

Film Production – Syllabus

Purpose: The goal of Film Production is to teach students how to create both narrative film projects and documentary film projects. This undertaking can be viewed as a first step in pursuing a career in the entertainment industry, preparing for a college film major, or simply increasing your knowledge about the wonderful world of moviemaking.

Topics/Skills to be covered:

- Screenplay Structure and Formatting
- *Mise en Scene*...casting, acting, props, wardrobe, make-up
- Film Genres
- Film History
- Operation of Camera.... Framing Shots, Angles, Composition
- Treatments
- Pitches
- Lighting Concepts
- Sound Concepts
- Editing Concepts
- DSLR (Digital) Camera Operations (When in-person instruction is permitted)
- Editing... Final Cut Pro (When in-person instruction is permitted)

Units/Projects:

1st Semester: Screenplay Structure, Mise-en-Scene, Framing (Still Camera), Five Picture Narrative (Still Camera), Film Project One - Original Short Film (Including Treatment, Photo-Storyboard, Pitch, Screenplay)

2nd Semester: Complete Narrative Film Project begun first semester. Produce and complete documentary film project.

In Person Instruction: Classroom Behavior: 1) Film is a collaborative medium. The large majority of the projects in Film Production are group projects. Although students may be designated individual responsibilities, they are expected to participate fully in the entire project (help others in need). 2) Avoid idle chatter and general silliness when student films are screened. All comments should be thoughtful and constructive. 3) Also, avoid unnecessary comments when studio/commercial films are screened. This behavior is rude to the students around you.

Distance Learning Conduct: During online Zoom or Google Meets sessions please be dressed in school attire and conduct yourself in a professional manner. Please buy-in to the idea that you are part of a learning community.

Equipment: Film Production is taught in a studio/lab environment... not a traditional classroom setting. Please show the proper respect when handling the equipment. The equipment is very expensive and can be easily damaged or destroyed when handled

roughly. All equipment must be checked out with a formal *check-out* sheet. This includes pieces such as external hard drives, etc. Also, please shut down the Mac computers in a respectful fashion at the end of each class.

Safety: There is to be no running, yelling, or horseplay in T-1 during either film production or general instruction. Tri-pods, cameras, lights, boom poles all have sharp edges. Any horseplay will result in immediate termination from the class.

Content: No student film shall entail overt sexuality, nudity, gratuitous violence, objectionable language, frivolous drug use, or any other content that may be deemed questionable in taste. **When in doubt get clearance from the instructor.**

Grading: Film Projects... 90%, Participation 10%. Grades will be assigned as follows: A100-92.5, A- 92.49-90, B+ 89.99-87.5, B 87.49-82.5, B- 82.49-80, C+ 79.99-77.5, C 77.49-72.5, C- 72.49-70, D+ 69.99-67.5, D 67.49-62.5, D- 62.49-60, F 59.99 and below.

Attendance Policy: Students should be in their seats and ready to work when the class bell rings, or they will be marked tardy. Six unexcused *tardies* or three unexcused absences will result in a student being *drop/failed* from the class.

Distance Learning: Students are expected to be on *Zoom* or *Google Meets* at the beginning of the session.

Late Work: Assignments that miss the deadline or are *late* will be marked down 10% (one grade level) per class period. Once three classes have past, no credit will be given.

Make-up Work: Students will have one class period per absence to turn in work that is late due to illness or other excused absence.

Plagiarism: There is zero tolerance for plagiarism. If a student is caught plagiarizing, they will be reported to the proper administration officials. The penalty is a mandatory zero for the assignment and academic probation.

Final Note: Have fun with this class. Bring a love of film and a desire to extend your talents as a filmmaker.

Please sign and Return: I have read and understand all of the above.

Student's Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Print Student's Name

Home Phone Number