SAE INSTITUTE

ONLINE

HIGHER CERTIFICATE

IN ANIMATION AND VISUAL EFFECTS

OVERVIEW

In the Higher Certificate in Animation and Visual Effects programme, students acquire comprehensive skills in freehand drawing, 2D and 3D computer-generated graphics and animation using the industry's most widely used software.

The curriculum provides an understanding of the systems and equipment used for creating animation and the practical experience required for production techniques and design concepts. Students gain comprehensive expertise of the contemporary 'infotainment' industry.

PROGRAMME CONTENT INCLUDES

- Foundational Principles of Animation
- Drawing for Animation
- Storyboarding: Composing Animated Stories
- Tradigital Hand-Drawn Animation
- Digital 2D & 3D Animation
- Concept Art: Character and Environment Design
- Visual Effects and Motion Graphics
- Business Fundamentals of Animation

Qualification

Higher Certificate in Animation and Visual Effects (SAQA ID No: 86986, NQF Level 5)

Admission Requirements

National Senior Certificate with Higher Certificate entry or equivalent. Communication in English at NQF 4. Maths / Maths Literacy NQF 4. Computer Literacy NQF 3. Experience in art recommended.

Duration

1.5 Years
5-10 Hours Per Week

Intakes Per Year

March, May, July, October

Delivery

Online Learning (blended with practical studio work)

ONLINE

HIGHER CERTIFICATE

IN ANIMATION AND VISUAL EFFECTS

HOW THE PROGRAMME WILL RUN

- The theory part of the programme is online learning (done by yourself from the comfort of home).
- When a module requires a practical component, you can book studio time at a campus nearest to you or, alternatively, make use of your own studio or a private industry studio.
- The Campuses are open in the evenings Tuesday – Thursday 16h30-20h00, and Saturday from 09h00-15h00.
- The practical modules require applied studio time of 2.5-3 hours per week.

SAE.EDU.ZA

SAE Institute South Africa is registered as a Private Higher Education Institution with the Department of Higher Education and Training registration no. 2014/HE07/001. SAE Institute SA (Pty) LTD | Company Reg no: 2008/002013/07 (herein after referred to as SAE/SAE Institute). Updated March 2026.