

June 10, 2021

### **FALL DELIVERY UPDATE – HONOURS BACHELOR OF ANIMATION**

The plan for delivering the Honours Bachelor of Animation program has been released this week, and we wanted to take this opportunity to provide further details about our Fall 2021 plan. The decision to deliver Animation remotely this fall was arrived at after great and careful consideration by the program leaders and the Animation faculty, based upon pedagogical and health and safety grounds.

As the past year has shown, the nature of the viruses, unpredictable infection rates and the challenges of the impact of unknown variants has caused upheaval in not only educational settings but businesses and industries. The global animation industry itself has pivoted to remote delivery, modeling new production scenarios that have allowed the industry to continue to not only be successful but to thrive. The Animation program has mirrored this approach, and students have experienced first-hand what industry also has faced, learning to develop an understanding and workflow of working industry models that may even continue to stay in use globally once the pandemic ends. Learning to work in multiple production environments benefits students and teaches the adaptability required to engage with industry studios. Pedagogically, students are being supported for success as they transition into a diverse production landscape.

Our approach has considered that conditions continue to evolve daily and while there is positive messaging everywhere with respect to September, it is largely speculative with many cautionary caveats. Further, every program faces different parameters that impact possibilities for modifications to delivery. Physical distancing guidelines would result in an on-campus experience very different from that to which our learning community is accustomed and, after careful scenario planning, we determined that it would ultimately compromise the more seamless and consistent experience virtual delivery affords.

We understand students would like the option to access the campus this Fall term, and to that end, the work to provide increased on-campus access is ongoing. Robust efforts are underway to open up the production spaces on campus. While we will still need to be mindful of abiding by public health guidelines, it is the intention of the program to open periods of scheduled times for students to use our studios and benefit from both the studio environment and the peer-to-peer interaction that such on-campus access would afford. For students who choose, or are not able, to come to campus, the virtual studio space that was instituted this past semester

will continue, allowing students to connect virtually while working together. Lastly, Animation students will have the option to register for select on-campus Degree Breadth courses as part of their program.

It is important to note the remote curriculum delivery that has been announced this week is applicable for the Fall 2021 term and not necessarily for the entire academic year. We are optimistic that there will be a full face-to-face return in the Winter 2022 term, dependent on environmental conditions, and we are in the process of actively planning for that possibility.

The tuition deposit/fee payment deadline for the Fall 2021 term for returning students is **July 14, 2021**. Your fee estimate will be available in **mystudentcentre** by June 18. Program and ancillary fees will be adjusted to reflect delivery mode where applicable, and the Animation program has instituted such adjustments in light of virtual delivery. This information will be available in the upcoming weeks. Further, to help ease the financial strain on students, we've reduced the non-refundable tuition deposit to \$250 and are continuing to offer a payment plan for the Fall term. You can opt into the payment plan for the Fall term by late July, and this information this info will be posted in the coming weeks to myOTR.

Your faculty and administration are fully committed to ensuring your course and program learning outcomes are met, with all course content delivered. It is our priority to ensure you have the best learning experience possible during this challenging time.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this information further, we would be happy to speak with you directly. Please contact us at [catharine.tamas@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:catharine.tamas@sheridancollege.ca) and [sean.mcnabney@sheridancollege.ca](mailto:sean.mcnabney@sheridancollege.ca)

Kind regards,

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