
DC 388

Filmmakers Seminar

(Spring 2014)

The Lot in Hollywood
Tues & Thurs 6:00 pm –9:00 pm

Assistant Professor: Tim Peternel
E-Mail: tpeterne@cdm.depaul.edu
LA Phone: 310-569-6323

Course Description

Each week, students will be given the rare opportunity to speak directly with industry professionals from all walks. Hollywood directors, writers, cinematographers, editors, producers, agents, managers, entertainment lawyers, development executives and others will come to class, discuss their journeys, offer advice, and answer questions. The class will culminate with an industry mixer, where these professionals, along with dozens more, will join the students for a relaxed evening of networking. This is an invaluable opportunity for students to begin to form meaningful relationships that can help them as they transition from student to filmmaker.

Course Goals

The purpose of this class is to introduce the student to working professionals in the Hollywood entertainment industry in a classroom environment, focusing on the following key objectives for the quarter:

1. Students will research the guest speakers' career for the purpose of asking meaningful questions on their profession during the classroom interviews.
2. Students will gain a solid understanding of each guest speakers' particular profession, and how they function in the entertainment industry.
3. Students will network and develop meaningful work relationships with industry professionals, both in the classroom and outside such as the industry mixer and class trips & events.

Class Schedule

NOTE: *This schedule is subject to change. Please consult class calendar and Professor emails for the most up to date schedule for student postings, readings, assignments, and all-due dates.*

Week 1

Introduction to LA Quarter courses and each other.

Review syllabus and class requirements.

Weeks 2 – 9

Students Trades Discussions.

Professors & Students Classroom Discussion.

Industry Professionals Interviews.

Weekly Filmmaker Student Questions.

Note: Reading handouts, screenings, & class events assigned by the instructor TBD per class.

Week 10

Students Trades discussions.

Individual or Small Group Video Project Screening .

Final Reflection Paper Due.

Industry Network Party (Date TBD).

Evaluation

Students Trades Discussions	15%
Weekly Filmmaker Questions	20%
Individual or Small Group Video Project	10%
Final Reflection Paper	30%
Class Participation	25%

A = 100-93, A- = 92-90, B+ = 89-88, B = 87-83, B- = 82-80, C+ = 79-78, C = 77-73, C- =

72-70, D+ = 69-68, D = 67-63, D- = 62-60, F = 59-0.

A indicates excellence, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D indicates unsatisfactory work, and F is a failure to demonstrate an understanding of course concepts.

Recommended Websites

[Deadline Hollywood](#)

[Hollywood Reporter](#)

Class Assignment Details

LA Quarter Trades Discussions

Evaluation:

This assignment is worth 15% of your final grade.

Assignment Description

Each week the Professor will email 2-3 students to choose a news article from the trades (Deadline Hollywood, Hollywood Reporter, Box Office Mojo etc.) that interests them.

The students will then give a 5-minute presentation approximately at the beginning of class and open it up to discussion with the rest of the students and Professor.

Note: Please email the Professor the night before class a link to the story, and a short paragraph as well why you have chosen it for class discussion.

Weekly Filmmaker Questions

Evaluation:

This assignment is worth 20% of your final grade.

Assignment Description

Each week Industry Professionals will visit the LA Quarter class to discuss their experiences and thoughts on the entertainment industry.

The students are to research the guest speakers for the week (ie screen films, research job position, etc) and prepare three questions to ask.

Then during the class, the Professor will randomly call on various students to ask their questions to the guest speakers.

Individual/Small Group Video Project

Evaluation:

This assignment is worth 10% of your final grade.

Assignment Description

During their stay in Los Angeles for the LA Quarter, the student will make a short video (10 minutes or less) of their experiences and impressions of Los Angeles.

The video can be made individually, or with a small group (three students or less) and will be presented to the class on the final night of LA Quarter.

Cameras and equipment will be supplied to the students by DePaul University.

Final Reflection Paper

Evaluation:

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade.

Assignment Description

The student will write a 2-3 page double space paper on their experiences and thoughts on the LA Quarter. The paper should focus on the numerous filmmakers the students met in class and at events and what they learned from them.

This Paper is due on Week 10 of class and must be posted on COL.

Course Policies

Attendance: Classroom attendance is MANDATORY. More than one “excused” absence (doctor’s note, Dodgers game, etc) will result in a lowering of grade per each absence.

Deadlines: Strict Adherence to deadlines is expected. Materials presented or posted late will result in a negative grade for the particular assignment.

School policies:

Online Instructor Evaluation

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student’s identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over two weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online at <https://mycti.cti.depaul.edu/mycti>

Email

Email is the primary means of communication between faculty and students enrolled in this course outside of class time. Students should be sure their email listed under "demographic information" at [CampusConnect](#) is correct.

Academic Integrity Policy

This course will be subject to the academic integrity policy passed by faculty. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>

Plagiarism

The university and school policy on plagiarism can be summarized as follows: Students in

this course should be aware of the strong sanctions that can be imposed against someone guilty of plagiarism. If proven, a charge of plagiarism could result in an automatic F in the course and possible expulsion. The strongest of sanctions will be imposed on anyone who submits as his/her own work any assignment which has been prepared by someone else. If you have any questions or doubts about what plagiarism entails or how to properly acknowledge source materials be sure to consult the instructor.

Incomplete

An incomplete grade is given only for an exceptional reason such as a death in the family, a serious illness, etc. Any such reason must be documented. Any incomplete request must be made at least two weeks before the final, and approved by the Dean of the College of Computing and Digital Media. Any consequences resulting from a poor grade for the course will not be considered as valid reasons for such a request.

Resources for Students with Disabilities

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. □ To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: □ Student Center, LPC, Suite #370 □ Phone number: (773)325.1677 □ Fax: (773)325.3720 □ TTY: (773)325.7296