

FILM 004: CINEMATOGRAPHY

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Formerly known as:

RTV 013 (or if cross-listed - inactivated courses associated with this course)

Originator

Vincent Sassone

Justification / Rationale

The modifications here are: to change the course designator to FILM which allows the new film courses, certificates and degree to be properly identified; add comparable UC and/or CSU courses to support adding it to Film ADT transfer degree.

Effective Term

Fall 2019

Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject

FILM - Film

Course Number

004

Full Course Title

Cinematography

Short Title

CINEMATOGRAPHY

Discipline

Disciplines List

Broadcasting Technology (Film making/video, media production, radio/TV)

Film Studies

Modality

Face-to-Face

Catalog Description

On a film set, the Cinematographer is the person who fulfills the Director's vision by setting the shots and lighting the scene. How this is achieved is part art, part craft and part science. This course will introduce students to the fundamental elements of Cinematography. The exploration of how motion picture and video cameras work will be accompanied by understanding how motion picture cameras, lenses and lighting transcend being tools into being a collaborative artistic expression.

Schedule Description

This course will introduce students to the fundamental elements of cinematography. It will serve as a prerequisite for Film Production III: Capstone, as well as provide a basic knowledge for someone who may not want to be a cinematographer but would like to be empowered by the knowledge gained in the class about what is involved during the process.

Prerequisite: FILM 002B or RTV 011A

Lecture Units

2

Lecture Semester Hours

36

Lab Units

1

Lab Semester Hours

54

In-class Hours

90

Out-of-class Hours

72

Total Course Units

3

Total Semester Hours

162

Prerequisite Course(s)

FILM 002B or RTV 011A

Required Text and Other Instructional Materials**Resource Type**

Book

Author

Brown, Blain

Title

Cinematography, Theory Practice

Edition

3rd

Publisher

Routledge

Year

2016

College Level

Yes

ISBN #

978-1138940925

Class Size Maximum

24

Entrance Skills

Identify and demonstrate advanced elements of the complete film production process required to successfully produce and deliver a short film/video including: scheduling, storyboarding and shot listing; camera, sound, performance, set protocols and management procedures; editing picture and sound, creating basic effects, color correction and titling and final mixing.

Prerequisite Course Objectives

FILM 002B-Identify and demonstrate the elements of film story structure required to successfully script a narrative dramatic or comedic short film/video.

FILM 002B-Identify and demonstrate advanced elements of the complete film production process required to successfully produce and deliver a short film/video including: scheduling, storyboarding and shot listing; camera, sound, performance, set protocols and management procedures; editing picture and sound, creating basic effects, color correction and titling and final mixing.

Course Content

- Explore the concept of how digital video cameras work, from concept of persistence of vision through the practical mechanics of how cameras and lenses operate.
- Understanding how cinematography is an essential element in the telling of a story by supporting a narrative through visuals working in collaboration with other key players on a film production, including the director, the producer and the production designer.
- Explore the basics of how a motion picture shot is achieved and how it works in concert with other shots to create a scene and ultimately a story. Lens choice, composition, lighting, camera movement will be covered and demonstrated in class.

Lab Content

- Practice assembly and disassembly of camera and lighting equipment
- Practice three point and other lighting techniques
- Practice proper handling and transfer of recorded digital media
- Collaborate in shooting tests to learn the fundamental elements of cinematography.

Course Objectives

Objectives	
Objective 1	Identify and demonstrate the elements of cinematography including use of gear, camera movement and to successfully re-create the cinematography of classic film scenes, shoot a two shot dialogue scene and create a music video.
Objective 2	Identify and demonstrate the members of a professional film camera crew, their roles in shooting a narrative film and their relationship to the director to successfully collaborate on the shooting of a narrative film.
Objective 3	Identify and demonstrate the elements of cinema theory and practice of cinematography required to successfully shoot a narrative film.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:	
Outcome 1	Students will re-create the cinematography of classic film scenes, shoot a two shot dialogue scene and create a music video.
Outcome 2	Students will successfully collaborate and work as a professional camera crew to shoot classic film scenes, a two shot dialogue scene and a music video.
Outcome 3	Students will critically identify and analyze the elements of cinema theory and practice in classic films, their own work, the work of their peers.

Methods of Instruction

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Collaborative/Team	
Lecture	
Laboratory	
Supplemental/External Activity	

Methods of Evaluation

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
Product/project development evaluation	Students duplicate a scene, concerned with the camera placement / movement, shoot a two-shot focusing on lighting, camera placement and movement use everything they learn to shoot an original music video.	In Class Only
Critiques	Peer review of the projects screened in class	In and Out of Class
Laboratory projects	Students duplicate a scene, concerned with the camera placement / movement, shoot a two-shot focusing on lighting, camera placement and movement use everything they learn to shoot an original music video.	In Class Only

Group activity participation/observation	Students collaborate to work as a successful professional camera crew.	In Class Only
Mid-term and final evaluations	Mid term and final written exams administered in class.	In Class Only
Self/peer assessment and portfolio evaluation	Students duplicate a scene, concerned with the camera placement / movement, shoot a two-shot focusing on lighting, camera placement and movement use everything they learn to shoot an original music video.	In Class Only

Assignments

Other In-class Assignments

- How an image gets focused onto a CCD or CMOS sensor is a complex arrangement of lens, camera, digital media and electronics. The most common types of lenses will be explored and demonstrated. Beyond the actual optics, the use of focus and the explanation of depth of field for creative expression will be discussed and students will see this first hand.
- The effective use of composition and how it relates to story telling and shot sequence will be explored. Spatial relationships and perspective will be demonstrated in class. The different types of shots that are commonly used on a film will be explored along with how they contribute to a coherent scene.
- Motion pictures utilize an amazing array of luminaries, or lights as they are commonly called. Different types of lighting instruments will be demonstrated and used hands-on by the class in order to get a good understanding of how they work and understand the qualities of each. Gels are used on lights for color correction, diffusion and creative expression and will be introduced and demonstrated. Grip tools for shaping light and safe working practices with electrical sources will be covered and demonstrated. Setting up a basic light scheme in high and low key styles will be accomplished in the class.
- Camera filters are used for on-camera color correction to balance light, to change the light level and also for artistic effect. A broad selection of camera filters, hands-on to grasp their application as well as cover their care and handling will be demonstrated and examined. The class will be introduced to filter theory for black and white and color.
- Motion picture cameras need to be supported whether a shot is static or moving and this class is devoted to understanding how that can be achieved. The gamut of camera support is explored from tripods, dollies, steadicam and handheld. The class will explore how a moving and static camera helps tell the story in a different and dynamic ways. Demonstrations and use of selected technologies will be offered in the class.
- "Plan the shoot, shoot the plan" is a well worn expression in film production. What that exactly means in terms of cinematography is doing a story breakdown, and devising shot lists and storyboards. Working in concert with the director, often in collaboration with the production designer these methods of pre-production are essential to an emerging filmmaker. It is an important step in the process of preparing for a film and an effective way to streamline communication throughout every department on a production.
- The collaborative nature of motion pictures requires that people work closely together in often intense situations. Understanding what the responsibilities of the essential people on a film set are and what to look for in a candidate are topics to be covered. Great creative collaborative pairings of directors and cinematographers give insight and inspiration into how important this relationship is. The class will also review the semester's work and have a final discussion of the collection of student essays.

Other Out-of-class Assignments

- A key assignment of the course will be to do a weekly screening of the students choosing outside of class and write an analysis of the film from a cinematographic perspective.
- Students will breakdown a script story, create storyboards and develop shotlists.

Grade Methods

Letter Grade Only

Comparable Transfer Course Information

University System

UC

Campus

UC Los Angeles

Course Number

Film TV 52

Course Title

Cinematography

Catalog Year

2016-2017

Rationale

A perfect match with FILM 04 RTV 12.

MIS Course Data**CIP Code**

50.0602 - Cinematography and Film/Video Production.

TOP Code

061220 - Film Production

SAM Code

C - Clearly Occupational

Basic Skills Status

Not Basic Skills

Prior College Level

Not applicable

Cooperative Work Experience

Not a Coop Course

Course Classification Status

Credit Course

Approved Special Class

Not special class

Noncredit Category

Not Applicable, Credit Course

Funding Agency Category

Not Applicable

Program Status

Program Applicable

Transfer Status

Transferable to UC & CSU

Allow Audit

No

Repeatability

No

Materials Fee

No

Additional Fees?

No

Files Uploaded**Attach relevant documents (example: Advisory Committee or Department Minutes)**

FILM 004_RTV 013 Approval Letter.pdf

Approvals

Curriculum Committee Approval Date

10/02/2018

Academic Senate Approval Date

10/11/2018

Board of Trustees Approval Date

11/14/2018

Chancellor's Office Approval Date

11/20/2018

Course Control Number

CCC000588590

Programs referencing this course

Film, Television, and Electronic Media AS-T (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined?key=10>)

Advanced Film Production Certificate of Achievement (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined?key=196>)

Film Production AS Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined?key=69>)