

Youth Digital Arts Cyber School

2010 - 2011

Course Catalog



Digital Arts courses for students from 3rd grade through High School!

- Video Game Design Series of four courses from beginner to advanced
- Video Game Character Animation
- Digital Manga using Free and Open Source Software
- Digital Photo Painting
- High School Visual Arts - Digital Manga, Comics, Graphic Novels, and Storyboarding
- Advanced Cyber Studios
- Cyber Jams
- Cyber Conferences
- Student National Mentorships and Fellowships

Original YDACS digital art - t-shirts and posters soon available at:

www.Sublime-Lines.com

For Questions or more information please contact us at: info@YDACS.com

**YDACS
PO Box 750692
Las Vegas, NV 89136**

Is your **3rd grade through high school** student interested in learning how to design and create their own original

Video Games, Animations, Manga, Anime, Digital Photo Paintings, Comics, Graphic Novels, or Storyboards?

Youth Digital Arts Cyber School
courses teach students to create their own digital art
in 8 short weeks!

What are our schools saying?

There are many testimonials on our site from students, parents, teachers, administrators, and librarians, including this one from a teacher at one of the many schools using offering our programs to their students:

YDACS is a wonderful program that hooks and engages students from the very beginning, offering many with limited computer experience a wide range of reasons to begin working with them. My most recent student could not wait to work with the program every day, and looks forward to working with it again in the next semester. He has always been very focused on the arts, but using the computer to create opened up a new world for him that didn't simply include the concept of video games (a favorite free time activity of his), but the opportunity to create the games. Awesome... Thanks for creating a program that has inspired him to love school.

William Parzick – 1/5/09

Educational Facilitator/Math Instructor

Dehesa Charter School

YDACS Philosophy

Every student from 3rd grade to high school can create amazing Video Games, Animations, Manga, Anime, Digital Photo Paintings, Comics, Graphic Novels, or Storyboards using **inexpensive**, easy-to-use, and yet powerful **professional** software via our inexpensive, self-paced courses.

Most people think students have to wait for college to experience opportunities to master the digital arts. We believe that's **10 years too late!** The best time to introduce the digital arts is in 3rd grade so students can play with and explore them as they learn and explore other subjects. This ensures our students are fluent in the digital arts by the time they reach college.

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Video Game Design Course Series

*8 week self paced courses for students from 3rd grade through High School,
each course is \$75*

Video Game Design Basics – VGD101

Students learn the basics of video game design as they follow the teacher step by step in creating their first video game. Students learn how to drag and drop hundreds of heros and characters, trees, space ships, landscapes, and buildings, into their video game as they create 2D virtual worlds where their stories unfold. Then they learn to program their game objects to interact with each other telling the story of their grand adventures so those playing their video games are challenged and have fun.

Multimedia Fusion, \$80, a 33% discount, + \$10 s&h, is required for this course.

Platform Video Game Design – VGD102

VGD102 builds on the concepts taught in VGD101 and teaches students how to design and create their first Platform video game. Mario is an example of a well known platform game.

Multimedia Fusion, \$80, a 33% discount, + \$10 s&h, is required for this course.

Video Game Character Design and Animation – VGD103

VGD103 teaches students the fundamentals of basic digital animation. After the basics students learn how to create and animate video game characters using character templates in the professional 2D animation program "Toon Boom Studio."

Students learn how to animate their character's walk cycles, jump cycles, and throwing cycles. These animations will then be used to import their character into Multimedia Fusion for their custom video game. **VGD101** is a prerequisite.

Toon Boom Studio, \$89, a 78% discount, is required for this course.

Video Game Design CyberStudio – VGDCS

This is the place for advanced students to practice their skills, ask advanced questions, and learn about the Video Game Design Industry and becoming an Independent Game Developer. Students receive the Kinesis video game, example Multimedia Fusion source code used to create Kinesis, and two months in the Video Game Design CyberStudio where you can learn from and collaborate with our Student National Mentors and other budding video game developers!

Digital Manga and Photo Painting courses

*8 week self paced courses for students from 3rd grade through High School,
each course is \$75*

Digital Photo Painting Onto Artist's Canvas – DP101

In DP101 students learn the basics of digital photo painting and how to immediately become a professional artist using a digital camera to shoot photos that are then transformed into masterpieces using Photoshop Elements. Students begin with the history of the camera and photography, learn all about pixels, progress onto manipulating color, hue, saturation, how to control and modify lighting, shading, and contrast, and then jump into lots of Artistic Filters including: Colored Pencils, Dry Brushes, Fresco, Palette Knives, Pastels, Smudge Sticks, Watercolors, Blur, Brush Strokes, Pointilize, Chalk and Charcoal, and Stained Glass, as well as Artistic Effects including Blizzards, Fluorescent Chalk, Lizard Skin, Neon Lights, and Oil Pastels.

A Wacom Bamboo Touch 4 * 5 Drawing Tablet includes Photoshop Elements 7.0 for free, *discounted \$89 + \$10 s&h*, is **required** for this course.

Digital Manga – DM101

DM101 teaches students the basics of Manga character design and creation using Free Open Source vector drawing software! Students will use templates created by the Youth Digital Arts CyberSchool so drawing ability is not a requirement. Students will also learn about the History of Manga, all about vector graphics, and how the characters they create and be animated into Anime and then imported into video games that they can design and create in our Video Game Design courses.

Our Wacom Bamboo Touch drawing tablet is suggested but **ONLY a mouse** is required.

Digital Manga and Comic Cyber Studio – DMCCS

This is the place for advanced students to practice their skills, ask advanced questions, and learn from and collaborate with our Student National Mentors and other budding digital drawing and painting artists! This is also where our National Student Mentors perform fascinating research and development using new and emerging digital arts software.

Enrollment Details

Cost: Each course costs \$75 for an eight week session (Can be paid with Instructional Funds)

Start Date: Classes are enrolling now and can be started throughout the course of the semester

Software Needs: Significantly discounted, see course descriptions (Can be paid w/Instructional Funds)

Hardware Needs: Your computer/mouse. For DP101 the Wacom Bamboo drawing tablet is required, for DM101 it is a valuable tool but not required. (Can be paid with Instructional Funds).

How do the classes work?

Each course is completely online and available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. During each chapter students watch a video of the instructor's computer screen while listening to the instructor's voice as they simultaneously create their class project step by step. Students pause the chapter, switch to the software used in the course, do the steps they just learned, and then restart the video. The lessons are completely self-paced and carefully designed to include all the necessary information to complete the class project and quizzes that follow each chapter. Students have up to 8 weeks to complete all of the assigned course work and need to begin their course when they enroll. Each course is approximately 20 - 25 hours of work. Students should spend 3 - 4 hours per week. Additional time can be requested by emailing info@YDACS.com.

Most students enroll in two 8 week courses per semester. For example VGD101 and VGD102 or DM101 and DP101.

How is my student supported in their learning?

Students may contact the instructor, YDACS Student National Mentors, and learn from other student's questions and answers via the secure online Student Forums. Students may also contact us via email. Our staff returns emails and posts information throughout the day so students rarely need to wait more than 24 hours for a response.

How do I know what my student is learning in the classes?

Each student's quiz scores can be accessed through the student's log in. This can be checked daily, weekly or monthly to review work and grades that have been received. Once all the videos are watched and quizzes completed a Student Activity Report including all the quiz scores can be requested via info@YDACS.com.

How do I sign up through my child's charter school?:

- Choose the course your student wants to enroll in and request a purchase order from your Education Specialist
- Order needed materials (via Instructional Funds or out of pocket via Pay Pal on our web site)
- Create a Student Account by following the **Step by Step Instructions to Create your Student Account** on our home page at www.YDACS.com
- Once materials are received you can log in and begin the course

*****YDCAS is HQT approved vendor under No Child Left Behind at many of our Charter Schools*****

High School Visual Arts

Digital Manga, Comics, Graphic Novels, & Storyboarding

This 2 semester series was created to satisfy the California State High School Visual Arts Standards and is comprised of three courses. **In the first semester** students begin with our **Digital Manga 101** course, and then 8 weeks later they take our **Digital Photo Painting 101** course. Both courses are previously described in this catalog.

In the second semester students take our **Visual Arts – Digital Manga, Comics, Graphic Novels, and Storyboarding** course. This 16 week course builds on the skills taught in Digital Manga 101 and Digital Photo Painting 101 and is **a significantly more demanding course**. VAMCGS teaches the principles, tools, and techniques used to create Manga, Comics, Graphic Novels, and Storyboards. Being YDACS however we also break new ground by integrating photography into our comics so **ALL** students will be able to create original works of comic art with or without being able to draw. We also explore the historical and cultural dimensions of comics, analyze and assess selected works, apply the skills learned for a school advertising campaign, analyze comics unique perspective on world events versus other media, and the varying skills required in the comics field.

Cost: DM101 and DP101 cost \$75 each. VAMCGS costs \$150 (*Can be paid with Instructional Funds*)

Start Date: Classes are enrolling now and can be started throughout the course of the semester

Books: During the second semester we use Scott McCloud's "***Making Comics - StoryTelling Secrets Of Comics, Manga, and Graphic Novels***," approx \$17 @ Amazon.com

Required Software: The required SW for DP101, Photoshop Elements 7, is included with our Wacom Bamboo Touch drawing tablet, \$89 + \$10 s&h (*Can be paid for with Instructional Funds*)

How do the classes work?

Each course is completely online and available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. **For DM101 and DP101** students watch a video of the instructor's computer screen and listen to the instructor's voice as they simultaneously create their class projects step by step. Students pause the chapter, switch to the software used in the course, repeat the steps they just learned, and then restart their teacher. **For VAMCGS** students keep a weekly Online Student Journal, create an Online Student Digital Art Portfolio and a Paper Portfolio containing their research, analysis, writings, and art work. The lessons are completely self-paced and carefully designed to include all the necessary information to complete the class projects.

How is my student supported in their learning?

Students may contact the instructor, YDACS Student National Mentors, and learn from other student's questions and answers via our secure online Student Forums. Students may also contact us via email. Our staff returns emails and posts information throughout the day so students rarely need to wait more than 24 hours for a response.

How do I know what my student is learning in the classes?

Complete Student Activity Reports including student quiz scores can be accessed through the student's log in. These can be checked and printed at any time to review student work and quiz scores. **VAMCGS** students will also keep a weekly Digital Student Journal and create an Online Digital Portfolio and a Paper Portfolio containing their research, analysis, writings, and art work.

[Cyber-Jams](#)
[Cyber-Conferences](#)
[Student National Mentorships](#)
[Student National Fellowships](#)

YDACS regularly holds online Cyber-Jams where our Student National Mentors jam, brainstorm, and collaborate on research and development projects. Currently we are evaluating many Free and Open Source programs ranging including 2D animation, 2D video game design, drawing and painting, and 3D animation and 3D video game design.

These Cyber-Jams are periodically open to other YDACS students so please let us know if you are interested by emailing us at info@YDACS.com. We will also be announcing them via our email list which you can subscribe to on our home page, www.YDACS.com.

We also host Cyber-Conferences which have a specific set of topics we cover and last about 4 hours.

Student National Mentorships and Fellowships.

Our Student National Mentors are selected based on their excellent quiz scores, course art work, original art postings using skills learned in the courses, and participation in the Student Forums especially assisting other students.

Our Student National Fellows were previously excellent Student National Mentors who have graduated High School and come back to continue assisting other students and working on research and development. Student Mentors and Fellows have been going onto college programs in the digital arts and tell us the skills they learned at YDACS put them far ahead of their peers. Being a Student National Mentor and Fellow also looks great on their resumes!