



UNSW Course Outline

DART9102 Rigging Studio - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : DART9102

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Art & Design

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Paddington

Campus : Paddington

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This postgraduate studio elective introduces you to the key concepts, processes, and techniques for rigging animated forms. The course is designed to build on your existing knowledge of 3D CGI principles and techniques so that you can enhance your practice in this area. Throughout the course, you will expand your understandings of this specialised field of practice by creating

rigging systems that drive and control the movement of 3D objects. The course draws on a wide range of sources, including virtual sculpting processes, anatomy, physiology, colour theory, and visual storytelling. In a supportive studio environment, you will be encouraged to experiment with new approaches and concepts, as well as integrate workflow techniques that can be applied in other contexts.

Course Aims

This course aims to provide expand students’s creative, conceptual, and technical skills and knowledge in animation and visual effects practice through a focus on rigging. The course aims to generate a supportive peer environment that assists students in advancing their learning according to their chosen creative and professional journey.

Relationship to Other Courses

It serves as a foundation for advanced rigging, animation, and game development courses, enhancing understanding of character movement and 3D design.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Apply advanced animation rigging techniques to create a functional 3D prototype
CLO2 : Experiment with animation rigging techniques to explore advanced animation concepts and principles
CLO3 : Integrate effective professional practice and project management principles to create a fully functional 3D control system that can be integrated into an advanced workflow

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Apply advanced animation rigging techniques to create a functional 3D prototype	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rig Setup• Resolved Rig
CLO2 : Experiment with animation rigging techniques to explore advanced animation concepts and principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rig Setup• Resolved Rig
CLO3 : Integrate effective professional practice and project management principles to create a fully functional 3D control system that can be integrated into an advanced workflow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resolved Rig

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

- Foundational rigging skills and develop your creative skills
- Hierarchy
- Joints
- Controls
- Constraints
- IK & FK
- Skinning
- Blend Shapes
- Team Work

Additional Course Information

This is a face-to-face class. To meet the learning outcomes and pass the assessment, students must attend at least 80% of the classes (missing no more than 7.2 hours per term, unless special consideration is approved), participate in class activities, and submit in-class tasks as instructed.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Rig Setup Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Due Date: Week 4 Sunday 11:55pm, penalties apply for late submission.
Resolved Rig Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Due Date: Week 11 Friday 11:55pm, penalties apply for late submission.

Assessment Details

Rig Setup

Assessment Overview

For this assessment, you will create a character rig and control system, including a control test animation clip.

Formative feedback will be provided in class and summative feedback will be provided digitally, based on the assessment rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Apply advanced animation rigging techniques to create a functional 3D prototype
- CL02 : Experiment with animation rigging techniques to explore advanced animation concepts and principles

Detailed Assessment Description

In the assessments, students will rig a few simple characters and showcase a short test animation. They will reflect on the techniques used with weekly input and examples.

Assessment information

Up to 5 days after the due date, a penalty of 5% (of the maximum mark for the assignment) will be applied for each day late (e.g. an assignment that is 3 days late would have its mark reduced by 15%). Beyond 5 days late, no submission will be accepted.

The assessment exercises serve to practice the rigging techniques taught in the course. The use of any type of auto rig or plug-ins is not allowed. The assessment must strictly avoid plagiarism, including downloading online resources, as these do not conform to the rubric's guidelines.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Resolved Rig

Assessment Overview

For this assessment, you will create a resolved character rig, including an adequate control system, a Range of Motion (ROM) test animation clip, and documentation of your process.

Formative feedback will be provided in class and summative feedback will be provided digitally, based on the assessment rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Apply advanced animation rigging techniques to create a functional 3D prototype
- CLO2 : Experiment with animation rigging techniques to explore advanced animation concepts and principles
- CLO3 : Integrate effective professional practice and project management principles to create a fully functional 3D control system that can be integrated into an advanced workflow

Detailed Assessment Description

In this assessment, you will independently rig a character that will play a role in an animation team project. Develop well-planned movements and facial expressions based on the project's narrative goals.

Assessment information

Up to 5 days after the due date, a penalty of 5% (of the maximum mark for the assignment) will be applied for each day late (e.g. an assignment that is 3 days late would have its mark reduced by 15%). Beyond 5 days late, no submission will be accepted.

The assessment exercises serve to practice the rigging techniques taught in the course. The use of any type of auto rig or plug-ins is not allowed. The assessment must strictly avoid plagiarism, including downloading online resources, as these do not conform to the rubric's guidelines.

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General Assessment Information

In the assessments, students will be evaluated on their foundational rigging skills, including joints, hierarchy, constraints, skinning, and blend shapes. You will explore purposeful rigging through both independent and teamwork. Students will test their rigged systems during animation, complete a 3D project, receive peer feedback, and get guidance from instructors to improve.

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Students must attend at least 80% of the classes (missing no more than 7.2 hours per term, unless special consideration is approved), complete assigned in-class activities, and meet quality standards for animation projects. Demonstrating an understanding of basic rigging knowledge, teamwork and communication skills, and creativity is required. Active class participation and adherence to project deadlines are essential. A final assessment is mandatory.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 0 : 2 September - 8 September	Reading	
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Rigging Concepts
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Skeleton System
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Control System
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Rigging Purpose
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	IK and FK
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Other	Study Week
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Skinning and Blend Shapes
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Group Work	Supervised Studio Work
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Group Work	Supervised Studio Work
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Assessment	Animation Screening Term review session

Attendance Requirements

Attendance Requirements

Students are expected to attend all classes for each course in which they are enrolled. Failure to attend and participate in at least 80% of learning activities such as discussions, peer feedback, studio sessions, online activities, group work, etc., may result in you being flagged as at risk of failing the course. By punctually attending and actively participating in your classes you not only increase your own opportunities for developing your skills and knowledge, but will also help build a rigorous and engaged creative community with other students. If you are unable to attend classes, please inform your relevant Course Convenor. If the absence is for medical reasons, you will be required to present a medical certificate. If absences impact your ability to undertake assessment, then you should apply for [Special Consideration](#).

General Schedule Information

Week 1-3

Overview

Rigging rules, hierarchy

Creating joints and controls

Week 4-7

Assessment 1 presentation

IK & FK

Week06 is a study week, students will not attend class.

Skinning

Blend Shapes

Week 8-9

Supervised Studio Work

Week10

Animation Screening

Feedback discussion

Term review session

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

To participate in this course, students must actively engage with the Moodle content. Throughout the course, students will receive in-class exercises that provide them with the chance to develop their learning materials and engage in practice with exercises specifically designed to enhance professional skills.

Recommended Resources

Online Tutorials: There are numerous online platforms offering animation tutorials, including YouTube, Udemy, Skillshare, and LinkedIn. These tutorials cover a wide range of topics and skill levels, from beginner to advanced.

Course Evaluation and Development

Feedback will be provided regularly in the studio through discussion with peers and your tutor. Summative assessment and written feedback will be provided electronically within 2 weeks of submission.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Emily Tang					No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them

plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.

- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

School-specific Information

Risk of Failure Warnings

If you are at risk of failing the course, because of lack of attendance, low marks in assignments, failing to submit assignments, or lack of participation or engagement, you may be notified by email. Please ensure you read your university email, and respond to any official risk of failure warning promptly. NOTE – if the warning email is sent to your UNSW e-Mail address, it is considered as being read by you whether you check your UNSW email or not.

Late Submission Penalties

If you believe that circumstances will prevent you from submitting an assessment on time, please notify your course convenor as soon as possible. There will be penalties applied for being late and a clear 'no later than' date beyond which submission won't be accepted. Where a Special Consideration is not applied for, and a student assessment is late, the following guidelines apply:

1. Up to 5 days after due date, a penalty of 5% (of maximum mark for assignment) will be applied for each day late (e.g. an assignment that is 3 days late would have its mark reduced by 15%). Please note - for the purpose of deduction calculation, a 'day' is each 24-hour period (or part thereof) past the stipulated deadline for submission within the calendar year (including weekends and public holidays). Task with a percentage mark - If the task is marked out of 100%, late submission will attract a deduction of 5% from the mark awarded to the student for every 24-hour period (or part thereof) past the stipulated deadline.

Example: A student submits an essay 48 hours and 10 minutes after the stipulated deadline. The essay is marked out of 100%. A 3 day late penalty will be applied ($3 \times 5\% = 15\%$). The essay receives a mark of 68%. The student's mark will therefore be reduced to 53% ($68\% - 15\%$).

2. Beyond 5 days late, no submission will be accepted.

Special Consideration

Please note that the University's Special Consideration process allows students to apply for an extension within 3 days of the assessment due date. This provides for more extensive extensions, subject to documentation, and Course Convenor approval. You can apply for special consideration online through my.UNSW.edu.au. More information about special consideration can be found here: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

NOTE: If you are experiencing issues related to your access to class material or difficulty with technology, make sure you notify your lecturer as soon as possible, well before any assessment due date. Last minute requests for extensions due to computer failure, file corruption, printing problems etc. do not qualify students for special consideration or extensions. Students are expected to maintain regular backups of their work at all times.

Educational adjustments

Educational adjustments can be applied to assessments if you are living with a disability, a long

term medical condition, a mental health condition, and/or are a carer of individuals with a disability. The Equitable Learning Service (ELS) determines adjustments based on medical documentation and communicates these via an Equitable Learning Plan (ELP). To receive educational adjustments for equitable learning support, you must first register with Equitable Learning Services (ELS). More information about Equitable Learning Services can be found here <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>

Supplementary Assessment

Supplementary assessments are available to students in this course who have failed an assessment but have subsequently had an application for Special Consideration approved by the university. The supplementary assessment may take a different form than the original assessment and will be defined by the course convenor - but it will address the same learning outcomes as the original assessment. If Special Consideration has not been awarded, the maximum mark that may be awarded for a supplementary assessment is 50% of the full assessment mark.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is taking the ideas, words, images, designs or objects of others and passing them off as your own. Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. Plagiarism can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement. Plagiarism can have serious consequences, so it is important that students be aware of what it is, and how to avoid it. All written submissions are automatically checked for plagiarism using the Turnitin site. For further information, please see the Academic Integrity & Plagiarism website <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>.

Referencing Requirements for Assessments

Your course convenor will inform you what referencing system this course follows. Useful guidelines on how to reference according to various systems can be found at: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>.

You may follow these guidelines in your assessment tasks, or seek additional advice from your lecturer. Styles for Endnote are downloadable from the Endnote website. Accurate and correct referencing is an important academic prerequisite at University level, and if your work does not meet these requirements, it may be marked down, or in more serious cases, it may be treated as an instance of plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

Use of Generative AI

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Your work must be your *own* and where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, have been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work. In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply. If in doubt, please seek advice from the Course Convenor prior to using generative AI tools.

<https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/assessment/ai>

Health and Safety

Ensuring student and staff health and safety is very important at UNSW Art & Design. Health and safety is everyone's responsibility. As a student, you have a responsibility not to do anything that risks your own health and safety, or the health or safety of your fellow students, staff members or visitors. This means, for example, exiting the building during a fire drill; wearing personal protective equipment and clothing (PPEC) when staff or signage instructs you to do so; undertaking induction to using equipment or carrying out processes that require specific knowledge; and reporting hazards or incidents to your lecturer or supervisor as soon as you become aware of them. For more information, please see <https://safety.unsw.edu.au/>.

Additional Support and Resources

At UNSW you can also find support and resources if you need help with your personal life, getting your academic success on track or just want to know how to stay safe. See <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>.

Additional support for students is available by contacting the following centres:

- Student Support and Development <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Student Support Advisors: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/advisors>
- Mental Health Support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/mental-health-support>
- Academic Skills and Support <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/skills>
- UNSW IT Service Centre <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/>
- Student Gateway: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/equitable-learning>
- Faculty Resources and Support: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support>

- Arc: <https://www.arc.unsw.edu.au/>

After Hours Access to the Paddington Campus

The core operating hours for the Paddington Campus are below. All students have access to the campus during these hours:

- Monday to Friday 0800 – 2100
- Saturday 0900 – 1700

Some students are permitted to have “After Hours Access” (AHA) to the campus upon completion of a series of inductions. The inductions are dependent on location, as well as the types of activities undertaken in those locations. The first of these is this Primary Induction, and this must be completed online <https://my.artdesign.unsw.edu.au>. All students requiring AHA are required to complete this induction. The Primary Induction gives access to the following Low Risk areas:

Post Graduate Students

- PG Research students – Level 4 F Block, Computer Labs and Learning Commons
- Master of Design students – Level 3 D Block, Computer Labs and Learning Commons
- Master of Curating and Cultural Leadership students – D207, Computer Labs and Learning Commons

Honours Students

- Fine Arts – Level 3 F Block, Computer Labs and Learning Commons
- Design – Level 1 E Block, Computer Labs and Learning Commons
- Media Arts – Level 3 F Block, Computer Labs and Learning Commons

Subsequent inductions are workshop and lab specific, and are conducted face-to-face by the UNSW Art & Design Technical staff. Students and staff must first successfully complete the Primary Induction before requesting a Workshop/Lab specific Induction.

School Contact Information

UNSW School of Art & Design

Faculty of Arts, Design & Architecture

Paddington Campus

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