

Mr. Blankenship
Animation
Los Coches Creek Computer Science and Media Arts (CSMA) Magnet Middle School
9669 Dunbar Lane, El Cajon, CA 92021
(619) 938-8600

Course Description

This course is designed to teach students the basics of animation. Students learn how to plot, script, storyboard, present, and create animations using the principles of animation and basic techniques including staging, timing, mechanics and kinetics. Drawing skills, life drawing, storytelling, mechanics of motion and animation camera techniques will be an integral part of the course. The format of classroom instruction will be lecture, demonstration, individual and team-based projects, presentations and hands-on classroom work.

Also, this class will introduce students to the creation of animated imagery through various media. We will begin with simple traditional hand methods such as flip books and proceed through the digital process with the use of an online program titled Cloud stop motion. A major portion of the course will involve learning to use the Cloud Stop Motion animation software. Along the way we will examine the history of the moving image and the power and influence of animation and computer generated imagery in our contemporary culture.

Learning Outcomes

- History of animation to include types of animation
- Development of story through outline, script, storyboard and planning.
- Ability to generate creative characters and short story ideas
- The Elements of Art and Principles of Design
- Learning to work independently and as part of a team

Grades are updated by Friday and posted on iGrade Plus. I will provide parents and students with access to the grade portal. The reason I DO NOT use Zangle is because iGrade Plus allows me to send out weekly grade reports, which I will do each Friday afternoon along with a weekly informational message. I will be collecting parent emails so you can get this important information!. Students who earn 70% or less will have comments in iGrade Plus explaining the earned score.

Cell phones are to be turned off and stored in the backpack until the end of the school day and smart watches must be in a position where they operate ONLY as a watch. Please do not text/call your child. If you need to get ahold of your child contact the office and your message will be sent to the classroom.

In addition to classwork other methods of evaluation include quizzes and tests. The grading system is as follows:

98 - 100	A+	Quizzes/Tests, and Major Projects are weighted and are worth more than other classwork.
93 - 97	A	
90 - 92	A-	
88 - 89	B+	Citizenship grades are based on student in class behavior and following classroom rules
83 - 87	B	
80 - 82	B-	
78 - 79	C+	
72 - 77	C	
70 - 73	C-	
68 - 69	D+	
63 - 67	D	
60 - 62	D-	
0 - 59	F	

Students are expected to follow school and classroom rules at all times.

Classroom Rules

1. Keep hands, feet, and objects to ourselves
2. Come prepared to work
3. Be respectful of everyone
4. Try your best
5. Be a good role model

Student Expectations

1. Bring all materials needed to be successful in class including a charged Chromebook.
2. Practice active listening (eyes on presenter, silent hands, ears listening, no talking to others).
3. Ask questions when you don't understand or need clarification.
4. Complete ALL assignments and homework as assigned
5. Work with others and respect their ideas, thoughts, opinions.
6. Make up all missed work when absent from class.
7. Always ask for help when needed.
8. Be in your seat when the bell rings ready to learn and wait to be dismissed to leave.

If you have any questions or need to contact me please call (619) 938-8600 or email me at blankenship@cajonvalley.net. I look forward to working with you and your child.

**Please be sure to complete and return the attached page to acknowledge receipt of this letter.
Can't wait for an awesome school year!**

Trevor Blankenship
Mixed grade Animation
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