

Mohammad Saffar

Assistant Professor of Digital Design
Claflin University, South Carolina, USA

Contact Information

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Professional Summary

Experienced 3D animation professional and educator with extensive industry and academic experience. Proven expertise in animation production, digital design, and media arts with a strong background in storytelling, technical development, and creative leadership. Committed to inspiring students through engaging instruction and mentorship.

Education

Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Digital Production Arts

Clemson University, South Carolina, USA

2020 – 2023

- Awarded \$7,000 per semester tuition redemption for background in animation production
- Awarded \$2,000 for editing the Digital Production Arts (DPA) Clemson website

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Graphic Communication

University in Iran

Academic Experience

Assistant Professor of Digital Design/Animation/Video Game design

Claflin University, South Carolina, USA

2022 – 2023/ Part Time

2023- Present/ Full Time

- Teaching courses in Digital Design, Animation, Photography, and Art Technology
- Developed and taught courses such as CAD II, Digital Painting, and Outdoor Portrait Photography
- Mentor students on major projects, including 3D animation, video game design, and motion graphics
- Leading the development of a VR/AR Content Creator Certificate and an eSports-related program
- Organizing a summer camp featuring photography, video game design, 3D animation, and graphic design

Instructor - Digital Production Arts Program

Clemson University, South Carolina, USA

2020 – 2023/ Part Time

- 3D Animation within the Digital Production Arts (DPA) program
- Assisted students in developing technical skills in Autodesk Maya, Adobe Suite, and rendering engines

Industry Experience

3D Animation Post-Production and Production Lead

Freelance Work for Companies in India and Oman

2018 – 2019

- Led animation production for projects such as *Dr. ZOOP* and the *Oman King Anniversary*
- Specialized in lighting, rendering, and animation pipeline development

Art Director

NOVIN KELK Company, Iran

2017 – 2018

- Managed teams to produce 3D animations, 3D mapping motion graphics, and branding projects
- Notable projects include *Lomenz Restaurant* and IRIC Tech branding

Founder & Managing Director – EEmma Animation Magazine Founder & Managing Director – EEmma Animation Magazine

EEmma Animation Magazine · Full-time EEmma Animation Magazine ·

Jul 2015 - Jan 2017

Director and 3D Generalist

NAGHSHE KHEYAL Company, Iran

2007 – 2017

- Director of *BESHNO AZ NEY Series* (13 episodes, 11 minutes each)
- Managed a team of animators, leading storytelling, production, and technical development

**Founder & CEO – Karaj Animation Association Founder & CEO
With 100 members of professional Artists**

Karaj Animation Association (Alborz Province) Full-time Karaj Animation Association (Alborz Province) · Full-time Mar 2014 - Jan 2020 · 6 yrs

Director and 3D Generalist

AMU CHARCHI Series, Iran

2007 – 2009

- Director of *AMU CHARCHI* (13 episodes, 7 minutes each)
- Developed concepts, storyboards, and character animation

Freelance Animation Consultant and R&D Specialist

2010 – Present

- Provided technical support and guidance to animation teams
- Conducted research to implement new animation techniques and tools

Publications

Forensic DNA Analyses Made Simple: A Guide for the Curious

By Omar Bagasra, Mohammad Saffar (*Illustrator*), Ewen McLean

Emma Animation Magazine (The First Licensed Electronic Magazine in Animation in Iran)

Founder, Editor-in-Chief of the Magazine, and Art Director — Published nine issues highlighting Iranian animation artists.

Skills

- **Animation & Design:** Autodesk Maya, Autodesk 3ds Max, Nuke, ZBrush, Toon Boom, Adobe Animate
- **Rendering Engines:** Redshift, Arnold, RenderMan, V-Ray
- **Design Tools:** Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Lightroom, After Effects, Premiere, Aero
- **Development & Coding:** Python, Unity
- **3D & Digital Media:** 3D Modeling, 3D Printing, UX/UI Design, Digital Painting
- **Photography:** Studio Lighting, Outdoor Portraits, Creative Abstracts with Light
- **Education Tools:** Classroom Lectures, Online Teaching, Course Design

Awards & Honors

- **\$7,000 Tuition Redemption Award** – Awarded each semester for animation production background
- **\$2,000 Award for DPA Clemson Website Editing**
- **ASIFA-Holly Wood member (In progress)**
- **College Art Member**

Projects & Initiatives

- Leading the development of a **VR/AR Content Creator Certificate** for Claflin University
- Developing a **high-quality video for Claflin University's library** featuring drone footage and motion graphics

Languages

- English (Fluent)
- Persian (Native)
- Arabic