

**North Harris College • CIAT Division
Visual Communication Department
IMED 1345 – Interactive Multimedia I (Intro to Flash)
Fall 2008 – Course Syllabus**

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Materials Needed:

Flash Drive

Adobe Flash CS3 Professional

Authors: Andy Anderson, Steve Johnson, Perspection, Inc.

Course Description

An introduction to Flash CS3 and how to create basic websites and animation using the timeline and minimal Action Scripting.

Course Content and SCANS

The Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) has researched and identified the skills and competencies that employees will need for workplace success. The following SCANS skills are incorporated into the course content as listed below.

Course Objectives

SCANS: Workplace Skills

1. Develop multimedia pieces for the Internet.
2. Interpret and communicate information.
3. Assemble and integrate different type of media.
4. Recognize problems and devices and implement a plan of action.
5. Create consistency of style, content, and size across the project.
6. Choose procedures, tools, or equipment including computers and related technologies.
7. Utilize scripting for interactivity.
8. Understand and expand the use of current industry software.
9. Use control structures.
10. Specify goals and constraints, generate alternatives, consider risks, and evaluate and choose best alternatives.
11. Assemble and integrate different types of media.
12. Discover a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and apply it when solving a problem.
13. Define a design structure that fits both the content of the information and the requirements of the audience.

14. Understand overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.
15. Demonstrate the use of functions and variables.
16. Contribute to a group effort.
17. Construct projects that are interactive by using the authoring features in the software presented in class.
18. Demonstrate storyboarding techniques.
19. Participate in class critiques.

Means of Assessment

1. The final grade given will be based off of a 500 point grading scale. Points will be given for the following:

- Attendance and Participation – 100 points (25 points off per class missed)
you are allowed 1 free absence for emergencies
- 4 Assignments – 50 points equaling 200 points total
- Mid-term Project – 100 points
- Final Project – 100 points

A 450-500	B 400-449	C 350-399	D 300-349	F 0-299
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2. Submit all assignments and projects at due date; otherwise, 10% of its grade will be deducted.

Evaluation Policies and Procedures

Students are expected to complete projects on time according to their class calendar. Any difficulty in meeting deadlines will need to be approved by your instructor.

Attendance and Participation Policies

Class attendance is important. Generally, the course material is covered in the textbooks or class demonstrations; however, group critiques augment and clarify well-designed projects. You are encouraged to get to know your fellow students in order to have a source for notes and handouts if you cannot attend a class session. The instructor could drop a student for excessive absence if more than three classes are missed.

Students are expected to assume the responsibility for learning. Your instructor will assist you, but the actual responsibility rests with you. Students are also expected to devote their energy to attaining the skills and knowledge required for their particular career goals.

The North Harris College Policy & Procedure Manual [Student Conduct, Section 562.01d] states, "Disruptive activity that hinders other students' learning or deters an instructor from effective teaching will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

To provide an equal-opportunity learning situation for all students enrolled in this class, children are not allowed in the labs or classrooms.

Open Lab Time and Policy

The Visual Communication lab is located in DTC 109. They are open Monday through Saturday. Please check the schedule posted on the lab door. You can use the lab at any of the posted times, but depend on your instructor to be able to answer all your questions about the software. Sign in when you arrive.

The computers in the lab have been configured to meet the needs of all courses. Please do not reconfigure the system set up. If you are experiencing difficulty, contact the lab assistants or instructors for assistance. In addition, please follow all directions posted in the labs or given by the lab assistant.

Important Note

The lab assistants and instructors reserve the right to ask you to leave the lab in event of disruptive behavior, illegal activities, or malicious intent on the computer.

Incomplete Contract

Under special circumstances, incomplete contracts may be considered by the instructor after a student discusses his or her situation. The student needs to have completed almost all course work to qualify for consideration of an incomplete contract; otherwise, the student should withdraw from the course before the official withdrawal date.

Academic Integrity

The college's academic integrity policy states, "NHMCCD is committed to a high standard of academic integrity in the academic community. In becoming a part of the academic community, students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. Failure to uphold these standards includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Plagiarizing written work or projects.
2. Cheating on exams or assignments.
3. Collusion on an exam or project.
4. Misrepresentation of credentials or prerequisites when registering for a course." Refer to the NHMCCD catalog for additional information.

Virus Protection

The college will not be held liable for any corruption of data caused by virus contamination. The college computers are regularly screened and are protected against computer viruses to the best of our ability. However, we do not guarantee that viruses do not exist on our systems. Procedures are in place in all labs for you to scan your diskettes. It is your responsibility to protect your data from corruption due to virus.

Student Services

Learning Resources Centers

The Learning Resources Centers (LRCs) at each college provide print and non-print resources and services for students. The materials have been selected to serve the curricular, vocational, and recreational needs of the college community. Each college LRC provides computer access to a variety of information in electronic form including bibliographic indexes to journals, Internet resources, and multimedia publications.

Learning Support Centers

Learning Support Centers at each college provide print and audio-visual materials as well as tutorial assistance and computer labs for students who need academic support services. Materials from other disciplines are available in each center including reading, writing, math, and college study skills.

Internet & E-mail

The District provides computing and network resources to students. Students are encouraged to use the computers, software packages, and electronic mail (e-mail), for educational or District-related activities and to facilitate the efficient exchange of useful information. However, the equipment, software and network capacities provided through the District computer services are and remain the property of the District. Use of the equipment and networks is to comport with the policies and procedures of the District, and access may be denied to any student who fails to comply with the District's policies and procedures regarding its use.

Access to the District's e-mail and similar electronic communication systems are a privilege and certain responsibilities accompany that privilege. District users are expected to demonstrate the same level of ethical and professional manner, as is required in face-to-face or written communications. Anonymous or forged messages will be treated as a violation of this policy.

For additional information, refer to the NHMCCD catalog.

NOTE: North Harris College provides reasonable accommodations, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your professor of any special accommodations which you may need as a result of disability. It is the student's responsibility to request these accommodations.

This calendar provides you with a weekly timeline to finish the course with the grade of A. This calendar is subject to revision depending on the class success.

Date Topics, Projects, Assignments, Quizzes

08/27 Week 1 : introduction

Class overview, look over syllabus, overview of Flash CS3 Professional

09/3 Week 2 : what happens if I push this button?

Familiarizing ourselves with the different tools and panels in Flash
Use Chapter 2 for Reference

09/10 Week 3 : learn how to draw

Use Flash's extensive tool bar to draw
Use Chapter 3 for Reference

ASSIGNMENT 1: draw a scene that can be animated

09/17 Week 4 : recycle

Learn how to use your library and instances to manage your art
Use Chapter 4 for Reference

09/24 Week 5 : making things move / ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE

Make movie clips and graphics move using timeline animation
Use Chapters 7-9 for Reference

ASSIGNMENT 2: create a short animation

10/01 Week 6 : the necessities

Adding and manipulating text and graphics
Use Chapters 5&6 for Reference

10/08 Week 7 : making noises / ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE

Adding and manipulating sound
Use Chapter 11 for Reference

MID-TERM: add sound to assignment 2 & publish a .swf file

10/15 Week 8 : streaming video

Encode and add an .flv to the stage.
Use Chapter 12 for Reference

- 10/22** **Week 9 : Action what? / MID-TERM PROJECT DUE**
Intro to Action Script 3.0 and button creation
- 10/29** **Week 10 : the pre-packaged flash**
Understanding Flash Components, what they are, how to use them,
and why not to use them.

ASSIGNMENT 3: create layout for final project
- 11/05** **Week 11: shed some bytes / ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE**
Use external calls to load text and graphics.

Friday Nov. 7, Last day to drop class to receive "W" grade.
- 11/12** **Week 12 : break the mold**
Show some creative techniques when creating Flash based web
sites and how to think out of the box.

ASSIGNMENT 4: create something unique – think out of the box
- 11/19** **Week 13 : advance features / ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE**
An overview of some other features Flash has to offer and what you
will learn in Multimedia II.

FINAL PROJECT: design a Flash based website
- 11/26** **Week 14: eat and be thankful there's no class**
Thanksgiving Holiday.
(Classes dismiss at 4:30pm, Wednesday Nov. 26)

FINAL PROJECT: continue to design a Flash based website
- 12/03** **Week 15 : work on final project**
Continue working on the final project.
- 12/10** **Week 16 : FINAL PROJECT DUE**
Projects will be displayed on all screens for peer critique so be
proud of your work.