

# CMSI 252

## MULTIMEDIA AUTHORIZING

<http://myweb.lmu.edu/dondi/spring2006/cmsi252>

**Spring 2006** — Doolan 222  
TR 3:00–4:15pm, 3 semester hours  
Office Hours: TR 1:30–3pm, 4:30–6pm

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### Course Objectives

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To learn the structure and components of a modern multimedia application, independent of the application's implementation technology. The course emphasizes the model-view-controller (MVC) paradigm as the basis for applications that involve interactions with images, audio, video, and other content. Students will be exposed to several specific platforms for building multimedia applications, including but not limited to DVD authoring, Macromedia Flash, and Web technologies.

### Course Requirements

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General familiarity and operating knowledge of current computing platforms; prior experience with multimedia authoring is helpful but not required; ability to document, demonstrate, and explain one's own software; willingness to participate actively in class discussions.

### Materials and Texts

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- Assorted handouts and sample files to be distributed throughout the semester.

Additional information is also available on the Worldwide Web; do not hesitate to search for and find additional sources of information regarding the concepts, techniques, tools, and paradigms that we will discuss.

### Course Work and Grading

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Graded coursework consists of accumulated homework (20%), 1 midterm (20%), 1 project portfolio (30%), and 1 final exam (30%). Letter grades are determined as follows:  $\geq 90\%$  gets an A– or better;  $\geq 80\%$  gets a B– or better;  $\geq 70\%$

gets a C– or better. The instructor may curve grades upward based on qualitative considerations such as degree of difficulty, effort, class participation, time constraints, and overall attitude throughout the course. Grades are never curved downward.

### Homework

Homework consists of questions, exercises, and technical assignments to be given throughout the semester. Homework is where you can learn from your mistakes without grading penalty: if you do the work and submit it on time, you will get full credit, regardless of correctness. What goes around comes around: the effort you put into your homework pays off in the tests and the project portfolio (*particularly* the project portfolio — see below). The homework submission deadline is always the beginning of class on the designated due date; the due date is encoded in the homework number. Submissions after the deadline receive half credit, period. Extra credit homework may be assigned; fulfilling this is counted *on top of* the 20% allocation of homework to your final grade.

### Project Portfolio

Over the course of the semester, you will be asked to author between 2–4 multimedia applications using various technologies. Many of the building blocks toward a complete multimedia application will actually be assigned as homework, so you would do well to keep up in that area. At the end of the semester, you will be asked to submit finished versions of these applications; this submission will count for 30% of your final grade. This project portfolio is due at the beginning of our last class, April 27.

Your work will be evaluated along the following criteria:

1. *Content (40%)*: What is the quality of the work? Specific assessment of content will depend on the type and technology of the multimedia application.
2. *Organization (30%)*: Are the application's assets well-structured? Is the application easy to follow and navigate? Are distinct sections or components clearly identified?
3. *Technology (20%)*: Is the foundation technology for the application used effectively? Are features implemented correctly? Are advanced features or functions used?
4. *Polish (10%)*: Is the content executed or produced well? Are there many misspellings, typos, or other presentation faux pas? How much attention to detail is apparent?

### Tests

The midterm is initially scheduled for February 23. The final exam is scheduled for May 2. All tests are open-*paper*-everything; no sharing. "Open computer" might also be allowed depending on the scope, subject matter, or circumstances. You may neither solicit nor give help while the exam is in progress. Late and/or missed tests will be handled on a case-to-case basis; in all instances, talk to me about them.

### Attendance

I am not a stickler for attendance, but I do like having a full class. Remember that the late registration and change of program deadline is January 13. The deadline for withdrawal or credit/no-credit status is March 17.

### University Policy on Academic Honesty

Loyola Marymount University expects high standards of honesty and integrity from all members of its community. Applied to the arena of academic performance, these standards preclude all acts of cheating on assignments or examinations, plagiarism, forgery of signatures or falsification of data, unauthorized access to University computer accounts or files, and re-

moval, mutilation, or deliberate concealment of materials belonging to the University Library.

### Course Schedule

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This schedule may change based on the actual ebb and flow of the class; deadlines, exams, and university dates (italicized) are less likely to change than lecture topics.

<b>January</b>	Introduction to multimedia applications; multimedia assets
<i>January 13</i>	<i>Last day to add or drop classes for a 100% tuition refund</i>
<b>February</b>	DVD authoring
February 23	Midterm
<b>March</b>	Flash authoring
<i>March 7, 9</i>	<i>Spring break; no class</i>
<i>March 17</i>	<i>Last day to withdraw from classes or apply for Credit/No Credit grading</i>
<b>April</b>	Web authoring (XHTML, CSS, JavaScript)
<i>April 27</i>	<i>Project portfolio due</i>
<i>May 2</i>	<i>Final Exam, 2pm</i>

You can view the class calendar on the Web at <http://ical.mac.com/dondi/LMU>. If you have an iCalendar-savvy client (i.e., Mozilla Calendar, Ximian Evolution, KOrganizer, Apple iCal, etc.), you can subscribe to the class calendar at <webcal://ical.mac.com/dondi/LMU.ics>. On-the-fly updates and adjustments to the class schedule will be reflected in this calendar.