



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

Tel: +27 12 004 8389 · Mobile: +27 65 077 6310

Email: apply@aaticd.co.za · Website: www.aaticd.co.za

COURSE BROCHURE

3D Character Rigging for Animation and VFX

Communication Studies and Language / Media Studies

Unit Standard 242542 · NQF Level 6 · 8 Credits · 5 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the skills to rig 3D models for animation and visual effects, enabling characters to move realistically. Participants will master joint placement, skinning, and control systems to support production-ready animation workflows.

Category	Communication Studies and Language
Subfield	Media Studies
Unit Standard	242542
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 6 · 8 Credits
Duration	5 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply industry-standard rigging techniques to create flexible and efficient character rigs.
- Design control systems that allow intuitive manipulation of 3D models for animation.
- Implement skinning and weight painting to ensure smooth deformation of geometry.
- Analyze joint hierarchies and constraints to achieve realistic movement.
- Evaluate rig performance and troubleshoot common deformation issues.
- Demonstrate proficiency in rigging tools within a 3D software environment.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- 3D artists, animators, and game developers seeking to advance their technical skills in character rigging for film, TV, or game production.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to 3D Character Rigging

- Overview of animation and VFX pipeline
- What is rigging: controls, joints, and constraints
- Introduction to 3D software (e.g., Maya, Blender)
- Creating and orienting joints
- Building a simple skeleton hierarchy
- Skinning basics: binding geometry to joints
- Testing deformations with rotate and translate

Day 2: Skeleton and Joint Systems

- Joint placement guidelines for bipeds
- Forward Kinematics (FK) vs Inverse Kinematics (IK)
- IK handle creation and pole vector constraints
- Building FK/IK switching systems
- Custom attribute controls
- Using parent, point, orient, and aim constraints
- Skeleton mirroring and symmetry

Day 3: Skinning and Deformation Techniques

- Smooth vs rigid skinning
- Weight painting techniques
- Using influence objects and lattice deformers
- Corrective blend shapes and pose-space deformers
- Skin weight mirroring and normalisation
- Troubleshooting common deformation artefacts
- Performance optimisation: joint limits and binding

Day 4: Advanced Rigging Components

- Facial rigging: blend shapes, joints, and controls
- Mechanical rigging: pistons, wheels, and hinges
- Set-driven keys and driven keys
- Expressions and scripting for automation
- Stretch and squash rig systems
- Animation controllers: selection handles and icons
- Rig validation and testing

Day 5: Integration, Export, and Pipeline

- Rig packaging: clean scene, references, and namespaces
- Export settings for animation and VFX
- Testing rig with walk cycle and basic actions
- Rigging for game engines vs film
- Troubleshooting and debugging rigs
- Pipeline integration: version control and asset management
- Final project: complete a character rig from start to finish

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **8 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 6**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 25,300.00	R 25,300.00
1	In-House	R 32,900.00	R 32,900.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 38,000.00	R 38,000.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Johannesburg, South Africa
03 Aug 2026	07 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Lagos, Nigeria
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 242542) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call **+27 12 004 8389** or WhatsApp **+27 65 077 6310** and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza, 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028, Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa
Tel: +27 12 004 8389 · WhatsApp: +27 65 077 6310 · apply@aatid.co.za · www.aatid.co.za