Advanced Film Production Workshop

FILM-750-M01

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR’S INFORMATION:

Name: Prof. Jody Saslow
Office location: 16 W. 61st St. Room 1019
Telephone: (212) 261-1578
E-mail: jsaslow@nyit.edu
Office hours: Wednesday 12:00 - 1:00
Thursday 12:00 - 2:00
5:00 - 6:00

CREDITS: 4

COURSE INFORMATION:

Term and date: Spring 2015
Course number and section: FILM-750-M01
Credits: 3
Meeting times: Thursday 6:00-10:45 PM
Building and room number: MC61, Room 1029

PREREQUISITE: Instructor's permission


MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES: It is required that each production group provides its own portable computer storage device. This will provide sufficient media storage, safety of their programs, and maximum workstation flexibility. It is essential that these external storage units connect to the computer with a firewire cable, since USB connectors transfer video data much more slowly and cannot meet the demands of video editing systems using these extremely large files. Productions must also supply one or more SDHC class 6 or higher memory cards.
COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG: “During this course students execute the editing and necessary post production for their projects under supervision of the instructor. Through the lecture part of the course the advanced theory and technique of film editing are studied. The basic editing equipment is provided by the school; students are responsible for film and film processing. Prerequisites: Instructor’s permission.”

COURSE GOALS AND INTRODUCTION: This course examines every aspect of "film style" motion picture production, utilizing the digital video format. The term “film production” now describes any production shot with a single camera, using multiple set-ups and post-production editing, and no longer makes a distinction between film and digital camera original. The course concentrates on the aesthetic and technical requirements necessary for the production of motion pictures and the crafts provided by the production personnel.

All subjects will be studied in depth on a sophisticated technical and aesthetic level, aiming to inspire even the most eager students. It is hoped that every student will benefit from the course: those entering the profession will be gaining valuable knowledge and experience while adding to their portfolios, and others who choose allied careers will become more learned audiences who expand the awareness and intelligent appreciation of the motion picture medium. All students will gain the advantage provided by their exposure to the discipline, responsibility, dedication, and professional standards associated with filmmaking.

LEARNING OUTCOMES AND INSTRUMENTS OF ASSESSMENT:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand how to successfully communicate using the film form
- Create dynamic motion picture images
- Understand the principles of location audio recording
- Build complex audio mixing elements
- Produce a finished motion picture production consistent with industry standards

Upon graduation, students will gain a global perspective that will enable them to:

- Recognize the impact of the global interconnectedness of issues, processes, trends, and systems on their academic specializations and worldviews.
- Practice well-researched oral, written, visual, and digital communication in its diverse cross-cultural forms.
- Describe a complex global issue from multiple cultural perspectives and explain how those perspectives affect the treatment of the issue.
• Employ effective and appropriate interaction and teamwork with people of different nationalities and cultures, demonstrating respect for social, cultural, and linguistic diversity.

METHODS OF ASSESSMENT WILL INCLUDE: These grading criteria are established to evaluate the student’s understanding of the course content. The final evaluation for the semester will reflect the degree to which the student exhibits a conscientious approach to academic endeavors and the resulting accomplishments, reflecting the necessary preparation for future success.

1. Class attendance and participation in laboratory exercises
2. Commitment to group production and ability to develop professional working relationships
3. Creative and technical accomplishments consistent with industry standards
4. Significance of contribution to group production
5. Delivery of finished film at prescribed time

GRADING FORMULA:

1. Class attendance 15%
2. Professional development 20%
3. Creative activity and goal orientation 20%
4. Achievement exhibited in final film project 45%

100%

EXAMS AND QUIZZES: This is a production course, and there are no written exams.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS: The course will consist of classroom lectures and exercises. This is a production course, and the most important area of concentration and evaluation is the semester film project. Students derive the most value from this course if they learn the complete process of making a film, since all films, regardless of length or style, are made the same way. Students will collaborate in production groups, and are encouraged to assume roles which are fulfilling and appropriate to long-term career objectives. It is important that the scope of the final film does not prohibit its completion. Film lengths should be kept under five (5) minutes to ensure adequate control over production details. Students are advised not to let their enthusiasm cause them to attempt more than they can thoroughly and carefully finish, the objective being to make a small film well, not a big film poorly. Film projects must be completed and ready for release by the end of the semester, during which time the production facilities are available. This also serves as an exercise in meeting a deadline. The final exam will consist of screening students’ finished works. The following suggested schedule will allow for timely completion:
ASSIGNMENT                                                                 DATES

- Film proposals due ................................................... 1/29
- Pre-production ................................................ 1/29 - 2/19
- Shooting .......................................................... 2/19 - 4/16
- Editing/post-production ................................... 2/26 - 5/13
- Film screenings......................................................... 5/14

POLICY FOR MAKE-UP EXAMS AND MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS:
Industry practices do not allow for late assignments, and an objective of the
course is teaching this to students. Failure to produce a finished production by
the specified due date is a failure in the course.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance at lectures and laboratories, reflecting
proper attitude and responsibility, is essential. A student will be withdrawn from
the course by the Instructor when three (3) absences from class (20% of the
course) have accumulated. Students are asked to adhere to professional
courtesy, avoiding such disruptions as entering lectures already in progress or
using personal electronic devices during class time.

CELL PHONE POLICY: In order to avoid distractions and ensure proper
concentration during study, course etiquette requires that students refrain from
using personal electronic devices for private matters during class time.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY: A student may withdraw from a course without
penalty through the end of the 8th week of class during a 14- or 15-week
semester and through the 8th meeting during an 8-week course cycle. After this,
the student must be doing passing work in order to receive a W grade. Students
who are not passing after the 8th week or equivalent will be assigned the grade
of WF.

It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor of his/her intention to
withdraw from a course. If a student has stopped attending class without
completing all assignments and/or examinations, failing grades for the missing
work may be factored into the final grade calculation and the instructor for the
course may assign the grade of WF. The grade of F is used for students who
have completed the course but whose quality of work is below the standard for
passing.

Withdrawal forms are available in departmental offices and once completed must
be filed with the registrar. Students should be reminded that a W notation could
negatively impact their eligibility for financial aid and/or V.A. benefits, as it may
change the student’s enrollment status (full-time, part-time, less than part-time).
International students may also jeopardize their visa status if they fail to maintain
full-time status.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM POLICIES: Each student enrolled in a course at NYIT agrees that, by taking such course, he or she consents to the submission of all required papers for textual similarity review to any commercial service engaged by NYIT to detect plagiarism. Each student also agrees that all papers submitted to any such service may be included as source documents in the service's database, solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of all or part of someone else's works (such as but not limited to writing, coding, programs, images, etc.) and offering it as one's own. Cheating is using false pretenses, tricks, devices, artifices or deception to obtain credit on an examination or in a college course. If a faculty member determines that a student has committed academic dishonesty by plagiarism, cheating or in any other manner, the faculty has the academic right to 1) fail the student for the paper, assignment, project and/or exam, and/or 2) fail the student for the course and/or 3) bring the student up on disciplinary charges, pursuant to Article VI, Academic Conduct Proceedings, of the Student Code of Conduct.

LIBRARY RESOURCES: All students can access the NYIT virtual library from both on and off campus at www.nyit.edu/library. The same login you use to access NYIT e-mail and NYITConnect will also give you access to the library's resources from off campus.

On the left side of the library's home page, you will find the “Library Catalog” and the “Find Journals” sections. In the middle of the home page you will find “Research Guides;” select “Video Tutorials” to find information on using the library's resources and doing research.

Should you have any questions, please look under “Library Services” to submit a web-based “Ask-A-Librarian” form.

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: NYIT adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504. The Office of Disability Services actively supports students in the pursuit of their academic and career goals. Identification of oneself as an individual with disability is voluntary and confidential. Students wishing to receive accommodations, referrals and other services are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Services as early in the semester as possible although requests can be made throughout the academic year.
## SCHEDULE OF DATES:

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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/22</td>
<td>Motion picture formats &amp; program concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/29</td>
<td>Production personnel &amp; design</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>Lenses &amp; optics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/12</td>
<td>Exposure calculation methods</td>
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<td>2/19</td>
<td>Artificial &amp; natural lighting</td>
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<td>2/26</td>
<td>Dynamic perspective: the moving camera</td>
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<td>3/5</td>
<td>Camera and lighting filters</td>
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<td>3/12</td>
<td>Sound recording for film</td>
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<td>3/26</td>
<td>Film editing</td>
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<td>4/2</td>
<td>Building sound tracks</td>
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<td>4/9</td>
<td>Visual effects</td>
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<td>4/16</td>
<td>Titles &amp; credits</td>
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<td>4/23</td>
<td>Sound mixing</td>
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<td>4/30</td>
<td>Color correction</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/14</td>
<td>Final film screenings</td>
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