

# FILM 455 - LIGHTING FOR CINEMA 1

Updated: January 3rd, 2021

## **WINTER 2022 - Mondays 6PM - 9:15PM**

The first two weeks of this course will meet synchronously online via Zoom. A Zoom invitation will be emailed to each student's Campus Connect email address via D2L prior to each class meeting. Weeks 4 - 11 will meet live and in-person at CineSpace DePaul in Room 102 & various stages. Please Note: Depending on University health and safety policies, if further in-person class meetings are cancelled due to the pandemic (and let's hope not!) this course will continue to meet synchronously online via Zoom.

**Instructor:** Jerry Tran (he/him/his)

**Email:** gtran8@depaul.edu

**Phone:** 773.396.8806

**Office Hours:** Mondays from 4PM - 5:30 PM via phone, Zoom, or in-person (after January 18th, 2022) at CineSpace DePaul. Appointments can be made via text (preferred) or email prior to office hours. Please expect a reply within 24 hours.

### **Course Description:**

Introduction to safe and established practical operation of studio lighting and grip equipment. Students will learn a variety of basic lighting techniques, set electrical distribution, dolly set up, grip and lighting equipment.

### **Summary of Course:**

The goal of this course is to enable students to safely utilize lighting and grip equipment to create narrative imagery to visually engage an audience. Students will learn a variety of skills both creatively and technically to perform lighting setups. This course will take a hands-on approach and will emphasize active participation and team work. Class sessions will be broken down into aesthetic discussions on lighting and then the technical / practical steps to execute the desired aesthetic outcomes.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of Lighting 1, students will be able to:

- Safely demonstrate the skill to utilize a variety of lighting equipment to specific visual effect.
- Apply knowledge of lighting to create depth within an image.
- Create specific moods utilizing quality, color, intensity and direction of light.
- Have a basic knowledge of electrical distribution and grip rigging.
- Describe and perform the different jobs within a professional lighting crew.

**Required Textbook:**

*Set Lighting Technician's Handbook: Film Lighting Equipment, Practice, and Electrical Distribution*, 5th Edition, by Harry C. Box. ISBN: 9781138391727.

**Additional Required Stuff:**

Film and lighting equipment can get hot, heavy and filthy so please wear appropriate clothes and shoes to work on set (That means no open toe shoes or flip flops). Please keep in mind that you'll be climbing ladders and picking up hot lights, so a pair of heat resistant work gloves are critical. A small flashlight (a handheld or headband type) and utility knife would be super helpful but are not required.

**Last day to drop this class with no penalty is SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022:**

This date is subject to change. Please check out the academic Calendar 2021-2022 for official up-to-date info:

<https://academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>

**Grading Policy:**

10% - Class attendance

25% - Participation

30% - Assignments

15% - Quiz

20% - Final Exam and Practical Test

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%

**Attendance:**

Classes will consist of lectures, discussions, and creative exercises. An absence is defined as not showing up for class, arriving more than 15 minutes late, or missing any 15 minute periods during class time. However, if you are legitimately sick please stay home. Please email or text me *before* class if you are going to miss a session.

**Participation:**

Lighting is a highly active and collaborative endeavor. Participation and joining in on class discussions and activities is a critical measure for how you will be graded for this course. When we do it, let's do it together.

**Final Exam and Practical Test:**

The final exam will be on-campus and will consist of both a written portion and a practical test demonstrating the safe setup and understanding of lighting equipment.

**Course Management System:**

Assignments, readings, feedback and grading will be given weekly online using the D2L system.

Students must check the information provided online each week:

<https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/home>

**DePaul CineSpace Stages:**

If you are driving, please use this address for any map app to find the DePaul parking lot: 2525 W 15th Street, Chicago, IL 60608. As there are many one-way streets and Cinespace gates nearby, it's easy to get lost or confused. The best approach would be to come north from Ogden, turn south onto Rockwell St, then left (east) on 15th Street. The parking lot is on the right.

## **WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE**

**(this is subject to change):**

**WEEK 1 - January 3rd, 2022 (via ZOOM)**

- Intro and class overview.
- What is "good" lighting?
- Discuss a simple 3-Point lighting setup: Key, fill, back light.
- Lighting vocabulary: Placement, height & direction.
- Discuss lighting moods.

**WEEK 2 - January 10th, 2022 (via ZOOM)****Aesthetic Discussion:**

- The 4 controls over lighting: Direction, contrast/intensity, quality and color.
- Focus on lighting "direction" and its correlation to mood.
- Light motivated by windows, sources.
- Tell the audience the time of day by direction of light.
- Lighting strategies through motivated lighting and lighting angles.

**Tech Talk:**

- Electricity 101
- Simple power distribution.
- Calculating paper amps.
- Where to plug into in a residence.
- Determining our electrical limits.

**WEEK 3 - January 17th, 2022**

No class. In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## **WEEK 4 - January - 24th**

### **Aesthetic Discussion:**

- Intensity / Contrast

### **Stage Discussion:**

- Welcome To CineSpace!
- Safety and protocols on stage.
- Names and usage of gear.
- How to setup and wrap equipment.
- How to wrap a stinger.
- How to use a C-Stand.
- Determine paper amps and power limits on stage.
- Light operation and lingo.
- How to carry a light.

### **Excercise:**

- Lighting in 3 layers @ different intensities.
- Background, mid-ground, foreground at different intensities.

## **WEEK 5 - January - 31st, 2022**

### **Aesthetics:**

- Quality of light.
- Soft versus hard.
- Shadows and cuts.

### **Stage Discussion:**

- Grip 101
- Basic grip equipment: Flags, clamps, frames.
- Diffusing light, bouncing light, and breaking up light.

### **Excercise:**

- Two qualities of light in one shot.

## **WEEK 6 - Februrary 7th, 2022**

### **Aesthetic Discussion:**

- Color and creating visual depth using color.

### **Stage Discussion:**

- Teamwork and how lighting crews operate.
- How to observe.
- How to help.
- G&E "Olympics" contest.

### **Excercise:**

- Create depth using color only.
- Complimentary colors
- Blue background, warm foreground
- Different colors in keys and fills.

## **WEEK 7 - February 14th, 2022**

### **Quiz Day:**

- Fun, fun fun!

### **Full Shooting day:**

- Break up into groups.
- Shooting scenarios to be assigned.

## **WEEK 8 - February 21th, 2022**

### **Stage:** Electricity Pt 2

- Complex power distribution.
- Intro to Baits, Banded cable.
- How to use an amp probe.
- Larger light sources: 5K, T12, Maxi-Brutes.

### **Excercise:**

- Shoot a matching 3 shot scene.

## **WEEK 9 - February 28th, 2022**

### **Stage:** Grip Pt 2

- Intro to larger frames and stands.
- Knots, rigging overhead.
- Laying dolly track.

### **Excercise:**

- Shoot a scene using a dolly shot and overhead softbox.

## **WEEK 10 - February March 7th, 2022**

### **Full Shooting day:**

- Break up into groups.
- Demonstrate the 4 controls over lighting.

## **WEEK 11 - February March 14th, 2022**

- Final exam and practical test.
- Course evaluations!

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

### **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.

### **COVID-19 Health and Safety Precautions**

Keeping our DePaul community safe is of utmost importance in the pandemic. Students, faculty and staff are expected to (1) wear a mask as required at all times while indoors on campus; (2) refrain from eating and drinking in classrooms; (3) keep current with their COVID-19 vaccinations or exemptions; (4) stay home if sick; (5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing; (6) complete the online Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus training; and (7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory. By doing these things, we are Taking Care of DePaul, Together. The recommendations may change as local, state, and federal guidelines evolve. Students who do not abide by the mask requirement may be subject to the student conduct process and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Students who have a medical reason for not complying with any requirements should register with DePaul's Center for Student with Disabilities (CSD).

### **Respect for Diversity and Inclusion at DePaul University as aligned with our Vincentian Values.**

At DePaul, our mission calls us to explore "what must be done" in order to respect the inherent dignity and identity of each human person. We value diversity because it is part of our history, our traditions and our future. We see diversity as an asset and a strength that adds to the richness of classroom learning. In my course, I strive to include diverse authors, perspectives and teaching pedagogies. I also encourage open dialogue and spaces for students to express their unique identities and perspectives. I am open to having difficult conversations and I will strive to create an inclusive classroom that values all perspectives. If at any time, the classroom experience does not live up to this expectation, please feel free to contact me via email or during office hours.

### **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.

Please see <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/Pages/online-teaching-evaluations.aspx> for additional information.

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. All students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy which prohibits cheating and other misconduct in student coursework. Publicly sharing or posting online any prior or current materials from this course (including exam questions or answers), is considered to be providing unauthorized assistance prohibited by the policy. Both students who share/post and students who access or use such materials are

considered to be cheating under the Policy and will be subject to sanctions for violations of Academic Integrity.

More information can be found at <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/academic-integrity/Pages/default.aspx>.

### **Posting work on online sites, such as Hero**

All students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy which prohibits cheating and other misconduct in student coursework. Publicly sharing or posting online any prior or current materials from this course (including exam questions or answers), is considered to be providing unauthorized assistance prohibited by the policy. Both students who share/post and students who access or use such materials are considered to be cheating under the Policy and will be subject to sanctions for violations of Academic Integrity.

### **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: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

### **Incomplete Grades**

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval. Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found at <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx>

### **Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns**

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at <http://policies.depaul.edu/policy/policy.aspx?pid=332>

### **Students with Disabilities**

Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) enabling them to access accommodations and support services to assist

with their success. There are two office locations:

- Loop Campus (312) 362-8002
- Lincoln Park Campus (773) 325-1677
- Email: [csd@depaul.edu](mailto:csd@depaul.edu)

Students who register with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact Dr. Gregory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he may assist in facilitating the accommodations to be used in a course. This is best done early in the term. The conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible.

Please see <https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/csd.aspx> for Services and Contact Information.

## **GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL OF CINEMATIC ARTS (SCA) PRODUCTIONS:**

### **SCA Production Office:**

The Production office, located in LL Daley Building and at [production@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:production@cdm.depaul.edu) is an invaluable resource to all DePaul student filmmakers. The office can answer general questions about navigating filming inside or outside of DePaul, SCA facilities and equipment, and provide resources for casting, insurance, crew calls, etc. Office hours are listed on the CDM Production Resources page here: <https://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Student-Resources/Pages/Production-Resources.aspx>

### **SCA Central:**

Run by The Production Office, SCA Central is our online information hub, filled with resources including the SCA Production Handbook, pre-production templates, waivers/contracts, job listings, SCA events, local production community news & events, internship opportunities, etc. [Find it on D2L and make it your home page.](#)

### **SCA Production Handbook:**

Required reading for all SCA Students prior to equipment/stage/studio reservations, The SCA Production Handbook is an invaluable resource to all DePaul student filmmakers. Guidelines, policies, and procedures for filming at DePaul; using SCA facilities and equipment; and answers to questions regarding SCA resources and building contacts, are found inside. The handbook is updated regularly on [SCA Central](#) and also linked to the CDM Production Resources page here: <https://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Student-Resources/Pages/Production-Resources.aspx>

### **Talent Waivers:**

Talent waivers must be signed by any outside talent (non-DePaul students) and submitted to The



Production Office prior to camera rolling for any projects. Waivers and other commonly used forms can be found on [SCA Central](#) under "Info & Forms".

**DePaul Production Insurance:**

DePaul production insurance does not cover the use of fire (including pyrotechnics and fireplaces), use of vehicles for shooting (moving or stationary), or animals of any kind and is therefore not permitted for SCA projects unless proof of personal production insurance is provided.

Read more about DePaul's requirements via the SCA Production Handbook. Any questions about DePaul's insurance should be directed to The Production Office well before shooting begins ([production@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:production@cdm.depaul.edu)).

**Use of Prop Weapons:**

Rules and regulations MUST be followed when using prop weapons, including firearms. The instructor must approve the appearance of a prop weapon in any student film, including class syllabus assignments. An approved/signed Prop Weapon Request Form must be submitted to the Production Office prior to filming (find it on [SCA Central](#) under "Info & Forms"). For safety purposes, The Production Office may also review the filmmaker's plan for transportation of prop firearms prior to receiving approval for use.

**ABC - Always Be Careful:**

Film and video production shoots can be hazardous. Above all, work safely in all situations and always think before you act. Please don't hesitate to ask faculty if you're unsure about anything regarding your shoot, in or out of class.