

THTR 303 Projection Design I
Spring 2020 – Mondays – 10am-12:50pm
3 Units

Location: PED114F

Instructors: Jason H. Thompson and Kaitlyn Pietras

Office: By appointment only

Office Hours: By appointment only

Contact Info:

Jason H. Thompson

jhthompson@pxtstudio.com

Kaitlyn Pietras

kpietras@pxtstudio.com

Course Description

An exploration into Projection Design and digital media production. We'll examine the art, tools and craft of Projection Design as it relates to Theatre and other areas of live entertainment. Current practices, equipment, content creation, programming media servers, and system design will all be covered in this class.

Jason H. Thompson and Kaitlyn Pietras share over 20 years of Industry experience covering a wide variety of industries with their craft including: Theatre, Opera, Dance, Museums, Theme Parks, Corporate, and Interactive Environments. Together they own PXT STUDIO designing content, systems and renting professional video equipment globally. pxtstudio.com

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to demonstrate basic working knowledge of projection systems, equipment and content creation upon completion of the course.

Prerequisite(s): THTR 131b, THTR 132a, THTR 132b

Co-Requisite (s): None

Concurrent Enrollment: None

Recommended Preparation: Have basic knowledge of Adobe Photoshop.

Course Notes

Grading is letter based. All handouts and slides will be accessible via Blackboard.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Laptop

Adobe Creative Cloud

Description and Assessment of Assignments

Various Individual projects will be graded according to its quality, effort and understanding of the objective of the project.

Your final collaborative design project will be graded by its informative quality, articulation of mood/tone and how interesting the final product is visually. You will be graded as a group. Be sure to communicate often.

Grading Breakdown

Assessment Tool (assignments)	Points	% of Grade
Participation	10	10
Homework Assignments	20	20
Content Project	30	30
Final Project	40	40
TOTAL	100	100

Grading Scale

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

Assignment Submission Policy

Assignments are project based and are to be presented in class.

Grading Timeline

Feedback will be given directly upon presentation of the assignment, with grades and written feedback sent via email prior to the next class.

Additional Policies

Make up presentations will be allowed only with a medical notification from the Health Center as to your absence.

1 TOTAL excused absence will be allowed without penalty. When possible, please let us know beforehand if you will have to miss class. 2 tardies over 10 minutes will count as an absence. **Use of cellphones in class will not be tolerated, unless it's part of the exercise.**

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics/Daily Activities	Readings/Preparation	Deliverables
Week 1: 1/13	What is Projection Design – History of Projection Design – Applications		
Week 2: 1/20	MLK Day- No class		
Week 3: 1/27	Watchout Part 1: Software – Timeline based cueing – Tweens – Animation within Watchout	Watch all Watchout tutorials	
Week 4: 2/3	Watchout Part 2: Setting up a System – Signal Flow – Projector Calculations		Deliver 10 cue Watchout Show
Week 5: 2/10	Watchout Part 3: Mapping and Masking Workshop- Assign Custom Content Project	Bring an object for masking workshop	Deliver basic signal flow chart and projector calculations
Week 6: 2/17	President's Day – No class		
Week 7: 2/24	Content Creation Part 1: Photoshop – Nondestructive techniques - Stock vs Custom – Resolution - Copyright Issues	Watch Photoshop Basics Video	Present Raw Footage
Week 8: 3/2	Content Creation Part 2: After Effects – Understanding Codecs	Watch After Effects Basics Video	Deliver Photoshop tutorial
Week 9: 3/9	Content Creation Part 3: Custom Content Presentation		Deliver After Effects tutorial, Custom Content Assignment
	Spring Break		
Week 10: 3/23	Check in Class — Final Project Overview – Watch Svoboda Documentary	Watch Svoboda Documentary	
Week 11: 3/30	Process – Generating Ideas – Research – Breakdown	Read Vietgone twice	Discuss Vietgone Ideas
Week 12: 4/6	Presenting Ideas to the Director – Choosing Equipment – Drafting – Signal Flow		Deliver Breakdown, Present Research and Ideas for Final Project
Week 13: 4/13	Collaborating with other Designers – Materials – Storyboarding – Design Workflow		Deliver raw content materials
Week 14: 4/20	After Effects / Photoshop Q&A Video Storyboard in After Effects		Deliver content in development
Week 15: 4/27	Lab Class – Individual Check ins		Deliver storyboards in development
FINAL 5/11 8am	Present Final Project	10 Storyboards minimum.	MONDAY 5/11 8am FINAL PROJECTS DUE

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 Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL), press “0” after hours – 24/7 on call
studenthealth.usc.edu/sexual-assault

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)- (213) 740-5086 | Title IX – (213) 821-8298
equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following *protected characteristics*: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations. The university also prohibits sexual assault, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual misconduct, intimate partner violence, stalking, malicious dissuasion, retaliation, and violation of interim measures.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298
usc-advocate.symplicity.com/care_report

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office of Equity and Diversity | Title IX for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776
dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710

uscса.usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu

Non-emergency assistance or information.