CTXA 540
Title: Survey of World Animation,
1900-1980
Fall 2022
Wednesday
9:00 - 12:00pm

Location: SCB 104

Instructor: Sam Gurry
Office: Zoom
Office Hours: Mondays 11:00am - 12:00pm, Sign up online
Contact Info: USC email & samgurry.com

Student Assistant: Kiki Hu
Contact Info: shiqihu@usc.edu

Course Description
This class presents a survey of diverse world animation from 1900-1980. Independent, studio, and alternative animation from around the world will be examined. This course will introduce students to the advent of groundbreaking animation techniques and platforms as well as provide a factual knowledge base of animation history and conceptual skill set complimentary to the practice of an independent animator. We will consider how the medium has developed in line with technology, culture, and politics.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the semester students will be able to:
• Identify and describe the wide range of diverse innovators in animation
• Acquire the knowledge necessary to be able to identify key works, figures and technological advancements in animation history.
• Explain innovative animation techniques and identify their origin
• Analyze the meaning of an animation in relation to the historical and cultural context of the art form.

Course Notes

Each week will be IN-PERSON.

Attendance

Your attendance is fundamental to the structure of this course and is therefore mandatory. Students are allowed two absences (three late arrivals equal one absence) before a reduction in grade. There is a maximum of four absences, any subsequent absences will result in a failing grade.

In-Person Classroom Etiquette

• Please wear masks (over your nose and mouths) at all times during class.
• Practice social distancing as much as possible.
• Cell phone calls are not acceptable while class is in session
• Please turn off all cell phones.
• Audio and video recording is not allowed in class. (Audio recording allowed for those with specific needs. Please discuss with me)
• No food, drink, water, or gum will be allowed in the theater.

Communication

Interaction with Instructor

The Instructor will make every effort to communicate frequently with students through announcements and postings within the Blackboard site. Post any questions or comments you have about the course content and/or requirements in the General Discussion Board on Canvas. Questions of a more personal nature can be sent to the Instructor via email.

I check my email 10 am-6 pm Monday through Friday. Emails sent after 6 pm Friday will not be answered until 10 am Monday.

Check the Announcements section regularly.

When emailing with me, please address me as Sam or Professor Gurry. I am not a Mr, Ms, or Miss.

As we are in a professional setting, please use professional email etiquette when reaching out. If your email reads like a text message, I encourage revision.

Office Hours
I hold hours on Mondays from 11am to 12pm on Zoom. The signup sheet can be found on Blackboard.

Netiquette
When posting on the class site it is important to understand how to interact with one another online, netiquette. You can read more about the rules of netiquette at 15 Rules of Netiquette for Online Discussion Boards

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required
• A Computer
    You will need to have an up-to-date browser, operating system and some additional software on your computer to take this class. Some of the documents in this course will be available to you in PDF form. You will need download and install Adobe Acrobat Reader software on your computer.
• A File Storage System for backing up work
    Cloud Storage(DropBox, Google Drive) or a Hard Drive are recommended. USC provides Google Drive space.

USC Technology Rental Program
We realize that attending classes online and completing coursework remotely requires access to technology that not all students possess. If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university's equipment rental program. To apply, please submit an USC Technology Rental Program Application at the USC Student Basic Needs website.

Required Readings
Weekly reading provided online. No books are required to be purchased.

Assignments and Grading Policy

1. Reading & Viewing assignments

Throughout the semester, there may be posted reading & viewing assignments to be completed outside of class. These must be watched in full unless otherwise stated. Make time to watch them in total, ideally in a space that technologically respects the material.
The password for all password protected media is AnimationHistory, unless otherwise noted.

Must be completed each class.

2. Journals

You are required to post in your Blackboard Journal each week about that weeks topic. Each week you must write, minimum, 300 words in a post. Posts must be in full sentences, properly formatted, on topic, and grammatically correct.

Your grade is based on your thoughtful and thorough examination of the work. Consider the following questions in your responses:

> 1. What are the title of the film(s), filmmaker(s), and date(s) it was made?
> 2. What is the context of the work, i.e. historical, cultural, the filmmaker's inspiration etc.?
> 3. How was it made? What is the technique?
> 4. Describe the work. For example: Is it a narrative? What is the story, the plot? What does it look like, i.e. design, color, line quality?
> 5. How does this work make you feel? Are you excited, bored, angry, inspired etc.?
> 6. What is it about the work that inspired your feeling?
> 7. What do you think this work is about? What do you think the filmmaker is trying to say? Are they successful?

Extra Credit may be given, at my discretion, to particularly robust and insightful postings.

Must be completed each class. Due by 9am the following week.

3. Mid Term Exam

The midterm will be an open book test consisting of two essay questions. The questions will be based on what we have covered in class and the required readings and viewings posted on Blackboard as well as the screening of two films in class.

Mid Term Test - October 5th

4. Final Exam

The final will be an open book test consisting of four essay questions. The questions will be based on what we have covered in class and the required readings and viewings posted on Blackboard.

Final Test - December 12th 11-1pm

5. Attendance & Participation

Attendance will fold into your participation grade.

Participation in class discussions and any visiting artists sessions is necessary. We will have a richer class because of it.

No open screens are allowed in class. You must take all notes by hand. However, you

can use your cell phone to photograph the screen.

Must be completed each class.

Grading Criteria

Late Assignments will lose 10% of the total possible grade per day it is late unless otherwise discussed with the professor.

Grading Breakdown

Assignment	Percentage
Participation	15%
Journals	40%
Mid Term	15%
Final	30%
Total:	**100%**

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale:

A	94-100
A-	90-93
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

SCA Attendance Statement
The School of Cinematic Arts curriculum relies heavily on in-class participation and interaction between faculty and students. Many of our courses are taught in a collaborative workshop environment and our theoretical lectures are driven through in-depth classroom discussion and analysis. We hold collaboration and constructive criticism as foundational to all of our learning environments and essential to the methodologies of our instruction. Student attendance is not only fundamental, but mandatory for the structure and success of our program for both the individual student and the educational experiences of other students within our community. Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class.

Sharing of course materials outside of the learning environment
Remind students that USC has a policy that prohibits sharing of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

SCampus Section 11.12(B):

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics/Daily Activities	Focus
Week 1 August 24th	**Introduction to Animation:** **The discovery of animation**	We examine the define of animation. What is it? We will look at the development of the art form and differentiate animation mediums which have developed from the beginning of the 20th century. At the end of the week, you should be able to define what animation is, and have a solid foundation in animation related vocabulary and concepts.
Week 2 August 31st	**The Margins of Reality:** **The real & animation**	In the first week we considered how animation can explore stories and concepts which can not be achieved in live action, due to the mediums inherent 'plasmatic' quality. Considering this, this week we will examine animation's relationship to realism in both a narrative and documentary context.
Week 3 September 7th	**How to tell a story:** **Narrative & Animation**	This week we will look at the basics of narrative animation: story structure, plot, character development and how to tell a story for specifically animation.
Week 4 September 14th	**Dreams, Visions of the Night:** **Abstract & Animation**	Having examined how to work with realism in animation, we will be looking at the opposite end of the scale; the function and meaning of abstraction and non-narrative approaches in animation filmmaking.
Week 5 September 21st	**Build the machine:** **Technology & Animation**	We will begin with the birth of computer animation and how new technical innovations impacted animation productions, then consider how technology affected aesthetics.

Week 6 September 28th	The Happiest Place on Earth™: Disney & Animation	In this film week we will look at Disney Animation Studios as well as Walt Disney the person. Many of the works produced in by Disney have had an effect sociologically and politically.
Week 7 October 5th	Here, draw this: Labor & Animation	The amount of work that goes in animation is known generally. But, how has this labor historically been showcased, organized, and obfuscated? We explore the business side of animation.
Week 8 October 12th	Sonic Vocabulary: Sound & Animation	Many people overlook the fact that often sound is 50% of the impact of a film. With this in mind, this week we will be examining how to analyze and utilize sound for animated films.
Week 9 October 19th	Inter-personal, outer personae: Animation & Identity	Animation's plasmatic quality makes it the ideal vessel with which to explore the body, the mind, and identity.
Week 10 October 26th	You can see the Thumbprints: Puppets & Animation	Off the page and into the third dimension. We explore the rich, complex history of puppets usage in stop motion animation.
Week 11 November 2nd	More than just Anime: Japan & Animation	This week we will be focusing on animation from Japan, it's influence, and the history of both studio and independent practices.
Week 12 November 9th	Journey to the West (East?): Asia & Animation	Outside of Japan, Asia has a diverse culture of animation. From Independent Animation of the Middle East to the Mega Studios in China of today, we will explore its legacy.
Week 13 November 16th	Hog in the Fog: Europe & Animation	Over time, Europe has produced a wealth of interesting and diverse animation. This week we will be looking at the different styles and important works which originated from this continent, and considering if the work provides any insight into the country it came from.
Week 14 November 23rd	Thanksgiving Break	No Class

Week 15 November 30th	Sequential Seduction: Animation & Propaganda	Animation's use as a tool of propaganda goes all the way back almost until the medium's conception. We will explore various political and social uses as for control and influence.
FINAL December 12th 11-1pm	Open Note Final	See section above.

2022 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 Research and Scholarship Misconduct.

Students and Disability Accommodations:

USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at osas.usc.edu. You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at osasfrontdesk@usc.edu.

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 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 for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX (EEO-TIX) - (213) 740-5086
eeotix.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.

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 for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) - (213) 740-0776
osas.usc.edu
OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.
USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 821-4710
campussupport.usc.edu
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - (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](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](dps.usc.edu)
Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of the Ombuds - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)
ombuds.usc.edu
A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

*Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice - (323) 442-33*40 or otfp@med.usc.edu
chan.usc.edu/otfp
Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

School of Cinematic Arts Diversity and Inclusion Statement
Diversity and Inclusion are foundational to the SCA community. We are committed to fostering a welcoming and supportive environment where students of all identities and backgrounds can flourish. The classroom should be a space for open discussion of ideas and self- expression; however, SCA will not tolerate verbal or written abuse, threats, harassment, intimidation or

violence against person or property. If students are concerned about these matters in the classroom setting they are encouraged to contact their SCA Diversity and Inclusion Liaison, http://cinema.usc.edu/about/diversity.cfm; e-mail diversity@cinema.usc.edu. You can also report discrimination based on a protected class here https://equity.usc.edu/harassment-or-discrimination/

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.

Operations (access to rooms): (213) 740-2892

SCA IT/software/hardware Help:
techsupport@cinema.usc.edu
creativetech@cinema.usc.edu   (213) 821-4571

Student Technical Online Toolkit: Technical Blackboard and Zoom Assistance

Resources for students:
SCA software and hardware resources
USC Student Health
Campus Support and Intervention
Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity
USC Libraries
DSP Guidance for students
USC Student Basic Needs (food, housing, financial, tech)

USC Technology Support Links
Zoom information for students
Blackboard help for students
Software available to USC Campus

This syllabus is subject to change due to class needs as judged by the instructor.

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