

In 3D Character Animation, students will animate their own Minecraft® story. Using professional animation software, they will learn concepts of storytelling, cinematography, and composition, along with key principles of animation, to create an exciting, unique story.

This is a project-based course where students take on the role of creator. In addition to technical skills, students develop the creative, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills necessary to build amazing projects from start to finish. Throughout the course, students work with industry-standard tools used by professionals. If they need any help along the way with their coursework or projects, students can reach out to experts for support by e-mail, chat, or phone.

By the end of this course, students will have built an original, professional-grade project and developed the knowledge, skills, and confidence to become creators on their own, in further study, or professionally.

Course Materials

All required materials are included with this course.

Length: One semester

UNIT 1: WELCOME TO 3D CHARACTER ANIMATION

LESSON 1: MOVING IN 3D

Study: Moving in 3D

Become a master of moving around in Blender.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Moving in 3D Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: BLENDER BLUNDERS

Study: Blender Blunders

Learn some easy fixes for any blunders that may arise.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Blender Blunders Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

UNIT 2: SET THE SCENE

LESSON 1: I NEED A HERO

Study: I Need a Hero

Choose the main character and the setting for your animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: I Need a Hero Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: MODEL MANIA

Study: Model Mania

Add models to your first scene and place them where you want.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Model Mania Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: NEW TEXTURE ON THE BLOCK

Study: New Texture on the Block

Add blocks and a brand new texture pack to finalize the look of your scene.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: New Texture on the Block Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

UNIT 3: ENEMY APPROACHETH

LESSON 1: FIRST JOB: ADD MOB

Study: First Job: Add Mob

Choose a mob and add it to your animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: First Job: Add Mob Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: MOB-ILIZING

Study: Mob-ilizing

Animate your mob's first movements to get them into the scene.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Mob-ilizing Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

LESSON 3: WALK THE WALK

Study: Walk the Walk

Get your mob to move those legs and walk across the screen.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Walk the Walk Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a guiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Project: Checkpoint

Upload your course project for review.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 30 points

UNIT 4: HIDE AND SEEK

LESSON 1: A REAL HEAD-TURNER

Study: A Real Head-Turner

Make your mob swivel its head and look for the character.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: A Real Head-Turner Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: THE HIDING GUIDE

Study: The Hiding Guide

Use pose mode to make the character crouch down and hide from the mob.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: The Hiding Guide Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: A GAME OF HIDE AND SEEK

Study: A Game of Hide and Seek

Extend your characters' game of hide and seek using the dopesheet.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: A Game of Hide and Seek Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

UNIT 5: FACE TO FACE

LESSON 1: ABOUT FACE

Study: About Face

Add some emotion to your character's face.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: About Face Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: EYES ON THE PRIZE

Study: Eyes on the Prize

Animate your character's blinks and eye movements.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Eyes on the Prize Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

UNIT 6: RUN FOR IT

LESSON 1: TURN TO RUN

Study: Turn to Run

Animate your character to turn and run from the mob.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Turn to Run Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: A LEG UP

Study: A Leg Up

Animate your own run cycle, starting with your character's legs.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: A Leg Up Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: A CALL TO ARMS

Study: A Call to Arms

Animate the arms and head to finish your run cycle.

Review: A Call to Arms Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: LINKED IN

Study: Linked In

Take the run cycle you just created and apply it to your animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Linked In Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 5: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

Project: Checkpoint

Upload your course project for review.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 30 points

UNIT 7: CAMERA, ACTION

LESSON 1: TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT

Study: Take Your Best Shot

Add and adjust cameras to get the perfect shots for your first scene.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Take Your Best Shot Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: FOCUS POCUS

Study: Focus Pocus

Use some of the advanced camera features.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Focus Pocus Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

UNIT 8: A WILD RIDE

LESSON 1: AND AWAY WE GO

Study: And Away We Go

Set up scene two and get your minecart to fly down the track.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: And Away We Go Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: ALL ABOARD

Study: All Aboard

Place your character in the minecart, preparing him for the ride of a lifetime.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: All Aboard Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: TRACK INSANITY

Study: Track Insanity

Create a dynamic, winding path for your minecart to travel on.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Track Insanity Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: THE END OF THE TRACK

Study: The End of the Track

Fine-tune your minecart's motion so it's just right.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: The End of the Track Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 5: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

UNIT 9: THE CHASE IS ON

LESSON 1: ORDER UP

Study: Order Up

Animate your mob chasing after the minecart across the set.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Order Up Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: PAPARAZZI

Study: Paparazzi

Use parenting to have your camera follow your mob's and minecart's every move.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Paparazzi Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: CAMERAS GALORE

Study: Cameras Galore

Add a new cameras to scene two to achieve ultimate cinematic value.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Cameras Galore Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

UNIT 10: EXPLOSIVE EXPRESSIONS

LESSON 1: REACTION TIME

Study: Reaction Time

Make your character react to the wild ride they're on.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Reaction Time Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: KABLAM

Study: Kablam

Animate a huge explosion for the climax of your story.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Kablam Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Explore: Bonus Content

Explore extra content from the unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

UNIT 11: THE FINAL ACT

LESSON 1: THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Study: The Beginning of the End

Set up your third scene.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: The Beginning of the End Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: SHOW YOUR FACE

Study: Show Your Face

Add cameras and facial expressions to your third scene.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Show Your Face Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: BLENDING THE ENDING

Study: Blending the Ending

Animate the ending of your entire animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Blending the Ending Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: WRAP UP

Practice: Troubleshooting

Fix a broken file.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 15 points

Quiz: Quiz

Take a guiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

UNIT 12: ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET

LESSON 1: STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Study: Standards of Excellence

Use the six standards of excellence to make your animation absolutely excellent.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: RENDER WITH BLENDER

Study: Render with Blender

Edit the compositing settings and make some final huge decisions.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Render with Blender Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 3: MUSIC TO YOUR EARS

Study: Music to Your Ears

Add music, sound effects, and credits to your animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Review: Music to Your Ears Review

Review key concepts and skills from the lesson.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 4: EXPORT AND UPLOAD

Project: Export and Upload

Upload your course project for review.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 200 points

UNIT 13: ADVANCED TOPICS

LESSON 1: CREATE A NEW ANIMATION

Study: Create a New Animation

Create a brand new animation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

LESSON 2: MAKE AN EPIC SCREENSHOT

Study: Make an Epic Screenshot

Create an epic screenshot.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points