

WELCOME

BA (HONS) VISUAL EFFECTS DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

I would firstly like to welcome you all to the exciting BA (Hons) Visual Effects Design and Production course here at AUB. You are making a big decision in your education and I am really excited to be taking you through your journey towards a career in this dynamic and fast moving industry.

As part of the currency of the course and the close connection with industry we will be working with professionals from VFX studios who will be helping to deliver the specific training on the course. We are, therefore, delighted to let you know that we have managed to secure a highly experienced compositor from Framestore who will be working one day per week with you. His experience at Framestore has seen him work on many blockbuster productions including Guardians of the Galaxy, Robocop, War Horse and Jupiter Ascending, to name but a few.

He will be taking you through industry production processes and techniques, and teaching you to work with Nuke, a key compositing tool in the visual effects industry. These sessions are scheduled For Saturdays so we will be requiring you to work at AUB on Saturdays; your days off campus will therefore be Sunday and Monday.

We have a stimulating first year lined up For you with units of study covering Data Acquisition, Pre-visualisation, History and Context, Modelling and Matchmove, and Digital Painting and Compositing. These units work concurrently and take you through the visual effects pipeline. Alongside this there will be lots of drawing trips, location projects and visits.

The visual effects industry is fast paced and exciting, with that said and to quote Obi Wan Kenobi, *"You've taken your first step into a larger world!"*

Paul Hilton

Course Leader

Visual Effects Design and Production
01202 363120

PREPARING FOR YOUR COURSE

Summer Project

If you are joining us in the first year, you will be required to complete a summer project before the course starts.

One of your first units will be Pre-visualisation. Pre-visualisation is part of the production process which outlines camera movements, shots and narrative sequences serving as the direction that the visual effects team follow in creating the shots. In preparation for the new course we would like you to undertake a small storyboarding project.

We would like you to look at a specific section from the film *The Shawshank Redemption* by Frank Darabont (1994). The section we require you to storyboard can be found at the end of the film, starting when Morgan Freeman's character "Red" steps off the back of a red pickup truck and ending when he reads the letter from Andy Dufresne. You need to represent this sequence through a minimum of 20 storyboard panels, picking up on those shots that you feel are instrumental to the story. It does not need to be highly detailed.

If you cannot get hold of *The Shawshank Redemption* then you can use a section of another film of approximately 5 minutes in length, but the film we have recommended would be preferable. We will be looking at the results during induction week.

The final thing we would strongly encourage you to do is to observe. This is very important. The world of visual effects requires a keen and sophisticated eye for detail. There is much richness around us, wonderful buildings, exciting textures and surfaces, daily changes in light conditions, etc. Study these elements either through drawing (sketchbooks), photography or just by having that inquisitive nature for observation.

Computer Equipment

Many computer retailers offer student discounts, so you may wish to wait until you have enrolled on your course before making any purchase. Once you enrol on the course you will be able to download a student version of Microsoft Office Suite to your personal computer, so don't pay extra when buying a computer to purchase MS Office. You get it free as an AUB student.

Photography Equipment

Please note that a camera of your own is NOT a course requirement. However, a digital SLR camera would be very beneficial, especially during your photography inductions in week one.

Course Materials

We suggest that you bring the following items with you:

- Notepads (A3 & A4)
- Charcoal
- Range of pencils (HB-6B)
- Chinagraph pencil
- Ink and dip pen
- Brush
- Soft eraser and sharpener

NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST

- Check the fees due for your course at aub.ac.uk/fees, please email income@aub.ac.uk with any queries.
- If you have applied for a student loan, ensure you return the Declaration form and complete your on line enrolment or your loan will not be issued.
- If you have a disability please complete the disability disclosure in My Application. Please email evidence (psychologist's report or GP letter) to academicsupport@aub.ac.uk
- If you have not already done so, arrange your accommodation. You can contact Student Advice for guidance.
- Ensure you are vaccinated against meningitis and mumps.
- Complete the enclosed GP registration form.
- Arrange insurance for your belongings.
- Complete any preparatory work detailed in this Welcome Pack.
- Upload your photograph through my Application for your AUB student card.

Online Enrolment

All students are required to enrol online on, or soon after, 12 September 2017. Online enrolment is accessed via myApplication. Login with your 7-digit username (student number) and follow the instructions - this is approximately a ten minute task.

If you have any problems with on line enrolment, please contact Student Records on studentrecords@aub.ac.uk or telephone 01202 363381 or 01202 363221

Enrolment ID Check

Enrolment is completed by an ID check during your first week at AUB. It is essential that you bring one of the following ID with you to complete this process:

- Full valid passport
- Photo ID plus correspondence from Student Loans Company I Student Finance England/ original birth or adoption certificate
- Valid photo identity card (EU countries only)

If you are a Visa student it is essential that you bring a full valid passport, plus your Visa documentation*.

If you have a Tier 4 Visa, you should also bring your original qualification certificates.

*Please note: we can only temporarily enrol you with a 30 day entry clearance vignette in your passport. You must collect your Biometrics Residence Card from the Post Office within 10 days of arriving in the UK.

IMPORTANT DATES

ARRIVAL

The academic year for undergraduate students starts on Monday 18 September 2017.

Please arrive in time for 10.00am on that day and make your way to outside the South House. The Course Leader will meet you there, so please arrive promptly. If for any reason you are delayed on your way to us, please make your way to Main Reception. Please see reverse for the campus map of AUB.

If you are joining us from overseas, International Orientation week takes place from 11 – 15 September; details of this week will be provided separately.

INDUCTION WEEK

Your first few days at the University will include enrolment and induction events to introduce you to the facilities and services you will be using as a student, as well as the activities and resources on your course. You will receive copies of important documents, including your course handbook and the Undergraduate Course Framework and HE Regulations.

The following activities have been arranged for you:

Monday 18 September

10.00am

Arrival (South House)

11.30am

Vice-Chancellor's Welcome (SH001)

1.30pm

Library Induction (SH001)

Wednesday 20 September

9.00am

IT Induction (SH001)

11.30am

Student Services (SH001)

4.00pm

Enrolment (Conference Centre)

* Further induction events specific to the course will be running throughout Induction Week.

CONTACT

Admissions

01202 363228

01202 363225

admissions@aub.ac.uk

Student Advice

01202 363031

01202 363242

studentadvice@aub.ac.uk

Academic Support

01202 363273

academicsupport@aub.ac.uk

Disability Support

01202 363291

wellbeing@aub.ac.uk

Students' Union

01202 363286

studentunion@aub.ac.uk

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