

I. **Course Basics**

MDIA 375 Visual Effects for Media
Section 1 CRN 47359
Spring 2026

II. **Instructor Information**

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III. **Course Information**

Course Description

Studies in the conceptualization and techniques of digitally generated visual effects in time-based media. Creative self-expression is emphasized in the production of short narrative films.

Prerequisites. MDIA 350

Course Learning Objectives

- a. Acquaint students with the fundamentals of compositing live action and CGI elements.
- b. Promote critical viewing and understanding of visual effects.
- c. Introduce students to color grading/timing techniques for stylization and mood.
- d. Acquaint students with the benefits and theories of rotoscoping.
- e. Fundamentals of node-based workflows.

Course Modality/Structure

This course meets face to face twice a week. Course content will be delivered during these meeting times.

IV. **Course Material**

Required Software

- a. Black Magic Resolve 20 (free) OR Black Magic Resolve Studio 20 (\$300)
- b. Paid version of the software is installed in BC 130 & AJ 380

Required Hardware

- c. Portable Hard Drive – Each student is required to have a personal hard drive to capture, edit, and transport digital files. The drive must meet the following specifications: at least 500GB of storage capacity. The hard drive should be formatted for use on the computer you plan to use.
- d. Three Button Computer Mouse – to fully utilize all software programs.

Ball State University's Statement on Freedom of Expression, the resources on Ball State's Freedom of Expression webpage, and Ball State's Beneficence Pledge.

Title IX. Ball State University is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students. If you or someone you know has experienced sexual harassment—including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking, please know that you are not alone. The University offers support services and resources. For more information or to report an incident, please visit bsu.edu/titleix or contact the Title IX Coordinator at 765-285-1545 or at titleix@bsu.edu

- a. **As your instructor, I am a mandatory reporter under the Title IX policy and required to report any information I receive about possible sexual harassment.** This includes information shared in class discussions, assignments, or private conversations.
- b. **What happens after I report?** The Title IX Coordinator will email the person who experienced sexual harassment (complainant) and invite them to schedule a meeting. If the complainant chooses to meet with the Title IX Coordinator,
 - i. Title IX Coordinator will offer supportive measures (e.g., counseling, extensions on deadlines, course-related adjustments, changes to work or class schedules, and/or referrals to campus offices), review the policy, and discuss options to move forward.
 - ii. If a complaint is filed by the complainant or the University, an investigation will begin following University policy.

Full Use of Generative AI Permitted/Encouraged Within Specified Guidelines. You are encouraged to use generative AI applications for all work submitted in this course. However, you must cite any AI-generated material that informed your work. Using an AI tool to generate content without proper attribution constitutes a violation of Ball State University's [Student Academic Ethics Policy](#).

VIII. Course Expectations, Policies, and Schedule.

To support a learning experience that is responsive to the needs, interests, and pace of our class community, the course expectations, policies, and schedule may shift over the semester. The most current version of the course expectations, policies and schedule will always be available on Canvas. I encourage you to check Canvas regularly for updates and contact me if you have any questions.

IX. Subject to Change Statement.

This syllabus is subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.