DART1220 Visual Effects 1 - 2025

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General Course Information

Course Code : DART1220
Year : 2025
Term : Term 2
Teaching Period : T2
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 : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

<u>Useful Links</u>

<u>Handbook</u> <u>Class Timetable</u>

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course introduces you to the key principles and approaches for working with visual effects in creative contexts. With a focus on foundational compositing techniques that can be applied to a diverse range of content, the course connects you with essential skills for working in this ever-evolving field of practice. As you develop your own creative works, you will be encouraged to

explore visual effects concepts as you integrate external elements into live action sequences. In the context of a supportive visual effects studio environment, the course also encourages you to develop your creative skills by experimenting and iterating during the creative process.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify and apply foundational compositing skills and processes in visual effects projects
CLO2 : Explore foundational screen-based principles and concepts through visual effects practice
CLO3 : Experiment with a range of visual effects processes to create a short sequence

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify and apply foundational compositing skills and processes in visual effects projects	• Setting the Scene • The Big Picture
CLO2 : Explore foundational screen-based principles and concepts through visual effects practice	• Setting the Scene • The Big Picture
CLO3 : Experiment with a range of visual effects processes to create a short sequence	• Setting the Scene • The Big Picture

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Setting the Scene Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 04/06/2025 06:00 PM
The Big Picture Assessment Format: Individual	60%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 11/08/2025 06:00 PM

Assessment Details
Setting the Scene

Assessment Overview

Create a short work exploring the theme provided using introductory visual effects techniques.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and apply foundational compositing skills and processes in visual effects projects
- CLO2 : Explore foundational screen-based principles and concepts through visual effects practice
- CLO3 : Experiment with a range of visual effects processes to create a short sequence

Detailed Assessment Description

Compositing is a fundamental workflow in a visual effects production pipeline. It involves realising a concept for a film or tv production by seamlessly integrating digital assets from varying sources, and covers a diverse range of stylistic and creative contexts. While compositing is generally the final workflow in a Visual Effects production pipeline, there is a lot of preparing and planning that takes place prior to production. Research & Development (R&D) and visual experimentation are the foundation of a successful visual effects project, and vital to a streamlined production workflow. For this task, you will prepare a R&D file package that responds to a brief for a short, composited visual effects shot requiring integration of live action footage with 2D comp assets. In undertaking this task, you will need to explore and analyse various moving image aesthetics to inform your practical and creative responses to the compositing brief. Your R&D package will act as a template for the second assessment task in this course.

Submission notes

Electronic Submission of Research Journal in PowerPoint format via Moodle, 6pm Friday 4th June (Week 5)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other

media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see here.

Please consult with your teacher if considering using AI generated media for purposes other than simple editing assistance.

The Big Picture

Assessment Overview

Create a visual effects project integrating ideas and techniques developed throughout the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and apply foundational compositing skills and processes in visual effects projects
- CLO2 : Explore foundational screen-based principles and concepts through visual effects practice
- CLO3 : Experiment with a range of visual effects processes to create a short sequence

Detailed Assessment Description

Having tested, planned and experimented in pre-production for assessment 1, you are now ready to put your ideas into action through production for assessment 2. For this assessment you will draw on your research & development from earlier in the course to produce a seamless "Beauty Shot". A *Beauty* shot is an industry term for a final composite with all visual effects elements unified and seamlessly combined.

Your final shot should be a 6 -10 second composite containing live action footage with supporting image & simple effects elements. To undertake this assessment, you should build on the skills and ideas developed in class, as well as incorporate VFX techniques you have developed through the online resources and work undertaken out of class. You are encouraged to approach this task creatively and iteratively, seeking feedback along the way. Your assessment submission should also include a production journal containing a 300-word written summary and reflection of your testing, production and creative process, with supporting imagery.

Submission notes

Electronic Submission of Journal in PowerPoint format, Nuke & .Mov file to Moodle, 6pm Monday 11th August (Week 11)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

50% or more

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 2 June - 8 June	Studio	Introduction to Compositing for Visual Effects/Key concepts
Week 2 : 9 June - 15 June	Studio	Compositing Foundations Camera Induction & Introduction to the Greenscreen space
Week 3 : 16 June - 22 June	Studio	Basic Matte Creation Part 1
Week 4 : 23 June - 29 June	Studio	Basic Matte Creation Part 2
Week 5 : 30 June - 6 July	Group Activity	Shoot Assessment 2 Footage Works in Progress for Assessment 1 with feedback in class Setting the Scene due: Electronic Submission via Moodle 6pm Friday, Week 5 (Friday 4th June)
Week 6 : 7 July - 13 July	Other	Study Week
Week 7 : 14 July - 20 July	Studio	Tracking Part 1 Assessment 2 feedback
Week 8 : 21 July - 27 July	Studio	Tracking Part 2 Assessment 2 dailies/feedback
Week 9 : 28 July - 3 August	Studio	Colour Correction and Grading Assessment 2 dailies/feedback
Week 10 : 4 August - 10 August	Studio	Finalising the 'Beauty' Shot Assessment 2 Presentation & Feedback
Week 11 : 11 August - 17 August	Assessment	Assessment 2 due: 6pm Monday, Week 11 (Monday 11th August)

Attendance Requirements

Attendance Requirements

The School of Art & Design has a minimum attendance requirement of 80% for all tutorials, seminars, studios, workshops. Failure to meet the minimum attendance requirement will result in an Unsatisfactory Fail (UF) for the course regardless of performance in assessment tasks or other requirements for the course.

A student may be advised by the Course Convenor to withdraw from the course if they have already missed more than 20% of classes (or more than two weeks of a nine week term) by the term census date. Students may also be refused final assessment if they have not met attendance requirements at the end of term. An artefact of student attendance will be recorded by tutors and kept by the School. If a student has legitimate, documented explanations for absences, the Course Convenor may choose to prescribe supplementary tasks in lieu of attendance. Adjustments and absences provided by Equitable Learning Plans will be monitored by the Course Convenor through consultation with the student.

If absences impact your ability to undertake assessment, then you should apply for Special Consideration.

Further details about the School's attendance requirements can be found [here](#).

General Schedule Information

Key Assessment Dates:

Assessment 1: 6pm Friday, Week 5 (Friday 4th June)

Assessment 2: 6pm Monday, Week 11 (Monday 11th August)

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

This course will make extensive use of the online learning resources via Foundry Learn & Linked In Learning. UNSW Sydney subscribes to LinkedIn Learning for free access to their resources via online learning. To access all that LinkedIn Learning has to offer you will need to log in [via this link](#).

User is your Zid@ad.unsw.edu.au Use your uni password to enter.

If you have not utilised LinkedIn Learning before, please see [these instructions](#) for logging in with your UNSW account.

Access Foundry Learn [via this link](#)

You will be directed to various online tutorials in class to support you leaning.

Course Evaluation and Development

It is important that students complete the myExperience course and teaching surveys for this course. This is completely anonymous and provides important student observations and suggestions to ensure that the course is continually improved. To see how the course convenor has responded to student feedback from these surveys, please see the View Feedback on Student Surveys section in the course Moodle site.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Nicole Mather		Paddington		By appointment	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

To help you successfully navigate your academic journey, UNSW and the Faculty of Arts, Design & Architecture have a range of information and resources available.

Support

- Academic Skills

- English Language Success

- Student Support Advisors

- The Nucleus: Student Hub

- More services at UNSW

'How To'

- Use Moodle and Turnitin;

- Access Special Consideration in the event of illness of misadventure;

- Register with Equitable Learning Services (for eligible students)

- Access your Grades and Results

Key Dates, Policies and Procedures

- UNSW's Key Dates

- UNSW's Policies and Procedures

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

All students at UNSW are expected to uphold the UNSW Code of Conduct and Values and always maintain academic integrity.

UNSW takes breaches of academic integrity seriously. Breaches of academic integrity can include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarism

- Contract cheating

- Collusion

- Inappropriate citation

- Inappropriate use of AI. Refer to your course outline for the permitted use of generative AI in each assessment.

UNSW provides further information on these terms here, and resources as below:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

- Academic Integrity and AI

- Assistance with Referencing

- Online Academic Integrity Module

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Your assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or Moodle unless otherwise stipulated by your course convenor.

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.

It is advisable to familiarise yourself with the requirements for Special Consideration, including UNSW's "fit to sit" rule, at the beginning of term.

If you'd like additional support with managing your academic workload, the following resources may be helpful:

- Academic Skills

- Equitable Learning Services (for eligible students)

- Student Support Advisors

- ⬚Time Management

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 x 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

Cnr Greens Rd & Oxford Street

Paddington NSW 2021

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