

Course Outline

AVFX 201 Modelling and Texture Painting I
Fall 2020
Peter Fiala

Class Time: Mon/Wed 9:00-11:50am. Live lecturing, group discussion. Lectures will be recorded lectures for later viewing, HOWEVER, attendance during class time is mandatory	Class Location: Online through Blackboard (live classes will be through Blackboard Collaborate Ultra)
Office Phone: 403 356 4952	Office Hours: by appointment
E-mail: peter.fiala@rdc.ab.ca	Preferred Contact: Please contact me by e-mail or Blackboard message. I will try to reply to emails within 2 business days/72 hours.
Credit Hours: 3-0-3 Approximately 6 hours of class time/week	Prerequisite: AVFX 107

Academic Calendar Entry:

Create hard surface models in 3D software using box modeling, and high poly sculpting and baking techniques. Layout efficient texture coordinates, and create 2D texture maps.

Delivery:

This class will be delivered online. It will primarily be synchronous.

Synchronous: Some or all instruction and learning takes place in real time using an online virtual classroom. Learners will access the online class at predetermined dates and times and will be greeted and guided through course content by an Instructor. Learners will access the course content, materials, assignments, discussion boards, grades, etc. through Blackboard.

Required Texts and Equipment:

- There is no required textbook for the course
- **Microphone:**
 - a microphone that attaches to your PC is required for use with screen recording software for assignment submission videos used when grading.
- **Notebook:**
 - You will be expected to take notes during lectures, demonstrations, and in-class reviews. You are further expected to *use* these notes as a resource for reviewing and troubleshooting processes and requirements.
- **Blackboard:** This course will be delivered in an online format. We will use Blackboard and Blackboard Collaborate Ultra for live class sessions. Students are advised to become familiar with the course layout as soon as possible. Flexible Learning at RDC provides supports and resources for students. If you have any questions about the

course, please contact me. If you have general questions about online learning and system requirements, please check out the supports at:

- <https://rdc.ab.ca/programs/flexible-learning/flexible-learning>
- <https://rdc.ab.ca/programs/flexible-learning/how-does-flexible-learning-work/computer-requirements>

Recommended Readings and Resources:

Various online articles may be provided by the instructor

Course Outcomes:

- Employ workflow techniques in 3D modeling.
- Create convincing hard surface 3D models based on research & reference.
- Apply painting and texturing skills in Photoshop, Substance Painter.
- Set up the work to be viewed in real-time environments such as Marmoset.
- Create textures for 3D models to define surface properties.
- Unwrap a 3D model to accommodate a 2D texture map.
- Demonstrate strategies for baking modeling details into texture maps.

Course Topics:

- Low Poly Box Modeling.
- Gathering, then interpreting reference materials.
- Deciding when to model in extra geometry, or when to use a texture map to describe surface details.
- Baking detail from high resolution to low resolution models.
- Optimizing texture coordinates (UV's).
- Painting and/or cleaning up texture maps in 2D software (such as Photoshop).
- Rendering/presentation of hard surface models.

Learning Activities:

- This semester this course will be entirely taught online at the times detailed above. We will meet online during for class and will be able to talk, or chat with each other in real time. Your instructor will show their face as well as share their screen as they drive the software, and you can show your video image as well if you wish to.
- Students will complete their work on their provided computers, and submit assignment files as well as video files capturing their screens.

Assessment, Assignments and Exams:

Assessment of Student Performance:	Percentage
Assignments (rubrics and due dates are described in detail on Blackboard)	90%
Professionalism	10%

Attendance Requirements:

Professionalism (Attendance and Participation Requirements).

The animation and VFX industry depends on mutual respect, focus on completing assigned tasks, and professionalism. Lack of attendance may impact the student's abilities to successfully complete the course, as well as affect their chances of succeeding in future courses which cover more advanced subject matter. This course focuses on practicing software skills and artistic techniques and much of this practice will be done during class time. Instruction missed due to absence or unexcused lateness cannot be recovered. Upon missing a class, check Blackboard for information or ask a classmate, as students are ultimately responsible for any information presented in their absence. If a student has missed 3 classes (regardless of the reason), the student must initiate a meeting with the instructor. Failure to do so can negatively impact the student's grades as well as their performance in future advanced courses.

Students must inform the instructor of any absences prior to their occurrence. Any health issues must be verified with an attending physician's note.

The following were taken into consideration on a per-student basis for this grade:

- Attendance
- Participating in class by using carefully planned class time to work on course specific work
- Being on time - being late to class is disruptive and disrespectful to everyone
- Reading and then acting on the feedback given at various milestones in your assignment(s)
- Observed in-class behavior towards other students in the lab
- Not disrupting others who are trying to work
- Handing in assignments when due, unless given an extension after contacting your instructors

Late Assignments:

A large amount of course subject matter is covered in class. Consequently, you are expected to attend all classes and be prepared to be actively involved in class activities. Submit any late assignments as soon as possible. Late assignments could be penalized by a deduction of 25% per day, and could receive a mark of 0 after either 3 days have elapsed, or the assignment has already been graded. Out of class assignments should be submitted through blackboard by midnight on the due date.

Grading Scale: *(Where applicable include percentage equivalents for letter grades.)*

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percent Earned	Description of Performance
A+	4.0	95-100	Exceptional
A	4.0	90-94	Excellent (distinguished performance)
A-	3.7	85-89	
B+	3.3	80-84	
B	3.0	75-79	Good (proficient performance)
B-	2.7	70-74	
C+	2.3	65-69	
C	2.0	60-64	Satisfactory (developing performance)
C-	1.7	55-59	
D+	1.3	52-54	
D	1.0	50-51	Poor (undeveloped performance)
F	0	<50	

Mid-Term Feedback:

Midterm feedback will be available by October 23rd, 2020 through Blackboard via the gradebook as well as in written and/or recorded video.

The RDC Final Examinations Policy:

In courses with Final Examinations, the [RDC Final Examinations Policy](#) (*new*) and [Final Examinations Guidebook](#) (*new*) will apply. Please review these documents to ensure that you understand the contents and implications of the policy.

Academic Misconduct:

Academic misconduct in all its forms is a serious offence. Academic misconduct is the giving, taking, or presenting of information or material that unethically or dishonestly aids oneself or another on any work which, under normal circumstances, is to be considered in the determination of a grade or the compilation of academic requirements or the enhancement of that student's record or academic career. The two key areas of academic misconduct are plagiarism and cheating. Please read the definitions that follow.

Plagiarism:

The use or close imitation of language, paintings, films, prototypes and ideas of another author and representation of them as one's own original work. The most common forms of plagiarism are copying or paraphrasing another author's work without proper acknowledgement, using the ideas or lines of reasoning of another author's work without proper acknowledgement, submitting work to which someone else has made substantial improvements to the content, and submitting the same work for multiple courses without approval.

Plagiarism can be judged to have occurred if the instructor has both the submitted material and original source that was copied, or if the student is unable to explain the terminology or ideas of a submission.

Cheating:

Any attempt to give or obtain unsanctioned assistance in a formal academic exercise (e.g., examination). Some examples of cheating are unauthorized cheat sheets in a test or exams, the unauthorized use of electronic devices during an exam, and copying from an adjacent student.

- [Student Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct](#)
- [Student Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct Guidebook](#)
- [Student Misconduct: Non-Academic](#)
- [Student Misconduct: Non-Academic Guidebook](#)
- [Student Appeals](#)
- [Student Appeals Guidebook](#)

Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy:

Red Deer College (RDC) is a learning community dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and to ensuring that the adult learners it serves have the knowledge, skills, and competencies to develop to their full potential. The essential conditions for a learning community are an atmosphere of freedom, respect, and appreciation for the basic rights and responsibilities of all members of the community. Students should familiarize themselves with the RDC [Students Rights and Responsibilities Policy](#) and follow the guidelines defined within the policy. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in this Course Outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the instructor. It is also the student's responsibility to be familiar with all RDC Policies.

Audio-Visual Recording:

Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars, or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Important Red Deer College Dates – Fall 2020/Winter 2021

<p>~ Fall 2020</p> <p>September 2nd September 3rd September 7th September 15th September 15th October 1st October 6th October 12th October 13th – 16th October 23rd November 11th November 13th December 9th December 9th December 14th – 19th December 21st December 23rd December 24th December 24th December 25th – 31st</p>	<p>New Student Orientation First day of classes for Fall Term 2020 and Full Year 2020-2021 courses Labour Day – College closed Last day to register late or add/drop Fall term 2020 or Full year 2020-2021 courses Last day for tuition refund for Fall term 2020 and Full year 2020-2021 courses First day to apply for Fall term 2021 Emergency Response Day Thanksgiving Day – College closed Reading break – no credit classes Mid-term feedback for Fall term 2020 Remembrance Day – College closed Final Exam schedule posted Last day to withdraw from Fall term 2020 and receive a WD Last day of classes for Fall term 2020 Final Exams written Deferred Exams written for Fall term 2020 Last day for submission of final grades for Fall term 2020 courses Final grades available for Fall term 2020 College closes at noon College closed</p>
<p>~ Winter 2021</p> <p>January 1st January 4th January 4th January 8th January 11th January 11th January 16th February 15th February 16th – 19th March 1st March 2nd March 12th April 2nd April 9th April 9th April 13th – 17th April 20st April 22nd April 23rd April 30th May 8th</p>	<p>New Year's Day – College closed First Day of Classes for Winter Term 2021 Mid-term feedback for Full year 2020-2021 courses Last day to apply for Supplemental Exams for Fall term 2020 Last day to register, add or drop Winter term 2021 courses Last day for tuition refund Supplemental Exams written for Fall term 2020 Family Day – College closed Reading Week Break Mid-term feedback for Winter term 2021 courses Emergency Response Day Final Exam Schedule posted Good Friday – College closed Last day to withdraw from Winter term 2021 and Full term 2020-21 courses and receive a WD Last day of classes for Winter term 2021 and Full year 2020-21 courses Final exams written Deferred Exams for Winter term 2021 and Full-year 2020-2021 courses Last day for submission of final grades for Winter term 2020 and Full year 2019-2020 courses Final grades available for Winter term 2021 Last day to apply for Supplemental Exams for Winter 2021 Supplemental exams for Winter term 2021 written</p>

Prior Learning Assessment:

This course may be eligible for [Recognition of Prior Learning](#). Students should refer to the [RDC Academic Calendar](#) for a list of excluded courses.

Student Services on Campus

Students should be aware that Personal Counselling, Career, Learning and Disability Resources are provided by RDC. Students may inquire about locations at the Information Desk. It is the responsibility of students to discuss their specific learning needs with the appropriate service provider.

[Flexible Learning](#): (support for online learners at RDC)

[Academic Support](#): (Library: 403-342-3264, help_learn@rdc.ab.ca)

- [Writing Skills Centre](#) (writingskills@rdc.ab.ca)
- [Math Learning Centre](#) (math concepts and advanced theoretical math)
- [Learning Strategies](#) (note-taking, studying, and exam-writing strategies)
- [Peer-Assisted Study / Tutoring](#) (one-on-one tutoring by students)

[Disability Resources](#) (Library: 403-357-3629, disabilityservices@rdc.ab.ca)

- Coordination of services (tutoring, alternate format text, note-taking, and so on)
- Academic accommodations, including exam accommodations

[Counselling and Career Centre](#) (Room 1402: 403-343-4064, counselling@rdc.ab.ca)

Changes to the Course Outline

It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in this course outline and to clarify any areas of concern with the instructor.

Students should refer to the Appeals: [Student Appeals](#) and [Student Appeals Guidebook](#), and [Student Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct](#) and [Student Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct Guidebook](#) and [Student Misconduct: Non-Academic](#) and [Student Misconduct: Non-Academic Guidebook](#), should questions or concerns about the Course Outline not be resolved directly with the instructor.

No changes will be made to this course outline without the consent of the class and the approval of the Associate Dean, School of Arts & Sciences/Creative Arts.



Dr. Robbie J. Halonen

Interim Associate Dean, School of Arts & Sciences/Creative Arts

Reading/Class Schedule (subject to adjustments as required or in consultation with the class).