Instructional Framework

ARIZONA CTE

Digital Animation

10.0200.60

This Instructional Framework identifies, explains, and expands the content of the standards/measurement criteria, and, as well, guides the development of multiple-choice items for the Technical Skills Assessment. This document corresponds with the Technical Standards endorsed in July 13, 2020.

Domain 1: Content Creation	
Instructional Time: 50 - 60%	
STANDARD 4.0 UTILIZE TECHNOLOGY TO MANAGE PRINCIPLES, ACTIV	/ITIES, AND TRENDS IN DIGITAL ANIMATION
4.1 Select appropriate software and hardware for specific work tasks (i.e., time management, customer services records, media projects, etc.)	 Time management Google Calendar Trello Customer services records Media projects Software package awareness and application Visual development (Photoshop, Gimp, Krita) 3D Modeling (Maya, 3dsMax, Blender, Cinema 4D. Houdini, modo) Digital sculpting (ZBrush, Sculptris) Texturing (Substance) Rendering (Arnold, Vray, Renderman) Compositing (After Effects, Nuke, Flame) Editing (Premiere, Final Cut)
4.2 Apply essential commands and knowledge of computer operating systems	 Computer basics Use of external drives Logging in/out of a computer Windows vs. Mac vs. Linux Saving work
4.3 Utilize computer file management techniques for organizing, archiving, and version control	 Folder naming and hierarchy Unique file names Naming conventions and file sharing
4.4 Maintain equipment and related accessories	Equipment sustainability

	Equipment care
4.5 Explain methods of protecting computer systems against data loss and external threats (e.g., on-premise and in the cloud)	 Understand tech security Clicking unknown .exe or links in emails On-premise In the cloud
4.6 Identify software and hardware that supports data capture (i.e., digital image, video, 3D models, motion, facial, and camera tracking, etc.)	 Hardware Cameras Scanners Microphones Tablets Greenscreen Software Modeling software (3D models) Post-production software (video) Photo-editing (digital images) Motion capture Facial Camera tracking
4.7 Select appropriate standards and formats for data, creation, capture, and exchange	 Resolutions Aspect ratio Frame rate File type Compression
4.8 Determine efficient methods for converting, editing, exchanging, and ingesting data (i.e., sharing between systems, contractors, clients, etc.)	 Sharing between systems, contractors, clients, etc. External drives The cloud Adobe Media Encoder File converters
STANDARD 6.0 IMPLEMENT PLANS FOR THE CREATION OF CONTENT	USING MODELING, TEXTURING, AND LIGHTING TECHNIQUES
6.1 Explain the animation pipeline and its stages	 Pre-production/Visual Development Storyboarding Concept art Production Modeling Texturing

	 Lighting Animation Visual effects Rendering Post-production Compositing Editing Sound
6.2 Construct 3D models using appropriate techniques and geometric principles (e.g., Boolean, polygonal, NURBS/hyper-nurbs, subdivision surfaces, sculpting, and symmetrical)	 Modifiers Boolean, etc. Non-linear deformers Polygonal Box modeling Curves NURBS/hyper-nurbs Subdivision surfaces Sculpting Symmetrical Mirroring
6.3 Classify organic vs. hard surface modeling	 Difference between organic and hard surface Efficient meshes Edge flow
6.4 Create texture maps on polygon objects using planar, cylindrical, spherical mapping, and the UV texture editor	Unwrapping the UV in various waysSeamless textures
6.5 Evaluate and correct UVW maps and surface normals	 Apply textures through UV mapping Stretching and pinching
6.6 Differentiate among types of surface shaders for various rendering techniques [i.e., Phong, ray tracing, Physically Based Rendering (PBR), High Dynamic Range Imaging (HDRIs), etc.]	 Shader types Phong Rendering techniques Ray tracing Physically Based Rendering (PBR) High Dynamic Range Imaging (HDRIs)
6.7 Create complex textures and reflections using process/nodal maps with commercial software	Node structuresImage vs. Procedural

	Combination of node constructionShader networks
6.8 Simulate fire, hair, cloth, crowds, and fluids using particles and dynamic systems	 Simulations Cloth Fire Fluids Hair Crowds Particle systems Fields/forces
6.9 Differentiate among types of lights and their attributes	 Light types Spot Area Point/Omni Ambient Directional High Dynamic Range Image (HDRI)
6.10 Explain the three lights in the three-point lighting system	 Three-point light setup Key light Rim light Fill light
6.11 Compare white and colored lights and shadows to create mood in a scene	 Color palettes Warm vs. Cool Color definitions Color psychology Blue = loyal; Red = love/anger, etc. Natural vs. Artificial light Day vs. Night
STANDARD 7.0 IMPLEMENT PLANS FOR THE CREATION AND DELIVERY TECHNIQUES AS WELL AS DYNAMIC SIMULATION AND RENDERING	OF CONTENT USING VARIOUS RIGGING AND ANIMATION
7.1 Explain the efficiencies at render time for pre-baking lighting solutions and shadows	 Rendering and time factors Faster processing Baking Lighting Textures

7.2 Compare exposure sheet with Graph and Curve Editor for manipulating keyframe interpolation	 Exposure sheets Graph editor/Curve editor Slow-in/Slow-out
7.3 Create animation using motion paths and constraints [i.e., Set Dynamic Keys (SDKs)/action constraints, Artificial Intelligence (AI), etc.]	 Motion paths Constraints Set Dynamic Keys (SDKs)/action constraints Artificial Intelligence (AI)
7.4 Explain the use of bones, armatures, and constraints for rigging and skinning techniques [i.e., forward kinematics and inverse kinematics (FK/IK)]	 Rigging Forward kinematics and inverse kinematics (FK/IK) Skinning Painting weights
7.5 Explain how cinematic decisions [i.e., Field of View (FOV), camera angles, paths, etc.] for capturing images from a 3D scene can be used to make an aesthetically pleasing composition that reinforces the story	 Field of View (FOV) Depth of Field Rack focus Rule of Thirds Camera angles Extreme long Long shot Medium shot Close up Extreme close up Bird's eye High Over the shoulder Eye-level Canted Camera Movement (Path) Pan Dolly Crane Zoom Tilt
7.6 Export assets to real-time rendering engine in the appropriate format and inspect/correct UVW maps, textures, and lighting to emphasize the most important aspects of the scene	 Preview before final render Real-time rendering engine best practices

7.7 Test assets in the real-time engine to ensure animations and deformations work as intended	Preview before final buildQuality control
7.8 Compare the benefits of different rendering methods (e.g., real-time rendering, or offline as an image sequence, or video file)	 Rendering methods Real-time rendering Offline as an image sequence, or video file
7.9 Explain how exposing parameters of digital assets can enhance their utility and value [i.e., programmatic access, creating user interfaces (UI), repurposing assets, etc.]	 Utility and value Programmatic access Creating user interfaces (UI) Repurposing assets

Domain 2: Pre-Production and Basic Principles Instructional Time: 15-20% STANDARD 5.0 ENGAGE IN PRE-PRODUCTION/PLANNING PHASE OF CONTENT CREATION IN DIGITAL ANIMATION 5.1 Interpret a design brief (e.g., art styles, platform specifications, Art styles Platform specifications asset lists, and priorities) Asset lists Priorities 5.2 Select creative approaches that meet the needs of the design brief • Time scales (e.g., time scales, polygon counts, and texture sizes) Polygon counts Texture sizes 5.3 Develop a plan to efficiently develop, reuse, and repurpose assets • Develop and repurpose resources for use on the project Modular construction of models Kit-bashing 5.4 Create a folder hierarchy and organize project files within folders Naming conventions o Naming layers in Photoshop using consistent naming conventions (e.g., naming layers in Photoshop and naming objects in a 3D program) Naming objects in a 3D program Folders and files 5.5 Apply the elements and principles of design to all drawings, models, Elements of Art environments, and projects Line Shape Value

	 Space Form Value Texture Color Principles of Design Contrast Balance Variety Repetition Emphasis Movement Pattern Rhythm Unity
5.6 Apply drawing skills (i.e., shading, perspective, and gesture drawing)	 Shading Perspective Gesture drawing Composition/Rule of thirds Drawing from observation Light sources and chiaroscuro 1-, 2-, and 3-point perspective
5.7 Apply basic anatomy to figure drawing and character design	 Human proportions Vitruvian man Primitive shapes make up humans and animals Muscular and skeletal structure Gesture drawing
5.8 Develop concept art for all key (priority) assets (e.g., thumbnails and silhouette sketches)	 Thumbnails Silhouette sketches Roughs Character sheets Visual development for environments and props
5.9 Apply the 12 principles of animation to all animated projects (e.g., The Illusion of Life)	 The Illusion of Life Straight Ahead and Pose to Pose Solid Drawing Appeal

	 Staging Timing Arcs Slow in and Slow Out Squash and Stretch Exaggeration Anticipation Follow Thru and Overlapping Action Secondary Action
5.10 Create detailed comprehensive storyboards for a project	What is a storyboardPurpose of a storyboard

Domain 3: Post-Production and Distribution Instructional Time: 15-20%	
8.1 Animate layers of footage in a compositing program	Compositing softwareSequencingSetting keyframes
8.2 Create cinematic transitions and atmospheric effects	Effect vs. PresetApplying effects
8.3 Generate masks and track mattes	Masks vs. Track mattesLayer transparency
8.4 Choose color-keying techniques (i.e., Keylight, color difference, difference mattes, spill suppressors, etc.)	 Chroma keying Keylight Color difference Difference mattes Spill suppressors
8.5 Track motion and apply the data to footage	 Motion tracking Stabilizing footage Tracking objects
8.6 Combine sound files and image sequences into a movie file	Audio codecs

	 .mp3 .wav Video codecs .mp4 .mov Editing and exporting finished sound and image files Media encoder Premiere
STANDARD 9.0 DELIVER/DISTRIBUTE CONTENT USING VARIOUS MEDIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLIENT EXPECTATIONS IN DIGITAL ANIMATION	
9.1 Identify various file formats and their advantages and disadvantages	 File extensions Advantages and disadvantages .jpg vspng .mp4 vsmov vsavi .exr
9.2 Select video or audio codecs for various file formats and target delivery platforms	 Difference between delivery options Identify codecs Audio Video
9.3 Create or convert 3D modeling/animation to be viewed through Virtual Reality (VR) (i.e., Oculus, HTC Vive, etc.), Augmented Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR), and a merging of VR with AR (i.e., MS Hololens2, Magic Leap, etc.)	 Oculus HTC Vive MS Hololens2 Magic Leap
9.4 Identify security considerations when using the internet as a delivery system (i.e., Dropbox, Google Drive, GitHub, etc.)	 Security considerations Resolution Watermark Dropbox Google Drive GitHub

Domain 4: Presentation and Critique

Instructional Time: 5-10%

STANDARD 10.0 MONITOR QUALITY ASSURANCE OF CONTENT CREATION CONCURRENT WITH ALL PHASES OF PRODUCTION IN DIGITAL ANIMATION

ANIMATION	
10.1 Critique delivered content for artisanship, effectiveness, and tone (i.e., concept art, storyboards, textures, models, images, rendered animations, etc.)	 Critique for quality and efficiency Concept art Storyboards Textures Models Images Rendered animations
10.2 Review a project workflow after completion and determine areas for improvement	 Critique the workflow Pre-production Production Post-Production Self-reflection
10.3 Identify organizational and communication factors that contribute to the relative success of the project	 Redefine and solidify the workflow Meeting deadlines Meeting client expectations Producing quality work
STANDARD 11 PRESENT TO SELECTED AUDIENCE(S) USING DIGITAL AI	NIMATION
11.1 Structure and develop a portfolio and/or demo reel of an appropriate subject matter and quality	 Portfolio/Demo Reel requirements Maximum 3 minutes Quality over quantity Strongest piece first
11.2 Explore methods of distributing portfolios and demo reels for the purpose of work, employment, or investment	 Web portfolio sites Art Station Behance Squarespace, Wix, Adobe Spark, etc. Delivery Exposure Social media Printed portfolio books

11.3 Research industries and companies as potential employers; develop job-specific cover letters and résumés	 Relevant industry or company information Research Grammar/spelling Positive self-promotion Passion Ability to contribute Cover Letters Business letter format Letter of application vs. Letter of inquiry Resume Contact info (name, email, portfolio site, phone number) Tailored to specific jobs, organization/order References
11.4 Explore interviewing techniques for professional placement	 Proper interview techniques Making eye contact Taking notes Being engaged Ask good questions of the interviewer Appropriate attire Etiquette
11.5 Explain how to create an effective pitch and/or animatic	 Purpose of a pitch Generate interest Secure finances Purpose of an animatic Work out timing, dialog, and sound "First draft" of the project

Domain 5: Business and Industry		
Instructional Time: 5-10%		
STANDARD 1.0 ANALYZE THE COMMUNICATION MEDIA TECHNOLOGIES INDUSTRY, ITS BUSINESS PRACTICES, AND ITS ROLE IN THE ECONOMY		
1.1 Investigate the history and evolution of the Communication Media Technologies industry (i.e., technology, processes, production, etc.)	TechnologyProcesses	

	 Production Early devices Magic lantern Thaumatrope Early animators Muybridge Walt Disney Windsor McCay J. Stuart Blackton Chronological order of media development
1.2 Examine the impact of social media and emerging technologies on the Communication Media Technologies industry	 Business practices Meetings, proposals, professional etiquette Increased exposure Variation in quality Networking and public relations
1.3 Research the societal and economic impact of the Communication Media Technologies industry	 Business practices Business plan, budgeting Societal impact Cultural understanding, diversity, representation, entertainment Cross-industry career options Medical animation, architectural visualization Product prototyping, 3D printing
1.4 Examine the impact of the Communication Media Technologies Industry on marketing practices (i.e., delivery systems, monetization, etc.)	 Delivery systems Monetization Advertising practices Ways of exposure and creating income flows Micro economies YouTube, Etsy, TurboSquid, Art Station
1.5 Define cultural diversity and the need for awareness and sensitivity in creative and professional decision-making	 Best practices when working with other cultures Non-verbal cues Inclusion and representation

1.6 Explain the importance of multiculturalism in creative and professional decision-making (i.e., treating impartially and fairly each ethnic group, etc.)	 Treating impartially and fairly each ethnic group Inclusion and representation Awareness and avoidance of negative stereotypes
1.7 Analyze client/service provider interaction practices appropriate to the Communication Media Technologies industry (e.g., customer service)	 Customer service Proper business etiquette Importance of deadlines Communication Follow-up Customer relationships
1.8 Determine budgets for various media projects and/or specific subtasks (e.g., personnel requirements, labor costs, and expenses)	 Personnel requirements Labor costs Expenses/overhead Proposal/business plan Freelance pricing
1.9 Examine time management practices appropriate to the Communication Media Technologies industry (i.e., scheduling, hourly tracking, task management, managing deadlines, etc.)	 Scheduling Hourly tracking Task management Managing deadlines
1.10 Identify professions that comprise the Communication Media Technologies industry (i.e., animation, broadcasting, filmmaking, graphic design, illustration, music and audio production, digital imaging, printing, publishing, etc.)	 Animation Broadcasting Filmmaking Graphic design Illustration Music and audio production Digital imaging Printing Publishing
1.11 Describe how diversity (cultural, ethnic, multigenerational) and ethics affect the selection of programs, projects, and creative choices	 Inclusion and representation Diversity of perspective Multiple points of view

1.12 Compare various business models for generating income (i.e., employment, entrepreneurship, the gig economy, social media monetization, etc.)	 Employment Entrepreneurship The gig economy Social media monetization
1.13 Describe how production processes, cycles, and deadlines affect media businesses and career pathways	 Professional responsibilities Project based contracts Project management and deadlines Crunch Time
1.14 Comply with the safety standards and regulations specific to OSHA (specific to OSHA 10)	 OSHA Safety standards Lab safety Wiring and cables Workplace Injuries Carpal Tunnel Sedentary Eye strain Posture
1.15 Describe how the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) affects creative professionals in various roles (e.g., employees/employers, subordinates/managers, and customers/suppliers)	 Employees/employers Subordinates/managers Customers/suppliers Technology based accommodations Programmable gaming mouse Voice recognition
STANDARD 2.0 INVESTIGATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) LAW AND	RIGHTS MANAGEMENT
2.1 Identify current legal issues in media professions	 Legal issues that affect media professions Workplace diversity Intellectual property Video game violence
2.2 Examine intellectual property law and its ramifications (e.g., copyright, free and fair use, and licensing)	 Copyright Free and fair use Licensing Trademark

2.3 Explain plagiarism and its effects in business	PlagiarismNegative effects
STANDARD 3.0 DEMONSTRATE CLIENT/SERVICE PROVIDER PRACTICE	S APPROPRIATE TO DIGITAL ANIMATION
3.1 Use industry terminology appropriate to the work environment	 Animation and business terminology Professional communication Etiquette Software Foundational concepts
3.2 Employ written, verbal, and nonverbal communications that are appropriate to the target audience and situation (i.e., active listening, empathy, body language, openness, negotiation, problem solving, conflict resolution, assertiveness, positive attitude, etc.)	 Professional characteristics employers' value Active listening Empathy Body language Openness Negotiation Problem solving Conflict resolution Assertiveness Positive attitude Motivation/passion Meeting deadlines
3.3 Practice verbal, nonverbal, and listening communication skills for effectiveness with people of diverse cultures, generations, and situations (i.e., email, text, phone call, video conferencing, interpersonal meetings, etc.)	 Professional etiquette when using Email Text Phone call Video conferencing Interpersonal meetings
3.4 Conduct formal and informal research to collect information, verify the accuracy of information, and authority of sources	 Surveys Focus groups Screenings Source authority and citations Fact checking

3.5 Assess the stated purpose and audience when making content choices and developing communications	Know your audienceKnow your content
3.6 Apply editing and proofing skills when reviewing any communication	Proofreading skillsEditing skillsQuality control

