

# Syllabus

Fall 2009

Prof. Kirt Witte

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**Meeting Times:** Tuesday / Thursday  
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

# SCAD®

The University for Creative Careers®

*School of Film, Dig Media, Perf, Department of Computer Art, Savannah*

## CMPA 110, Section: 10 Advanced Survey of Computer Art Applications

### **Mission of the College:**

The Savannah College of Art and Design exists to prepare talented students for professional careers, emphasizing learning through individual attention in a positively oriented university environment.

### **Course Description:**

This course is for students already well versed in the use of art and design computer applications. The course covers basic components of digital design tools including vector, raster, modeling language and animation, culminating in the completion of a final project. Following an overview of HTML and Web page design, students create their own home pages. Prerequisites: DSGN 100, DSGN 101.

**Course Goals:** The following course goals articulate the general objectives and purpose of this course:

Students will:

1. experience the possibilities of digitally based solutions
2. learn techniques, tools, and features of industry-standard graphics software
3. implement advanced techniques in raster- and vector-based work
4. be exposed to 3-D image environments
5. apply image capturing techniques
6. import and export files
7. apply advancing Web design techniques
8. critique digitally-created solutions using correct terminology.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** The following course outcomes indicate competencies and measurable skills that students develop as a result of completing this course:

1. Students will create images using vector graphics techniques.
2. Students will create images using advanced raster graphics techniques.
3. Students will create demonstrate an understanding of 3D form and space.
4. Students will learn to create imagery using 3D application.
5. Students will create multi-level web pages using a web authoring software.
6. Students will create animation using time based software.
7. Students will discuss and articulate concepts of digital media.

**Course Materials:**

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**Required Text(s):**

***Maya 8 for Windows and Macintosh: Visual Quickstart Guide***

By Morgan Robinson, Nathaniel Stein

ISBN: 0321476751

Published: March 13, 2007

**Recommended Text(s):**

***Photoshop CS4 for Windows and Macintosh: Visual QuickStart Guide***

***Illustrator CS4 for Windows and Macintosh: Visual QuickStart Guide***

***After Effects CS4 for Windows and Macintosh: Visual QuickPro Guide***

***Adobe Photoshop for VFX Artists*, by Lopsie Schwartz (1-59200-487-3)**

**Required Material(s):**

Blank CDs or DVDs. Sharpie to label your CDs/DVDs. An external, portable hard drive is also highly recommended.

**Grading Opportunities:**

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Your overall course grade will be computed according to the following breakdown:

Assignment	Weight
Assignment 01 - Vector-based Logo Design using Adobe Illustrator	20%
Assignment 02 - Digital Matte Painting, Photo Restoration, or Digital Illustration Project using Photoshop	20%
Assignment 03 - Time-based animation using Adobe After Effects	20%
Assignment 04 - High-resolution (4K) Still Life rendering using Autodesk Maya	20%

Assignment 05 - Creating a multi-page website using Photoshop and Dreamweaver	20%
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Grading Standards	Range
Letter grade: <b>A</b> = excellent	90 — 100 %
Letter grade: <b>B</b> = good	80 — 89 %
Letter grade: <b>C</b> = *	70 — 79 %
Letter grade: <b>D</b> = *	60 — 69%
Letter grade: <b>F</b> = failing	0 — 59%

\*Refer to the student handbooks and departmental standards for minimal acceptance for passing grade.

### Schedule of Classes:

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Key events including assignments, projects due dates/exam dates:

<b>Class 1:</b>	Tuesday, September 15: Intro to class and overview, syllabus, pre-test given
<b>Class 2:</b>	Thursday, September 17: Lecture on Logos and Adobe Illustrator - What makes a good logo? Vector vs. Bitmap graphics, the pen tool, booleans, creative type tools, file prepping for 3D applications.
<b>Class 3:</b>	Tuesday, September 22: Lecture on Adobe Photoshop - Overview of tools, menus, and "the Basics".
<b>Class 4:</b>	Thursday, September 24: Lecture on Adobe Photoshop, Mastering the cloning (rubber stamp) tool.
<b>Class 5:</b>	Tuesday, September 29: Lecture on Adobe Photoshop, masking techniques, and color correction. Pulling it all together.
<b>Class 6:</b>	Thursday, October 1: In-class work session
<b>Class 7:</b>	Tuesday, October 6: Assignments 1 & 2 Due, in class critique
<b>Class 8:</b>	Thursday, October 8: Lecture on Adobe After Effects, Overview of tools, menus, and "the Basics".
<b>Class 9:</b>	Tuesday, October 13: Lecture on Adobe After Effects, working with/importing Photoshop files, animating layered PSD files.
<b>Class 10:</b>	Thursday, October 15: In-class work session
<b>Class 11:</b>	Tuesday, October 20: Assignment 3 Due, in class critique
<b>Class 12:</b>	Thursday, October 22: Lecture on Autodesk Maya, workflow methodologies, Overview of tools, menus, navigation, and "the Basics".

<b>Class 13:</b>	Tuesday, October 27: Lecture on Autodesk Maya, working with NURBS curves and NURBS surfaces, introduction to polygons
<b>Class 14:</b>	Thursday, October 29: Lecture on Autodesk Maya, More Polygon tools and techniques, deformations, booleans, normals, viewing modes. Cameras, lights, and shaders.
<b>Class 15:</b>	Tuesday, November 3: Lecture on Adobe Dreamweaver, basic web-design, making slices in Photoshop, copyrights and protection your artwork.
<b>Class 16:</b>	Thursday, November 5: Lecture on Adobe Dreamweaver. Managing Sites, FTP, troubleshooting HTML and broken links, rollovers, and Framesets.
<b>Class 17:</b>	Tuesday, November 10: Assignment 4 Due, in class critique
<b>Class 18:</b>	Thursday, November 12: In Class Work Session
<b>Class 19:</b>	Tuesday, November 17: Assignment 5 Due
<b>Class 20:</b>	Thursday, November 19: In class critique, post test

### Course Information:

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#### Field Trip(s):

Multiple opportunities will be given throughout the quarter. Professor Witte will announce them during class as they arise.

#### Extra Help Session(s):

Will be conferred as necessary

#### Other Course Information:

##### Professor Witte's attendance addendum policy:

Each class absence counts as -2.5 points off your final grade. Please do not miss any classes. If you know ahead of time you will be absent, please let Professor Witte know at least 48 hours in advance.

##### Professor Witte's faculty website and links:

<http://www.scad.edu/~kwitte>

## **College Policy:**

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### **Academic Integrity:**

Under all circumstances, students are expected to be honest in their dealings with faculty, administrative staff and fellow students.

In class assignments, students must submit work that fairly and accurately reflects their level of accomplishment. Any work that is not a product of the student's own efforts is considered dishonest. Students must not engage in academic dishonesty; doing so can have serious consequences.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Cheating, which includes, but is not limited to, (a) the giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance in producing assignments or taking quizzes, tests or examinations; (b) dependence on the aid of sources including technology beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments; (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff; or (d) the use of unauthorized assistance in the preparation of works of art.
2. Plagiarism, which includes, but is not limited to, the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Plagiarism also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.
3. Submission of the same work in two or more classes without prior written approval of the professors of the classes involved.
4. Submission of any work not actually produced by the student submitting the work without full and clear written acknowledgement of the actual author or creator of the work.

### **Attendance and Personal Conduct:**

Only students who are properly registered for a course may attend that class. Students are expected to participate in all scheduled classes and examination periods. Absences in excess of four per quarter, or 20 percent of the course, result in a failing grade for the course. Tardiness, early departure or other time away from class in excess of 15 minutes is considered absence for the class period.

The student's appearance and conduct should be appropriate and should contribute to the academic and professional atmosphere of the college. The college reserves the right at its sole discretion to withdraw the privilege of enrollment from any student whose conduct is detrimental to the academic environment or to the well-being of other students, faculty or staff members, or to the college facilities.

### **\*Flu-related absences:**

In an effort to reduce the spread of the H1N1 virus, the Savannah College of Art and Design is implementing various protocols suggested for colleges and universities by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Students who experience flu-like symptoms should not attempt to attend class until 24 hours after symptoms subside. Students who miss class due to the flu virus must contact their professors immediately, before class if possible but within 24 hours of the class meeting to discuss make up options if they are available.

Students should ensure that all absences are used wisely in case they become ill and need to miss class. Students who contract the flu virus may be granted leniency with the attendance policy, but must complete all required course assignments and attain all required learning outcomes. Individual circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the professor.

### **Enrollment policies:**

Students are responsible for assuring proper enrollment. See the college catalog for information on add/drop, withdrawals, incompletes, and academic standing.

### **Midterm Conference(s):**

Each student enrolled in the course will have a midterm conference scheduled outside of class time with the professor. Students are expected to keep this appointment.

### **Learning Support Resources and Academic and Safety Policies:**

Information about SCAD learning support resources and academic and safety policies, including the Learning Assistance Center, the Jen Library, the Writing Center, SCAD Helpdesk, the Visual Resources Center, and Student Counseling and Disabilities Services can be found in the menu area of the Blackboard web site for this course.

**Student Surveys:**

The SCAD Student Survey and the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory will both be administered in Week 6 of spring quarter and online course evaluations will be available every quarter during weeks 8-10. SCAD's office of institutional research is responsible for gathering and delivering survey results to decision-makers on campus. For more information or questions, contact us at [surveys@scad.edu](mailto:surveys@scad.edu).

Please refer to the college catalog or the student handbook for all college policies and procedures.