

DC 210 Digital Cinema Production I
Autumn 2016
Mondays & Wednesdays 10:10 - 11:40 am
14 east Jackson LL107

Instructor: Andrew Stasiulis
astasiul@cdm.depaul.edu

Office: CDM 408

Office Hours: Mondays 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Wednesdays 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Thursdays 10am - 12pm.

Summary of the Course

This course is a beginning workshop in narrative film production. This course will explore the fundamentals of production including: organization and preparation, camera and lens technology, composition, lighting, cinematography, sound recording and directing. Utilizing digital technology, students will work together to produce several films with an emphasis on visual storytelling and personal expression.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- Recognize aspects of the filmmaking process from concept through completion (producing, cinematography, lighting, basic sound recording, directing).
- Create and construct narrative films individually and in groups.
- Apply visualization and organizational skills in developing film projects.
- Prepare written materials such as: treatment or screenplay; pre-visualization documents including storyboards, overheads, shot list; producing materials including script breakdowns, releases, call sheets, and production schedules.
- Operate camera, light kits, and field recording equipment.
- Evaluate peer work during class critiques through both rough and final stages.

Textbooks and Printed Resources

Film Art

Kristin Thompson and David Bordwell

Additional assigned readings provided by the instructor

Grading

Attendance and Participation 20%

One Shot 10%

Working with Actors Exercise 10%

48 hr. Midterm 20%

Final Project Production Packet 10%

Rough Cuts 10%

Final Project 20%

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 work is unsatisfactory in some respect, F is substantially unsatisfactory work.

Week by Week Outline

Week 1: September 7

Introduction of Course. Production Roles. Order of Production.

Week 2: September 12 & 14

Pre-Production. Equipment overview. Theories of Production.

Week 3: September 19 & 21

Lighting and Optics. Basics of Production Sound Recording.

Assignment: One Shot

Week 4: September 26 & 28

Developing Ideas. Form, Content, and Theme.

Assignment: 48 Hour Film

Week 5: October 3 & 4

Screen 48 Hour Film Projects

Week 6: October 10 & 12

Discuss Final Projects. Production Meeting with Groups.

Assignment: Final Project Production Packets Due

Week 7: October 17 & 19

Working with Actors.

Week 8: October 24 & 26

Production Management and Direction. Making Strong Choices.

Week 9: October 31 & November 2

Post-Production Workflow.

Week 10: November 7 & 9
Final Project Workshops

Week 11: November 14
Final Project Rough Cuts Screened.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. The overall grade for participation drops one-third after any absence. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course.

D2L

You will be using D2L extensively in this course. To log on, go to:
<https://login.depaul.edu/cas/login?service=https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/orgtools/CAS/Default.aspx> and enter using your campus connect logon and password. Once you are logged on, click on the course number link and you will find links to the syllabus, course outline, video lectures, discussion forums, weekly assignments, etc.

D2L Group Feedback

Feedback is an essential part of the writing process. To facilitate this, you have been placed in a group with three/four other students. You will submit outline assignments and pages to your group for evaluation via the discussion forum on D2L. In addition, you will read the pages submitted by your group members and provide a minimum of three notes per script. Each group member will create a discussion thread for the week's submission (Example: John Smith's First Act). Group members will provide notes in the body of this thread.

In-Class Workshops

Every student will have the first ten pages of their screenplay workshopped in class. I will create a discussion thread on D2L for the scripts that were workshopped, which will allow students to continue discussion that time did not allow for in class. The in-class workshops will begin Week 8 and run to the end of the quarter.

Changes to Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

Online Course Evaluations

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 three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

Academic Policies

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

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: csd@depaul.edu.

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.

Phone number: (312)362-8002

Fax: (312)362-6544

TTY: (773)325.7296

Attendance: Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. The overall grade for participation drops one-third after any absence. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course.

Class Discussion: Student participation in class discussions will be measured in two ways. First, students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading papers. Secondly, students will be called upon by the instructor to offer comments related to the reading assignments. Students must keep up with the reading to participate in class discussion.

Attitude: A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the classroom. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

Civil Discourse: DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be [Socially Responsible Leaders](#). It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues.

Cell Phones/On Call: If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.