Module Specification

Animation Foundations

Version: 2021-22, v1.0, 07 Dec 2021

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Animation Foundations

Module code: UALB5Q-45-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2021-22

UWE credit rating: 45

ECTS credit rating: 22.5

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Bower Ashton Campus

Field: Lens and Moving Image

Module type: Project

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: The aim of this module is to introduce a range of essential animation and animated filmmaking processes across a range of animated disciplines. Practical assignments focus on the principles of animation, sequential dynamics, and analysis. Apprentices will actively learn, apply, and develop practical, analytical, and theoretical skills that will support their ongoing development as Junior Animators. Practical work will be supported by integrated engagement with primary and

secondary research.

Apprentices negotiate and produce a range of work that answers a brief with specific outcomes, meets strict deadlines and broadens the understanding of animated forms. They will be expected to explore creative freedoms alongside the practicalities of making short, coherent animated exercises and dynamic sequences that adhere to different production pipelines associated with a range of disciplines.

Features: Apprentices are required to present the work within a group environment and engage in the critical analysis of the results of their own work and that of others.

Educational aims: To enable apprentices to acquire foundational knowledge in the practice of animation, to start to develop their skills base and recognise professional practice behaviours as outlined in the Junior Animator standard. To empower them to recognise their own strengths and needs in both an academic and professional context and engage in appropriate development activities. To facilitate and encourage peer support among the cohort via group critique.

Outline syllabus: The outline syllabus typically includes key principles of animation, such as sequential dynamics, action analysis and performance; the use of technology, tools, resources, processes, and methodologies; health and safety; sustainability; studio etiquette; animation and filmmaking methods, processes, and techniques; life drawing; research methods for creative animation practice.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Teaching and learning on this module enables apprentices to explore a range of animation processes while developing craft skills appropriate to the novel possibilities and extensive language of animation. This module is delivered through a series of lectures, screenings, seminars, demonstrations, and technical workshops. Guest talks contribute to the knowledge and understanding of animation sectors, independent practice (enterprise and creativity) and emerging platforms (innovation). Apprentices will receive feedback and formative assessment within individual tutorials and group critiques. In addition, apprentices are supported through the tripartite relationship, with the academic tutor

and practice-based tutor taking a proactive approach to supporting the apprentice.

Support for study skills is available online via the UWE Library. In addition, staff from the Bower Ashton Library will provide workshops in support of research methods and academic writing, including how to avoid plagiarism. Individual support for writing assignments is also available via the Library and the Faculty.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Work safely and productively, undertaking practical work, using a range of technology, tools, resources, and processes, as well as following sound professional practice and studio etiquette

MO2 Use, apply and evaluate a range of essential animation and filmmaking methodologies, processes, and techniques to plan, prepare and produce animation in line with production requirements

MO3 Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of animation through observation, analysis and the contextualisation of animated dynamics and performance, within research, practical assignments, and formative critiques

MO4 Evidence how they have employed research in support of their practical animation assignments, theoretical study, and supporting work

MO5 Reflect their own strengths and needs in both an academic and professional context and engage in appropriate development activities.

MO6 Demonstrate a positive, proactive, and professional work ethic in individual and team-working, including effective communication and adaptive and flexible problem solving.

Hours to be allocated: 450

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 342 hours

Face-to-face learning = 108 hours

Total = 450

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment type has been chosen to enable apprentices to demonstrate achievements across all the learning outcomes of the module and provides flexibility in selecting appropriate and specific outputs that facilitate the practical, theoretical, and academic study of animation. The assessment strategy facilitates the development of creative, communication and critical skills in relation to animation and associated media. The learning outcomes connect to the different practical and academic assignments. They are designed to enable students to understand, appreciate, and develop enduring academic understanding alongside practical, theoretical, analytical, and professional practice skills in relation to animation. These skills should enable students to identify interests in relation to their ongoing study and developing practice. Detailed guidance on the portfolio contents will be provided in the Module Handbook and assignment briefs.

Apprentices will be assessed using the following criteria: the level of technical and craft skills, research and creative development, contextual analysis and critical evaluation, appreciation of audience and storytelling skills, professional practice, and engagement.

Peer review and formative assessments are embedded in each practical assignment. This enables staff to support ongoing progress, prompt discussion, encourage peer learning and monitor authorship and contributions. The work produced will enable students to discern between process-led and process-based approaches; understanding this distinction will encourage enquiry and ongoing progression and represents a distinctive tenet of UWE's animation programmes. Peer review within teams during presentations will provide further opportunities for critical engagement.

UWE Study Support sessions will advise apprentices about good academic practice, to avoid plagiarism.

Assessment components:

Portfolio - Component A (First Sit)
Description: Examples of portfolio contents are:

Show-reel: a collection of edited material featuring all the completed practical animation assignments.

Research File: evidence of critical thinking through primary and secondary research that has supported the realisation and production of practical material, analysis, and academic study.

Drawing from life: a collection of drawings used in support of practical assignments.

Supporting Material: a range of materials, including sketchbooks and notebooks that reflect sustained engagement with the subject matter and identified interests.
Weighting: 100 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Portfolio - Component A (Resit)
Description: Examples of portfolio contents are:

Show-reel: a collection of edited material featuring all the completed practical animation assignments.

Research File: evidence of critical thinking through primary and secondary research that has supported the realisation and production of practical material, analysis, and academic study.

Drawing from life: a collection of drawings used in support of practical assignments.

Supporting Material: a range of materials, including sketchbooks and notebooks that reflect sustained engagement with the subject matter and identified interests.

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Animation {Apprenticeship} [Jan][DL][Bower][18months] CertHE 2021-22