ART 257 Motion Graphic Design (3 credits)
6 hours lecture/lab per week

Prerequisite: ART 229 with a grade of “C” or higher; ART 258 with a grade of “C” or higher; satisfactory completion of the Motion Graphic Design portfolio review or acceptance into a NMA AS specialization.

ART 257 introduces projects that incorporate typography, shape and image within time-based presentations. Students will creatively employ motion, typographic effects, layering and transition to focus on interactive and sequential organization of information through time in the execution of interface design projects and web site design.

:: course objectives/competencies

Upon successful completion of ART 257, the student should be able to:

- Analyze user-centered designs that demonstrate a need for motion graphics and how motion is used to convey sequential organization of information over time.
- Demonstrate the ability to research topics in motion graphic design and analyze basic information structures and organize them into comprehensive information hierarchies.
- Incorporate typography, shape, image, and sound into time-based projects.
- Incorporate interactivity into time-based projects.
- Analyze and apply the visual elements of line, shape, value, color, texture, time, motion and the design principles of balance, rhythm, repetition, emphasis, contrast, variation, and unity to interface design assignments.
- Explain cross-platform and browser related issues with regard to Flash and motion graphic design.
- Demonstrate a clear understanding of the full motion design and animated web site development process by completing all phases from the preliminary planning stage through design explorations and revisions to the final coded and launched product.
- Experiment by taking risks through the process of exploration during the creative problem solving process.
- Demonstrate strong group communication skills and the ability to speak clearly during critiques while defending the conceptual merits of work produced for the course.
:: course content

A. Motion Graphic Design: Theory and Aesthetics 25%
   • Introduction to motion graphic design and 2D animation via theory and practice of contemporary web site design and basic principles of animation for the web, television, and film.
   • Evaluation of successful usage of motion graphics to convey sequential organization of information in time.

B. Motion Graphic Design: Techniques 25%
   • Incorporate typography, shape, image, and sound into time-based projects.
   • Creation of motion graphic designs that demonstrate the visual elements of line, shape, value, color, texture, time, motion and the design principles of balance, rhythm, repetition, emphasis, contrast, variation, and unity.

C. Flash and Interface Design 50%
   • Exploration of user-centered designs that demonstrate a need for motion graphics.
   • Implement a fully featured Flash interface using motion graphics.
   • Learn how Flash integrates with other technologies such as JavaScript, HTML, and CSS by implementing a Flash interface into an HTML document.
   • Analysis and demonstration of cross-platform and browser related issues with regard to motion graphics.

:: texts

There are no required texts for this course. Readings will be supplied by the instructor on a week to week basis, in either paper handout form or online.

Recommended, but not required, texts:
   • Flash CS3 Professional for Windows and Macintosh (Visual QuickStart Guide)
     by Katherine Ulrich

:: materials

The primary software used in this class is Adobe Flash, which will be installed on all computers in class and in the labs.

In addition to producing digital designs, students will be required to submit sketches on paper. While it is not required, it is recommended that you purchase a cheap sketchbook and a set of black and/or grayscale markers.

Additional materials may include backup media (such as external hard drives, blank cd’s, or a usb flash card) and printer paper.

:: method of instruction

The method of instruction will include lectures, studio demonstrations, project development, individual instruction, group discussions, and critiques. Examples are presented when important to describe course content. Class projects and procedures are the focus of many course discussions.
:: method of evaluation

A. Projects Assignments 80%
   a. Clarity of Conceptual Understanding 40%
      Students will demonstrate their conceptual understanding of project assignments by creating
      preliminary sketches and drawings and by meeting each projects technical specifications.
      Students may also be asked to show their understanding by submitting clearly written, well-
      conceptualized statements, and by showing strong group communication skills during
      critiques.
   b. Quality of Execution of Assignments 40%
      Each student will be expected to create resources (sketches, creative briefs, coded interfaces,
      digital designs, etc.) based on project guidelines. Additionally they will complete tutorials and
      projects that demonstrate their ability to execute specific software and design techniques. The
      quality of these techniques and materials will be assessed in the final grade evaluation based
      on the successful application of the technology in working interactive models.

B. Participation/Attendance 20%

Students will be expected to participate as active class members. This includes attending all classes;
meeting all project deadlines; completing production time outside of class in the lab environment; and
participating as dependable team members. During critiques, all students are required to participate as both
presenters and active critics.

:: instructors's expectation:

Lectures, demonstrations and general class participation is an important aspect of this course. Lectures and
related information will be given once. For unexcused absences, students need to make arrangements with
other class members regarding information. Note taking during lectures and demonstrations is necessary.
Since this is a college course, time outside of class will need to be consistently spent on projects to meet the
requirements of the class.

There will be no email during class time! You can check your email during class breaks.

:: attendance:

Each student is responsible for the material presented in class, therefore regular attendance is expected. In
order to keep up with all lessons and the general pace of the class it is essential that you arriving promptly
and remain for the scheduled class period. Leaving class early without permission will result in an absence
marked for that class period. Three tardies will equal one unexcused absence. Consistent lateness and
absences may result in a lower grade for the semester due to any missed opportunities for graded class
participation sessions during class critiques. If you are absent for medical reasons, please provide a note
from your doctor or nurse. If there is a severe family problem, a long-term personal illness, or something
else that may interfere with the course, please discuss this with me as early as possible. So long as I know
about any potential problems in advance, there is usually a solution. Please do not wait until it is too late so
as to avoid any repercussions to your grade.
:: grading policy:

Grading is based on assignments, projects, and class participation during critiques. It is the responsibility of the student to collect handouts, take notes, complete and turn in assignments on due dates. Make-up assignments will be administered only in cases where there is a valid medical reason accompanied by a doctor’s note. The assigned projects must be turned in on the due date. **Missing a deadline will result in a full letter grade reduction for that project unless there is a valid medical reason or a family emergency.** Projects may be revised and turned in again for re-grading. Class participation will be considered in the evaluation of the final grade. Disruptive or argumentative behavior will result in a lower grade during final grade evaluation or dismissal from class.

- Any student missing the final semester critique or not turning in a final project without prior permission will have a full letter grade taken off the final semester grade.

:: grading system:

All projects are worth 100 points each.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>59-0</td>
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:: special student services (ssso)

Extended time in a distraction-free environment is an appropriate accommodation based on a student’s disability. If you do have a disability and have not disclosed the nature of your disability and the support you need, you are invited to contact the Special Student Services Office, 734-9552, ‘Ilima 105.

These and all other course materials are available in alternative formats.

:: student conduct code

A college campus is a community with specific behavior expectations designed to allow all students, faculty, and staff to flourish. Please familiarize yourself with KCC’s Student Conduct Code in the course catalog. You should know your rights and responsibilities on campus. The Student Conduct Code describes specific campus policies related to: drug and alcohol use, smoking, lethal weapons, sexual harassment and sexual assault, academic honesty, nondiscrimination, and family privacy.

In all campus environments, Disruptive Behavior will not be tolerated. This means: any speech or action that (1) is disrespectful, offensive, and/or threatening; (2) interferes with the learning activities of other students; (3) impedes the delivery of college services; and/or (4) has a negative impact in any learning environment.

:: this class is a “safe zone”

Discriminatory or rude comments of any kind, particularly regarding gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or religion, will not be tolerated.
Throughout the semester we will be covering a variety of motion graphic design topics and principles. Topics will include:

- Overview of software (Flash)
- Multimedia defined as image, text, audio and time
- What is compositing?
- Industry applications (broadcast design, web design, special effects, film titles, etc.)
- The basic elements of design in the context of motion graphic design
- Storyboarding (as a pre-visualization art form, techniques, styles, etc.)
- Optimization & playback issues (including export formats)
- ActionScripting
- The design process applied in the context of motion graphics and web design
- Old and new flash techniques and practices
- Video in Flash
- Audio in Flash
- 3rd party software

**Week 1 :: Introduction**

- Topics covered:
  - Introduction to the course
  - Introduction to multimedia and motion graphic design
  - Introduction to Flash
  - Introduction to basic tweening

- Assignment:
  - Black Square Problem 10 second Animation

**Week 2 :: Motion Graphic Design Basics**

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Assignment:
  - Black Square Problem 10 second Animation – due week 2

**Week 3 :: Kinetic Typography**

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques
  - Storyboard techniques
  - Type in motion

- Assignment:
  - Kinetic typography assignment

**Week 4 :: Kinetic Typography**

- Topics covered:
  - Type in motion
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Assignment:
  - Kinetic typography assignment
Week 5 :: kinetic typography

- Topics covered:
  - Type in motion
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Assignment:
  - Kinetic typography assignment – due week 5

Week 6 :: motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Mid-term Assignment:
  - Large motion graphic design project

Week 7 :: motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Mid-term Assignment:
  - Large motion graphic design project – 1st draft due week 7

Week 8 :: motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Mid-term Assignment:
  - Large motion graphic design project – 2nd draft due week 8

Week 9 :: motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Mid-term Assignment:
  - Large motion graphic design project – MIDTERM due week 9

Week 10 :: interface+motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Final Assignment:
  - Final interface+motion design project

Week 11 :: interface+motion design project

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- Final Assignment:
  - Final interface+motion design project
  - Final design is due week 11

Week 12 :: interface+motion design project
- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- **Final Assignment:**
  - Final interface+motion design project
  - 1st draft is **due week 12**

**Week 13 :: interface+motion design project**

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- **Final Assignment:**
  - Final interface+motion design project
  - 2nd draft is **due week 13**

**Week 14 :: interface+motion design project**

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- **Final Assignment:**
  - Final interface+motion design project

**Week 15 :: interface+motion design project**

- Topics covered:
  - Flash tips & techniques

- **Final Assignment:**
  - Final interface+motion design project

**Week 16 :: interface+motion design project**

- Topics covered:
  - How to assemble all client and class documentation into a portfolio entry.

- **Final Assignment:**
  - Final interface+motion design project is due week 16