

FILM-101: INTRODUCTION TO FILM PRODUCTION

Effective Term

Fall 2020

BOT Approval

04/11/2019

SECTION A - Course Data Elements
CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Art (Master's Degree)	Or
Drama/Theater Arts (Master's Degree)	Or
Film Studies (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

FILM - Film Studies

Course Number

101

Department

Film Studies

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Introduction to Film Production

Short Title

Intro to Film Production

CB03 TOP Code

0612.00 - Film Studies

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

This course was archived under DRAM. It is being re-written as a new FILM course to expand transferable film studies course options.

SECTION B - Course Description
Catalog Course Description

This course is designed to introduce you to the creative process of filmmaking. We will study all aspects of production from the conceptualization of ideas and scripting, to the basic production equipment and their functions, and finally the production and post-production processes. Assignments will emphasize visualization, shooting style, and production organization. Presentation of ideas in both the written word and visual media are integral to the production of creative media, and the coursework for the class is designed to help you develop the basic skills to ultimately work on set as a member of a production crew.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

36.00

Lab Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

72

Total Contact Hours

90

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Hybrid	Permanent
Entirely Online	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Develop a solid understanding of the core principles of the production process.
2.	Recognize the cultural and social implications of creating film/video artifacts.
3.	Show an aesthetic appreciation of film and video production.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental aspects of digital filmmaking as a performing and visual art form.
2. Identify and explain the various elements of the production process.
3. Articulate the core concepts of narrative storytelling and character development for film writing.
4. Think critically about the significance of film as a reflection of popular culture.

Course Content

1. The Art of Filmmaking
 - a. Course outline and expectations
 - b. Overview of the production process and image gathering
2. Storytelling and the production process
 - a. Pre-production
 - b. Production
 - c. Post-production
3. Film as a Narrative Art Form
 - a. The principles of narrative
 - b. Analyzing film narrative
4. The Screen Story
 - a. Proper screenplay formatting
 - b. Assembling your ideas
 - c. Screenplay construction
5. Writing Characters
 - a. Creating your characters
 - b. Building your characters
 - c. Character bios and sample dialogue
6. Screenplay Analysis
 - a. Some Like It Hot by Billy Wilder & I.A.L. Diamond
 - b. Collateral by Stuart Beattie
 - c. Moonlight by Tarell Alvin McCraney
7. The Mechanics of the Film/Video Camera
 - a. Film camera basics
 - b. Video camera basics
 - c. In-class demos
8. Cinematography and the Lens
 - a. Perspective and focus
 - b. Photography, framing, and duration
 - c. In-class lens demos
9. Film/Video Aesthetics
 - a. The film image
 - b. The video image
 - c. In-class camera demos
10. Manipulating the Image
 - a. Color temperature
 - b. Filters
 - c. The import of light
11. Lighting for Film/Video Production
 - a. Tungsten/daylight
 - b. Basic lighting strategies
 - c. Three-point lighting
 - d. In-class lighting demos
12. The Art of Recording Sound
 - a. Sound recording systems
 - b. Sound recording techniques
 - c. In-class sound demos
13. The Fundamentals of Editing
 - a. Basic editing strategies
 - b. Picture editing

- c. Dialogue editing
- d. In-class demos
- 14. Editing Film/Video
 - a. Film editing
 - b. Video editing
 - c. In-class editing demos
- 15. Sound Editing
 - a. Fundamentals of sound editing
 - b. Editing vs. Mixing
 - c. In-class sound editing demos
- 16. Exposure and Printing
 - a. The film/video lab
 - b. Film and digital video transfers
 - c. In-class cataloguing
- 17. The Business of Film/Video
 - a. Distribution
 - b. Film Festival

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Critique	Film/Video/Screenplay projects will assess student comprehension throughout the semester.
Directed Study	Selected essays to be read in preparation for the class lectures.
Discussion	In-class discussion of films, screenplays, and materials
Lecture	Presentation of topics via spoken lecture combined with multi media.
Observation and Demonstration	Selected clips of media used to support lecture topics

Online Adaptation

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	
Directed Study	
Discussion	
Group Work	
Individualized Instruction	
Journal	
Lecture	

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Essays/Papers	Students will write a treatment for a feature-length script.
Projects	Students will write/shoot/edit a five minute short film. Students are divided into groups and will write screenplays, capture images, edit film/video, record sound.
Lab Activities	Participate in group and individual project work.
Other	Assemble a final individual project as a live action (or dramatic creation) suitable for review and evaluation during a public showing.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, course reader, library resources, and in-class handouts.

Example:

1. Read Ch. 1, Intro to Film/Video Systems by Steven Ascher and Edward Pincus, in The Filmmaker's Handbook.
2. Read the screenplay for Inglourious Basterds by Quentin Tarantino

Writing Assignments

Screenplay preparation.

Example:

1. Write a 2–3-page character biography for a character of your creation. Start with the interior aspects of your character and work your way on through the exterior aspects. Be sure to include details of your character's personal, private, and professional life. Articulate the dramatic need of your character, his/her point of view and attitude, and express any change or transformation that he/she will go through as your story progresses.
2. How does your story end, and how does it begin? Write a few paragraphs about the of your story, detailing the resolution and how it ends. Do the same for the beginning of your story, describing how it sets up the situation, establishes your main character, and starts the action moving forward.
3. Brainstorm some scenes for your first act and write out 14 sample slug lines. Write out the main beats occur in each, and Include a few descriptive sentences for each that address the following questions: What is the purpose of the scene? What happens? How does it move the story forward? What characters are in the scene, and what is their purpose? Structure your scenes into a rough outline.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Steven Ascher and Edward Pincus

Title

The Filmmakers Handbook

Publisher

Penguin Books

Year

2017

ISBN

9780452

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Michael Rabinger and Mick Hurbis-Cherrier

Title

Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics

Publisher

Focal Press

Year

2016

ISBN #

9780240818450

SECTION G - Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity

Course Codes (Admin Only)

CB00 State ID

CCC000604616

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No