

Film Production II – Syllabus

Purpose: The goal of Film Production II is to take the basic filmmaking skillset introduced in Film Production I and raise it to industry standards. In addition to learning advanced technological skills, students will also deepen their knowledge regarding major film concepts, principles, and theories. Students will learn historical perspectives and analyze both American Film and world film. On the technological front, students will continue to increase their skillset in both the cinematography and the post-production realms. Students will edit on state of the art nonlinear systems as well as shoot on advanced “prosumer” Sony cameras.

Major Course Goals:

- Deepen understanding of the traditional three-act structure of narrative filmmaking. This includes creating multi-dimensional characters with defined goals and strong internal dilemmas.
- In the production of film products students will deepen the use of mise-en-scene elements... make-up, wardrobe, lighting, and locations... and how the director can use these visual symbols to convey information to the audience.
- Learn the process of shooting on advanced “prosumer” cameras such as the Sony A7s. This will involve knowing the *exposure triangle* in depth including the role of shutter speed, aperture settings, and ISO settings in capturing images, especially how to shoot night exteriors, shoot in low light, and how to control depth of field.
- Delve deeply into the post-production process and learn to edit projects using Final Cut Pro X. Students will learn how to *color grade* and *color correct* as well as how to enhance audio.

Projects:

1st Semester: 1. Pitch Deck... including treatment, character bios, cast and crew credits, and teaser/trailer. 2. Narrative Film Project: Pre-production and screenplay.

2nd Semester: 1. Complete Narrative Film Project. 2. Pitch Deck for Documentary Film. 3. Documentary Film... interviews, recreations, and archival footage, etc.

**** Due to Distance Learning, the first semester of Film Production II will concentrate on *film theory* while the second semester (hopefully we will be back in the classroom) will emphasize *film production*.

In-Person Instruction: Classroom Behavior: Film is a collaborative medium; therefore, students have the option of producing their films as group projects. Although students may be designated individual responsibilities, they are expected to participate fully in the entire project (help others in need). On the other hand, students may also work alone (auteur theory) if they so wish.

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 expensive and can be easily damaged or destroyed when handled roughly. All equipment must be checked out with a formal *check-out* sheet. 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, danger to cast or crew, or any other content that may be deemed questionable in taste. When in doubt get clearance from the instructor.

Grading: Film Projects/Assignments... 90%, Speaking/Listening ... 10%. *** Film projects will be graded down 10% for each class date they are late. Partially completed films will receive partial credit based upon instructor's discretion (a film project that is 50% complete will receive 50% credit.) Grades will be assigned as follows: A 100-92, A- 91.99-90, B+ 89.99-88, B 87.99-82, B- 81.99-80, C+ 79.99-78, C 77.99-72, C 71.99-70, D+ 69.99-68, D 67.99-62, D- 61.99-60, 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.

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