

iClone3

3D Movie Machine

Teaching Plan (Basic)
Chapter 2



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Introduction

Reallusion iClone3 provides the most accessible way for students of all skill levels to begin learning and creating 3D animation using simplified tools that enable educators to easily teach the concepts and creative techniques of character design, motion, scene production, and 3D filmmaking.

To facilitate teaching, the iClone3 Teaching Plan (Basic Version) presents the general guidelines for lessons and integrates iClone3 with image and video editing tools, allowing teachers to lecture iClone3 as one full course or part of the curriculum.

The iClone3 Teaching Plan (Basic Version) includes 3 Chapters and 15 Sections, covering topics from 3D actor creation, superimposing, and 3D movie production.

Chapter II

Superimpose 3D Avatars over a Video

In Chapter II, students will learn how to create a 3D talking avatar using iClone3 Standard/PRO and overlay it on top of a video. The chapter includes the following 5 sections:

1. **Creating a talking actor**
2. **Actor with motion and Quick Tab Bar**
3. **Multiple actors in conversation**
4. **Sequence TGA, video without background**
5. **Video editor and Chroma Key method**

In this chapter, students will also apply the video editor (e.g. Corel VideoStudio) with iClone for advanced video editing.

Before class, we suggest you visit [iClone Training Resource](#) where you can find video tutorials and other training materials to get familiar with the basics of iClone3. If you have any questions about the iClone3 Teaching Plan, please contact education@reallusion.com

Section I: Creating a Talking Actor

In this section, you will learn how to convert your “mute” actor into a talking one. The talking script can be a pre-recorded voice file, a sound file recorded using iClone, a CTS file (CrazyTalk Script file), or the one converted from the text you type (Text-to-Speech, TTS). Applying voice and expressions to the actor can largely increase the creativity of your projects.

You may also enhance the lip-sync and facial expression of the actor using Reallusion CrazyTalk5.

Before Class

- Please refer to the Online Help for step-by-step instructions:
 - a. [Facial Animation Track](#)
 - b. [CrazyTalk5 Help](#) - learn about the advanced way to modify facial expressions.
 - c. [TTS Download](#) – Get more free Text-to-Speech (TTS) engines.

- Ask student to prepare talking scripts for their actors:
 - a. Pre-recorded voice, any sound file, or music file (WAV/MP3).
 - b. Scripts in the text format.
 - c. CTS (CrazyTalk Script) files (if any).

- The software programs required in this section:
 - a. Reallusion iClone3 Standard/PRO.
 - b. (Optional) Reallusion CrazyTalk5.
 - c. (Optional) TTS Engine, such as the free engine by Microsoft.

- The hardware required in this section:
 - a. a PC microphone.


PROCEDURE (3 Steps)

STEP 1. Select an actor in iClone. Click **Animation > Facial Animation**. The **Modify** page changes accordingly.



STEP 2. There are four different ways to apply a talking script to the actor:

1. Use a prepared sound file (.wav / .mp3):

- a. Click the **Open** button on the **Modify** page. Browse and select the .wav or .mp3 file you have prepared.
- b. Click the  button of the browser to apply the chosen sound file to your actor.

2. Use a recording voice in iClone:

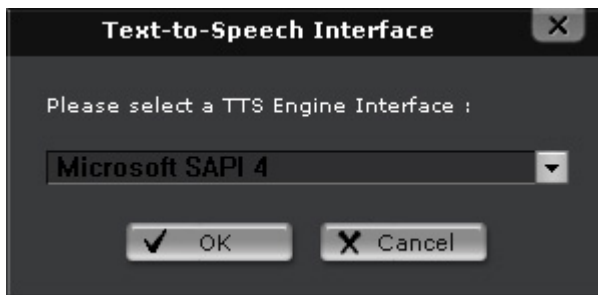
- a. Click the **Record** button to start recording.



- b. Click **OK** once you have done with recording.

3. Use Text-to-Speech (TTS):

- a. Click the **Type** button.
- b. Select a **TTS Engine Interface**.



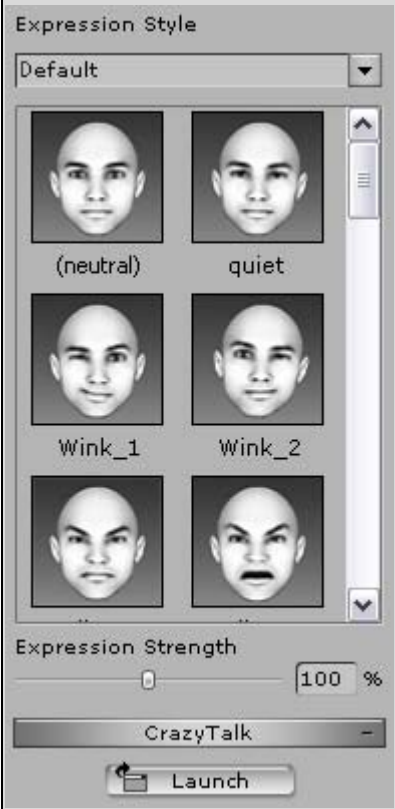
- c. Type your text in the edit field. Select the **Voice Mode** from the drop-down list and click **Preview** to listen to your choice. You may also change the **Volume**, **Pitch** and **Speed** to adjust the TTS voice.



4. Import a CTS file (CrazyTalk Script file):

- a. Click the **Import** button.
- b. Browse to select one CTS file generated from CrazyTalk and click  to import it.

STEP 3. Expression Style, Expression Strength, and Launch of CrazyTalk5 program.



- You may double-click one of the **Expression Style** thumbnails to apply the effect to the talking script.
- Drag the **Expression Strength** slider to increase or decrease the expression.
- If you have **CrazyTalk5** (v.5.0 and above) installed, you may click the **Launch** button to launch CrayzTalk5 and fine-tune the talking script in further details.

After you apply the talking script and expressions, the actor starts talking with some facial expressions.



Hints & Tips

- **Prepare a sound file:**
iClone only supports **.wav** and **.mp3** files.
- **Record voice in iClone:**
Adjust the **Volume** to prevent the recorded voice from noise.
- **Text-to-Speech (TTS):**
The TTS engine SAPI 4 supports more than ten languages, while SAPI 5 supports only few.
Please refer to the Reallusion CrazyTalk website for more information:
[TTS Download](#)
- **Import a CTS file:**
Please refer to the Reallusion CrazyTalk website for more information:
[CrazyTalk – Advanced Facial Expression Timeline for iClone](#)
[CrazyTalk Script Help](#)

ASSIGNMENT: Creating a Talking Actor

There are 3 assignments for the class to practice after learning the section:

1. Create a custom talking actor to introduce the upcoming holiday.
2. Hold a virtual singing contest with 3D actors.
3. Create a RAP music video with a 3D actor.

Example: A talking actor

(Refer to **Chapter_II/Project/Section_I/Assignment**)

