Great Basin College
Fall 2017

GRC 455: Motion Graphics
3 credits

Instructor

Kathy Schwandt
office: High Tech Center (HTC) Room 129, 775-753-2218
email available through the WebCampus classroom
I do not check WebCampus messages, email or voice mail on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Textbook

Adobe After Effects CC Classroom in a Book (2017 release)
Fridsma, Gyncild
ISBN 13: 978-0-13-466609-9

Catalog Description

Explores the expressive potential of motion graphics as a contemporary communication and design medium. Projects and instruction utilizing time-based editing software and emphasizing kinetic composition methods with various visual media and graphic elements.

Prerequisite

GRC 350

Your Computer's Security

For this class you may be online with your computer. Your computer's security is your responsibility. I strongly recommend that you have security software installed on your computer and that you keep it updated. There are many options available; you might want to do online research to determine what security software is best for you. A good place to start your research is to type "security software" into Google or another search engine.

Software

Adobe After Effects and Bridge CC are required for this class.

Methods of Instruction

o   Weekly modules in WebCampus. Each module (except for the Week 1 Module) opens on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Each module starts with an instructions document for the week. Students must read and follow these instructions; please contact me as soon as possible by WebCampus message, phone, or stop by my office if anything doesn't make sense.

o   Reading assignments from the textbook and online sources.

o   Videos and multiple-choice knowledge check questions in the web edition book.

o   Assignments and online discussions are scheduled and due weekly as shown on the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus.

o   A final project is completed at the end of the semester.

Kathy's office schedule for fall 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		11:00 - 1:30 **Office**		
	2:30 - 5:00 **Office**			

Online classes: CIT 151, GRC 119, GRC 156, GRC 320, GRC 350, GRC 365, and GRC 455

The grey boxes are the times when I should be available to meet with students in my office, **preferably by appointment**.

Expected Learner Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to...	Measurements of learner outcomes:
execute, describe and discuss a wide range of digital post-production techniques applicable for film, video, and animation;	Weekly Assignments, Discussions, and Final Project
import and organize footage items;	Weekly Assignments and Final Project
modify layers in various ways;	Weekly Assignments and Final Project
animate objects and effects;	Weekly Assignments and Final Project
and render and output final products.	Weekly Assignments and Final Project

Class Participation

You must log into the WebCampus classroom at least a couple of times per week to demonstrate "attendance" in the class. You are expected to read the weekly instructions posted by each Wednesday afternoon; to respond to discussion topics; and to submit assignments on time.

> "An instructor may drop any student who has excessive unexcused absences. An instructor has the sole right to excuse an absence, assign makeup work, or apply a punitive grading policy as established by the instructor's syllabus for the class. Specifically, you are expected to comply with the attendance policy set by each instructor."
> (p. 72 of the 2017-2018 GBC General Catalog)

If, for some reason, you feel that you cannot complete the course, you must officially withdraw from the class by the course drop deadline (Thursday, November 2, 2017) by contacting Admissions & Records at 753-2102, and completing the Course Withdraw Form.

- Officially withdrawing results in a "W" on your grade report. The "W" is not used in computing your cumulative GPA; it will appear on your transcript and be permanent.
- If you do not officially withdraw, your grade will be based on the work you have completed averaged with zeros for work you have not completed.

Course Grade

Discussions	**30%**
Weekly Assignments	**50%**
Final Project	**20%**

Discussions

- Discussion postings are evaluated using a "Discussions Rubric," and each graded topic is worth 100 points.
- Your first discussion post each week is usually due by 8:00 pm Sunday. You must also make at least one additional post replying to the instructor's response to your first post by the weekly discussion topic due date and time, which is usually 1:00 pm Wednesday.

Weekly Assignments

- Each weekly assignment has its own handout giving the specifics of the assignment; each graded weekly assignment is worth 100 points.
- No late work is accepted, unless it is approved in writing by the instructor by 5:00 p.m. PST the day prior to the assignment's due date. For example, if an assignment is due on Wednesday, written approval to submit the assignment late must be given by the instructor to the student by 5:00 p.m. PST on Tuesday.

Details about the **Final Project** will be provided during the 13th week of class.

If you have any questions about any of the assignments, please let me know—before they're due!

The final course grade is calculated on a percentage scale and then recorded as the corresponding grade point value and letter grade as shown next.

Course Grade, continued

Percentage	Grade Point Value	Letter Grade	Quality of Work
94-100	4.0	A	Superior
90-93	3.7	A-	
87-89	3.3	B+	
83-86	3.0	B	Above Average
80-82	2.7	B-	
77-79	2.3	C+	
73-76	2.0	C	Average
70-72	1.7	C-	
67-69	1.3	D+	
63-66	1.0	D	Below Average
60-62	0.7	D-	
<60	0.0	F	Failure

Grade	General Definition	Work Demonstrated
A	Demonstrates Exceptional Competence	• An ability to transcend the obvious, apply principles innovatively, and relate theoretical concepts to everyday life. Resulting insights are often personal and illuminating. • A capacity to develop ideas flexibly and fluently, yet with control and purpose.
B	Demonstrates Competence	• An ability to absorb ideas and experience in understanding concepts and principles and to interpret them meaningfully in a context of the student's own conceptions. • A capacity to develop an idea with a clear sense of order.
C	Suggests Competence	• Satisfactory understanding of concepts and principles. • Application of classroom-based learning often lacks depth and insight.
D	Suggests Incompetence	• A frequent inability to express competence. • A limited understanding of much of the subject matter. • A lack of commitment or failure to follow instructions.
F	Demonstrates Incompetence	• Work has failed to meet the minimum requirement for the course. • Student may not be adequately prepared for the courses which follow.

Class Work

Students should keep their graded work until they know their final course grade at the end of the semester in case there is any discrepancy in grades.

Grade Appeals

If a student has concerns or complaints about grading, s/he should follow the steps of the published procedures as stated on page 75 in the 2017-2018 GBC General Catalog.

Student Conduct and Academic Honesty

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with college standards. GBC's Student Conduct Policy begins on page 41 of the 2017-2018 GBC General Catalog.

Students are expected to be academically honest. GBC's Academic Honesty section of the 2017-2018 General Catalog is on page 28.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Great Basin College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to qualified students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A qualified student must furnish current verification of disability. The Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (Julie G. Byrnes) will assist qualified students with disabilities in securing the appropriate and reasonable accommodations, auxiliary aids and services. For more information or further assistance, please call 775.753.2271.

Student Computer Lab Use

You may use a GBC computer lab for this class. The GBC computer labs are provided as a service to students, and use of a computer lab is a privilege, not a right. Users must refrain from doing anything that annoys others or disrupts their education. The computer lab cannot be used for non-college work.

Lab Rules

1. Computer lab use is restricted to authorized individuals: students, faculty, and staff with appropriate logins.
2. Logins are issued to individual users and ARE NOT to be used by anyone else.
3. Drinks are permitted if they are in a covered container and are kept on the floor.
4. Children are allowed in the labs only if they are enrolled in a course offered specifically for them.
5. Internet access is to be used for class-related work only. Internet activities will be randomly monitored.
6. Computer labs are for students to use for class-related work only.
7. Copying of ANY software is prohibited without prior authorization.
8. No ringing cell phones in the labs. ⋛ 📱 ⋜

Fall 2017 GRC 455 Class Schedule (Subject to Change ☺)

Week	Dates	Topic
1	M, Aug. 28 – W, Sept. 6	Introductions, Syllabus, Getting Started, Lesson One: Getting to Know the Workflow **Assignment #1, Discussion #1**
2	W, Sept. 6 – W, Sept. 13	Lesson Two: Creating a Basic Animation Using Effects and Presets **Assignment #2, Discussion #2**
3	W, Sept. 13 – W, Sept. 20	Lesson Three: Animating Text **Assignment #3, Discussion #3**
4	W, Sept. 20 – W, Sept. 27	Lesson Four: Working with Shape Layers **Assignment #4, Discussion #4**
5	W, Sept. 27 – W, Oct. 4	Lesson Five: Animating a Multimedia Presentation **Assignment #5, Discussion #5**
6	W, Oct. 4 – W, Oct. 11	Lesson Six: Animating Layers **Assignment #6, Discussion #6**
7	W, Oct. 11 – W, Oct. 18	Lesson Seven: Working with Masks Lesson Eight: Distorting Objects with the Puppet Tools **Assignment #7, Discussion #7**
8	W, Oct. 18 – W, Oct. 25	Lesson Nine: Using the Roto Brush Tool **Assignment #8, Discussion #8**
9	W, Oct. 25 – W, Nov. 1	Lesson Ten: Performing Color Correction **Assignment #9, Discussion #9** *Wednesday, November 2 is the Official Course Drop Deadline*
10	W, Nov. 1 – W, Nov. 8	Lesson Eleven: Using 3D Features **Assignment #10, Discussion #10**
11	W, Nov. 8 – W, Nov. 15	Lesson Twelve: Working with the 3D Camera Tracker **Assignment #11, Discussion #11**
12	W, Nov. 15 – W, Nov. 22	Course Evaluation Lesson Thirteen: Advanced Editing Techniques Lesson Fourteen: Rendering and Outputting **Assignment #12, Discussion #12**
13	W, Nov. 22 – W, Nov. 29	**Final Project Information, Discussion #13**
14	W, Nov. 29 – W, Dec. 6	Final Project work session, **Discussion #14**
15	W, Dec. 6 – W, Dec. 13	Final Project work session, **Discussion #15**
16	W, Dec. 13	Finals Week: **Final Project Due**