PM

**Location:** Room SCA 108

**Instructor: TOM SITO,** Prof of Animation

**Office:** SCB Room 210k

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 2-5:00, Fridays 2-5:00

**Contact Info:** sito@usc.edu

**Teaching Assistants:** Ann Lee [annslee@usc.edu](mailto:annslee@usc.edu),

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**Course Description:**

This course will a historical survey of animation from the earliest trickfilms to modern digital blockbusters like *Despicable Me*. Grades will be based upon attendance (10%), Participation and discussion (20%), midterm (15%), Final (25%) and a research project (30%)

Your research project will involve selecting an animated film or filmmaker, and then placing your chosen subject within it’s individual historical context. For example: why was this work made? What was the filmmakers source of inspiration? How did world events, new technologies, other visual artists , or filmmakers, influence this work? What was the relationship between the filmmaker and his/her contemporaries? The research project may be presented as a paper- minimum length six pages, double spaced, not including images. A bibliography is required with at least two print sources. The project is due at the beginning of the final class on Dec 1st.

**Late Papers-** Papers submitted 2-10 days late will result in the reduction of one letter grade. Papers must be submitted no later than assigned final exam period. No term paper submitted will result in an F for the class.

**Required Texts and Course Resources:**

1. Sito, Tom. Moving Innovations, the History of Computer Animation. MIT Press, 2013

Sito, Tom. Drawing the Line: the untold story of the animation unions from Bosko to Bart Simpson University of Kentucky Press, 2006 .

1. Bendazzi, Giannalberto. Cartoons: One hundred years of cinema animation. Indiana University Press, 1996
2. Furniss, Maureen, A New History of Animation. Thames and Hudson, 2016

**Course Schedule:**

**Aug. 25**

**- Introduction: The Invention of Animation.** What is Animation? Is it fine art, entertainment or both? Josef Plateau, Emile Reynauld, Emile Cohl, James Stuart Blackton, Ladislas Starevitch Reading, Bendazzi Ch 1-2.

**Sept. 1.**

**- The Silent Era 1913-1927.** John Randolph Bray, Otto Mesmer, Felix the Cat. World War I. The Fleischers Brothers, Paul Terry, Lotte Reinniger

Reading: Bendazzi, Chap 3, Chap 5.

**Sept 8.**

**-Walt Disney 1923-1937** Kansas City**,** Hollywood, Alice in Cartoonland, Steamboat Willie.Silly Symphonies, to Snow White.

Reading: Bendazzi Chap 6, Furniss, Chap 6

**Sept 15.**

**- Max Fleischer 1921-1942.** Koko the Clown, Bettie Boop, Popeye, Gullivers Travels, Superman Reading: Furniss, Chap 6

**Sept. 22.**

**- Animation in the 1930s**- Ub Iwerks, Leon Schlesinger, MGM, Len Lye, Mary Ellen Bute,

Reading Furniss, Chap 8

**Sept. 29**

**-The Hollywood Golden Age 1939-1947,** Disney Features, WWII, Tex Avery, Chuck Jones,

Reading, Furniss, Chap 9

**Oct 6.**

**- The UPA Revolution**, UPA, Gerald McBoing Boing, The Hubleys, Zagreb, NFB.

Reading Furniss, Chap 12

**Oct 13.**

**-Stop Motion-** Willis O’Brien, King Kong, Ray Harryhausen, George Pal.

Reading: Furniss, Chap 11 **MID TERM EXAM**

**Oct.20.**

**- The Age of Television 1950-1970** Jay Ward, Hanna & Barbera, The Flintstones.

Reading, Furniss, Chap 13

**Oct. 27.**

**- The 60s and 70s,** Generational shift, Ralph Bakshi, Yellow Submarine, experimental film.

Reading, Drawing the Line, Chap 8

**Nov 3.**

**- Japan** Postwar Manga and Anime, Momotaro, Tezuka, Miyazaki, Otomo, Oshii, Akira.

Reading, Furniss Chap 22

**Nov 10.**

**-Animation Rennaissance 1986-2003,** Roger Rabbitt, the Little Mermaid, The Simpsons,

Furniss, Chap 19, Drawing the Line Chap 11.

**Nov 17.**

**CGI and the Digital Revolution** 1958-1995 John Whitney, Peter Foldes, Bell Labs, NYIT, Lucasfilm, Pixar Reading, Furniss, Chap 21, Moving Innovation, Chap 13.

**Nov. 24**

**Thanksgiving Recess.** No class. Eat turkey. Watch football

**Dec 1.**

**- Conclusions.** Review.

**FINAL PAPERS DUE**

**Dec 2-5 Study Days.**

**Dec 11.** 1:00-3PM **Final Exam.**

**Additional Recommended Reading:**

Crafton, Donald Before Mickey, The Animated Film 1898-1928

Beck, Jerry 100 Greatest Cartoons

Amidi, Amid Cartoon Modern

**Course Policies:**

**Regular attendance at all lectures and screenings is mandatory.**

Attendance will be taken at every session. You are allowed two absences. Upon the third you are issued a warning. A further absence without a doctor’s note will result in a lowering of your final grade 10%. A fifth absence will lower your grade 30%. A sixth without a doctor’s approval will result in an automatic failure.

**Use of Electronics in Class**

Students are allowed to use laptops for notes, but not for trolling Facebook, Twitter or other distractions. No texting or phoning during lectures. Laptops and phones closed during screenings. You will be asked to leave the class if you violate this policy.

**Outside Research**

Any research used to fulfill an “outside research” requirement for a class assignment must come from legitimate academic sources, cited in standard format and bibliography provided. **Wikipedia, IMDB and other user-generated sources are not considered acceptable sources**. However, research websites of recognized CG organizations are permitted. For example SIGGRAPH, VES (Visual Effects Society), ASIFA (international animation society), most university maintained websites like Wayne Carlson’s CG History timeline at OSU. If you are unclear about what constitutes an academic source, consult your TA.

**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.htmlprovides 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.

**Academic Conduct**

**Plagiarism** – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim o7ytgr recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” [https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/](https://policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b/" \t "_blank).   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](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/" \t "_blank).

**Support Systems:**

*Student Counseling Services (SCS) - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call*

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.[https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/](https://engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling/" \t "_blank)

*National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255*

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.[http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org_&d=DwMFAg&c=clK7kQUTWtAVEOVIgvi0NU5BOUHhpN0H8p7CSfnc_gI&r=TTOfIpzwW9UfM_WSntoq5g&m=xlP9RMPjXDqPg3kmxPck2eDKj-3xBxHBBXuEYLnwQ6U&s=PiLq5upqStHtV8aZg9-a-QX45PdPkA963RlwFsaxf20&e=" \t "_blank)

*Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 - 24/7 on call*

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. [https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/](https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp/" \t "_blank)

*Sexual Assault Resource Center*

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website:[http://sarc.usc.edu/](http://sarc.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

*Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086*

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class.[https://equity.usc.edu/](https://equity.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

*Bias Assessment Response and Support*

Incidents of bias, hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response.[https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/](https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support/" \t "_blank)

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs*

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. [http://dsp.usc.edu](http://dsp.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

*Student Support and Advocacy – (213) 821-4710*

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic.[https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/](https://studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa/" \t "_blank)

*Diversity at USC*

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. [https://diversity.usc.edu/](https://diversity.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

*USC Emergency Information*

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, [http://emergency.usc.edu](http://emergency.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

*USC Department of Public Safety  –* *213-740-4321 (UPC) and 323-442-1000 (HSC) for 24-hour emergency assistance or to report a crime*.

Provides overall safety to USC community. [http://dps.usc.edu](http://dps.usc.edu/" \t "_blank)

**PLEASE NOTE:**

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