Adobe After Effects
Syllabus

» Course Overview

This course introduces students to Adobe After Effects and prepares students to obtain the Adobe Certified Professional Certification for Adobe After Effects. Students will get an insight into what it is like working in the visual and graphic design industry. Over 7 modules, students will learn everything from absolute basics like navigating After Effects to performing complex tasks like applying knowledge of video composition and motion graphic principles. The course contains guided tutorials, do-it-yourself projects, and great resources that will help students practice and learn how to work in After Effects.

» Course Outline by Module

Module 1	Working in the Visual Effects and Motion Graphics Industry Part I	**Module 5**	Creating and Modifying Visual Elements Part I
Module 2	Working in the Visual Effects and Motion Graphics Industry Part II	**Module 6**	Creating and Modifying Visual Elements Part II
Module 3	Project Setup and Interface	**Module 7**	Publishing Digital Media
Module 4	Organizing Projects		

» Module Overview and Learning Objectives

| Module 1. Working in the Visual Effects and Motion Graphics Industry Part I

Motion graphics and visual effects help you transform your ideas into living, moving videos. The visual effects and motion graphics industry is a rapidly growing field that combines elements of film, animation, and graphic design to create visual effects and animations for film, television, and other media.

Professionals in this industry may work on a variety of tasks, including creating 3D animations, compositing live-action footage with computer-generated imagery, designing and animating motion graphics, and more. In this module, students will learn about the mechanism and different terms associated with the visual effects and motion graphics industry. They will learn how to organize their ideas in a systematic manner and convert them into creative and innovative videos. Students will also learn about the video production pipeline and its major elements.

***Learning Objectives*:** In this module, students will:

- Determine whether content is relevant to the purpose, the audience, and their needs.
- Identify requirements based on how the video will be delivered, distributed, and/or consumed.
- Demonstrate knowledge of techniques for communicating ideas about project plans with peers and clients.
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic project management concepts.
- Identify legal and ethical considerations for using third-party content.
- Identify when and how to obtain permissions to use images, audio, or footage.

| Module 2. Working in the Visual Effects and Motion Graphics Industry Part II

Before you dive into After Effects, you need to have a strong base knowledge of animation and digital video principles and compositing techniques. In this module, students will be introduced to digital video and audio terminology. They will learn about the basic building blocks of animation and video production like color and white balance, scale and perspective, video formats, and audio settings. They will also be introduced to fundamental design principles and techniques that will be very valuable as they progress on this course.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of digital video and audio terminology.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how color is represented in digital video.
- Understand and use key terms related to video and audio postproduction.
- Demonstrate knowledge of common animation terms and principles.
- Demonstrate knowledge of standard compositing techniques.
- Define common cinematic composition terms and principles.
- Identify general design principles and guidelines for motion graphics.

| Module 3. Project Setup and Interface

The After Effects interface is a treasure trove of useful tools and settings. As beginners who are being introduced to After Effects, the first thing that students will need to do is familiarize themselves with the interface so they can begin to identify the different sections and tools available. Students will learn how to get started by creating a new project and understanding all the elements of the interface and their functions. Students will learn how to customize their workspace and preferences in a way that is both convenient and efficient. They will also learn how to use other non-visible design tools during the editing process.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Choose appropriate project settings to meet requirements.
- Create and modify compositions to match the delivery requirements.
- Identify, navigate, and manipulate elements of the After Effects interface, including workspaces, application preferences, timeline and media, markers, guides, and grids.
- Import media from various sources.
- Manage assets/footage in an After Effects project.

| Module 4. Organizing Projects

Compositions help you structure and organize all of the media elements of your project. They give you the flexibility to work on individual elements and edit, crop and adjust them as many times as you want till you have the perfect results. In this module, you will learn all about using the Timeline panel to manage all your media elements. You will also learn about editing and adjusting the visibility of tracks and audio levels. Finally, you'll learn how to place images and videos into a sequence to create a rough-cut of a video.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Recognize the different types of layers in the Timeline panel.
- Use the Timeline panel to manage layers.
- Manage multiple layers in a complex composition.
- Adjust a layer's visibility.
- Create, apply, and manipulate masks and track mattes.

| Module 5. Creating and Modifying Visual Elements Part I

In this module, students will learn how to add and animate titles, text and shapes in a video. They will learn how to use the various tools available in After Effects to transform various visual elements of their video compositions. Students will also learn how to animate text and adjust the layers in their composition using a variety of tools.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Create visual elements using a variety of tools.
- Place assets into a composition.
- Create text in a composition.
- Adjust paragraph settings.
- Animate text.
- Adjust layers using a variety of tools.
- Transform visual elements in the composition.

| Module 6. Creating and Modifying Visual Elements Part II

After Effects is a haven for the creative mind, and it contains a multitude of effects, animations, and other motion effects to explore. In this module, students will learn about some basic editing techniques to manipulate video clips. They will also learn how to use Effect controls and adjust different animation and effect settings. Students will learn about adjustment layers and how they can be used.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:
- Change the speed of a video clip.
- Use basic auto-correction methods and tools.
- Apply and adjust a video effect or preset to a layer.
- Use 3D space to modify composition elements.
- Create composites.
- Apply and modify effects and presets on multiple layers.
- Apply and adjust transformations using keyframes.
- Animate effects using keyframes.

| Module 7. Publishing Digital Media

After Effects gives you multiple ways and formats in which you can export your video compositions for digital or web use, screen use, or for use on other devices or programs. In this module, students will learn how to check their project for errors and ensure all the correct project specifications are set. Students will also learn about exporting and archiving project elements in various formats. Finally, we'll go over the structure and test prep students will need for the ACA After Effects Certification Exam.

Learning Objectives: In this module, students will:

- Check a composition for errors and verify specifications.
- Archive a project.
- Export frames.
- Export a composition.
- Prepare for the Adobe Certified Professional Exam.