

Montgomery County Community College Business and Computer Sciences Division

CIS-185: Flash ActionScript
Instructor: **Frank Stepanski**

Course Description:

This 1.0 credit course will continue to build on the topics covered in the first animation class (Introduction to Web Animation – CIS 184). Students will learn how to create movie clips and apply them to interactive buttons and how to use ActionScript to program events and respond to user input.

Prerequisites:

The prerequisites for this course are CIS-184 (Intro to Web Animation) or a solid understanding of the basics of Macromedia Flash CS3 is required. We will not have a review of the basics of Flash CS3.

Learning Goals of Course:

1. Uses for Flash in interactive web design
2. Creating and using movieclips
3. What is ActionScript?
4. Scripting/Programming basics
5. Understanding how to use Objects
6. Using ActionScript with buttons
7. Referencing and using movieclips
8. Using ActionScript to create simple animation.
9. Using Sound and Video
10. Importing external data (.txt, .html, .etc)

Course Outline:

Day 1 – (5:30 – 9:00)

Class Overview
Using filters

Movieclips

1. How to create them
2. Comparing to graphic symbols
3. Nested movieclips

ActionScript

1. What is it?
2. Actions panel
3. Object basics; referencing objects (nested objects)

4. Using ActionScript within buttons and movieclips
5. ActionScript to control the timeline
6. Controlling basic movieclip properties

Day 2 – (9:00 – 5:00)

ActionScript

1. Trace and Output window
2. Basic Core syntax: variables, statements, if/case statements and loops
3. Creating functions for code reuse and organization

Text

1. Dynamic text
2. Importing external data
3. Formatting imported text with Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)
4. XML basics
5. Creating scroll buttons for text fields

Movieclips

1. Dynamic movement with ActionScript
2. Handling boundaries
3. Keyboard input (Key class)
4. Loading external movies

Preloaders

1. Basic preloading techniques
2. Visual techniques using simple movieclips

Day 3 – (1:00 – 4:00)

Sounds

1. Using the Sound class
2. Loading an external .mp3

Video

1. Adding video to your movies
2. Dynamically loading a .flv

Overview of Components

Viewing a Sample Website