DIGITAL SPECIAL EFFECTS:

COURSE PREREQUISITE:
Advisory: Digital computer literacy is essential for success. Students with no prior computer skills are advised to acquire digital skills before taking this class.

INSTRUCTOR: Michael J. Shannon
Email: mshannon@ccsf.edu
Tele#: 239-3651 (msg. only)

COURSE MEETINGS INFO:
Room: Cloud 127, Film Dept Digital Lab
Wednesdays, 7-10 pm
January 21 thru May 17, 17 Classes

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:
“AfterEffects 6.0” by Antony Bolante, Peachpit, in Bookstore
Recommended: One additional AfterEffects reference book.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will be primarily focused on the “digital special effects” production process. Primary emphasis will be on the series of tutorial lab exercises designed to illucidate BOTH the “ANIMATION” concepts and features AND the “SPECIAL EFFECTS”
COMPOSING” concepts and features available within the AfterEffects interface. This is a beginning, foundational course. It’s primary goal is to bring the student who is unfamiliar with AfterEffects to a point of fluency and competence such that they are able to produce actual work out of AfterEffects. Further, the long term goal is to provide the student with a firm foundation upon which to build more advanced skills.

CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES:
- Mar 17: Midterm Examination
- Apr 5-11: Spring Break
- May 12,17: Show Portfolios, Original Works in Class
- May 17: Final Examination

GRADING POLICY:
- Lab Series Exemplar Movies: 40%
- Original Works Portfolio: 40%
- Final Exam grade: 20%

COURSE OBJECTIVES TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS:
1) Student must create one “exemplar” movie from each lab exercise.
2) Student must design and create one orig. special effects composite.
3) Student must create one original AfterEffects based animation.

DROPPING THIS CLASS:
Do not assume that I will drop you from this class if you stop attending lectures. It is your responsibility to drop this course if you stop attending lectures/labs. You do not need my permission to drop this class, nor do you need a drop code. You can drop either by telephone or in person.

CLASS ATTENDANCE AND DEEMANOR:
Please, no disruptive side conversations during lectures! Punctual attendance is essential for success in this class.