

**Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus**

Course Code: HUMA 3201
Course Title: Animation: A Global Perspective
Course Offered in: Fall 2025
Course Instructor: Professor Daisy Yan DU

Course Description:

This course examines the history and development of animation as both an art form and an industry around the world. It covers early experiments with animation, the transition to sound and feature film, and the rise of the classical Hollywood studios such as Disney, Warner Bros, the Fleischers, UPA, and MGM. This course will extend to other countries or regions, such as Canada, Russia, Germany, Czech, Japan, China, and Hong Kong. In addition, this course will track the development of technology and techniques of animation, such as rotoscoping, pixilation, cel animation, stop-motion animation, puppet animation, silhouette animation, limited animation on TV, direct animation, and computer animation. This course aims to establish a foundation for students from different academic backgrounds who might be unfamiliar with animation studies.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs):

1	track the development of animation as both an art form and an industry
2	be familiar with major animators, their representative works, and the socio-historical context in which they emerged
3	analyze particular animated works, identify their directors, animation technology/techniques, their visual styles, and socio-historical condition
4	use a theoretical film vocabulary to discuss animation
5	sharpen critical thinking and enhance academic writing skills in animation studies

Weekly Topics:

1	Beginnings
2	Cel Animation and Early Industry
3	Classical Studio Animation: Disney, Sound, and Feature Film

Division of Humanities
Tentative Course Syllabus

4	Classical Studio Animation: Warner Bros.
5	Classical Studio Animation: The Fleischers
6	Limited Animation on TV: UPA (United Productions of America) in the 1950s
7	CGI (Computer Generated Image) Animation
8	Midterm Exam
9	Czech Puppet Animation: Jiří Trnka
10	The Early Years of Japanese Animation
11	Contemporary Anime
12	Wartime Chinese Animation
13	National Style: Chinese Ink-painting Animation

Assessments:

Mid-term tests:	30%
Final exam:	40%
Written assignments:	15%

Readings:

The textbook of this course will be a package of articles and book chapters in PDF forms. The instructor will upload these course materials online so that students can freely download and access these materials.