Loyola College (Autonomous)

Chennai - 600034

Clay Modelling and Animation

Praveen Chrispugg, Managing Director of Idea Heavens, is the Visiting Faculty for 'Clay Modelling and Animation' subject, for the B.Voc. and M.Voc. Degree students in the department of KAUSHAL Kendra, Loyola College, Chennai.

In this subject, Mr. Praveen employs a storytelling method to teach about clay modelling and animation, which helps students to understand the concept and rhythm of the medium. Students work through each class with different types of clay modelling, in real time using clay and their hands, creating assignments. They start with a basic exercise such as sphere to square transformation. Once that's done, they capture it on software. Each progressing class is taught with the objective of exploring advancing levels of complexity in the techniques.



M.Voc. 3d Animation student Mr. Sibi, states that students use 'Stop Animation' software to learn the techniques under Mr. Praveen's guidance. First they are encouraged to freeze on a concept, or what they call as a 'story'. Once this story of theme is fixed, they follow through with the creation of that storyline using real time images that can be taken on a mobile or a camera. For example, the concept "dance of a recycle bin" translates first making a dust bin out of recycling materials, animating it using strings, capture its continuous images online and then use software to make it all appear as if it is dancing. This is one of the many exercises in the subject that determines the imagination and creativity of the students.

"I am aware that some of the students are new to the concept of art itself, but I don't see it as a challenge as I consider it my duty to instill the interest in these students so that they get involved in the subject without any difficulty," says Mr. Praveen, who grades for both involvement and hard work. "The key is to make them 'think'first and only then'do," he said. "The assignments I give them are not merely task based, but more self-paced and my approach is customised as per each student's innate creativity."

BIO: Praveen Chrispugg completed his BFA and MFA in painting with distinction in Govt. College of Fine Art, Egmore. He was later awarded the prestigious British Chevening scholarship (2003) to study MA Animation from Birmingham City University. Following this he worked on many projects in the UK and added his creative flourish to them. He is the recipient of the Nesta Young British Entrepreneur Award in 2007 for his business ideas in the mobile media arena. He currently runs the creative studio, Ideaheavens.