

SINGLE CAMERA VIDEO PRODUCTION RTV 3221

Syllabus and Course Schedule

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Class: Tuesday/Thursday 11:30-12:45

Office Hours: Thursday 2-4, additional hours by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

RTV 3221 is an advanced workshop in single camera video production. This class will emphasize non-traditional narrative and experimental video production through the development process — from creative concept to final video product. We will examine a range of current and historical video and film work, focusing on work that is outside the Hollywood tradition. This class assumes you are very familiar with the Hollywood tradition and will offer some other historical and contemporary traditions to expand your knowledge of film history and theory. From abstract expressionism, avant-garde, to dogma 95, a range of filmmaking styles will be examined and you will have the opportunity to make pieces using some of the techniques derived from these genres. This class will attempt to balance theory and practice through regular technical workshops, script writing workshops and classroom discussions prompted by readings and film viewings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Operate a digital video camera with new creative insights
- Use lighting to evoke mood
- Approach challenging visual material with an open mind and a critical eye
- Understand the script writing form
- Critically evaluate script writing/ideas, as well as technical aspects of digital video
- Identify and describe a range of film/video genres and their major exponents.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Readings will be on reserve in the Production Center.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Class attendance is required. One excused absence will be accepted. Further absences will reduce your grade by 2 points per missed class.

LATE WORK

Late work will only be accepted when special arrangements have been made prior to the day any assignment is due.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

All written assignments should be well edited with clear, concise writing.

ADA STATEMENT

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations must:

- 1) Register with and provide documentation to the Student Disabilities Resource Center (SDRC).
- 2) Bring a letter to me from the SDRC indicating your needed accommodations. This must be done within the first two weeks of class.

HONOR CODE

Students are expected to uphold the academic honor code published in the *Florida State University Bulletin* and the *Student Handbook*. The academic honor system of The Florida State University is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility to:

- (1) Uphold the highest standards of integrity in your work
- (2) Refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the university community.
- (3) Foster a high sense of integrity and social responsibility on the part of the university community.

ASSIGNMENTS

- **Class Attendance and Participation:** You are expected to attend class. You are expected to do the readings. On days when readings have been assigned, a short quiz on the readings will usually start each class. Each quiz will be worth 2 points toward your final grade. In addition, because this is a workshop, you are expected to participate in class discussion and provide substantive feedback to your peers. 10%

- **Group Work:** You will be working in groups. You will grade each member of your group including yourself and these grades will constitute your group work. 10%
- **Adaptation Project:** This assignment will give you the chance to adapt a story and apply a specific filmmaking style to your adaptation. Details TBA. 25%
- **Found Footage Project:** This assignment will give you the chance to create an experimental video. Details TBA. 20%
- **Final Short:** This project will allow you to pursue your creative vision through the creation of a short video. Details TBA. 35%

GRADING SCALE

100-94 = A	76-74 = C
93-90 = A-	73-70 = C-
89-87 = B+	69-67 = D+
86-84 = B	66-64 = D
83-80 = B-	63-60 = D-
79-77 = C+	59-0 = F

Grading Policy

A and A- grades represent work whose superior quality indicates a full mastery of the subject. An A represents work of extraordinary distinction.

B+, B, and B- grades represent work of good to very good quality but that does not merit special distinction.

C+, C, and C- grades designate an adequate command of the course material. These grades are satisfactory for undergraduate students.

D+, D, and D- grades indicate work that shows a deficiency in knowledge of the material. They are unsatisfactory for undergraduate students.

F is a failing grade representing work that deserves no credit.

Note On Grades: Education is not about grades but about learning. Part of the learning process involves feedback and one form of feedback is a grade. Each grade will also be accompanied with written and verbal feedback that will often be more helpful to your learning than the letter/number grade. If you are not happy with your grade, I encourage you to rework and resubmit your assignment. Also, because learning is a process, I strongly encourage you to give me feedback about the class as we proceed through the semester.

Class Schedule - Single Camera Video Production - Spring 2005

	DATE	CLASS TOPIC	READINGS	ASSIGNMENTS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS
Week One	1/6	Course Introduction	D.U.M.P.S. Website: www.film-maker.com dumps	
Week Two	1/11	Viewing: <i>Scottsdale PA</i>	Adaptation Handout	
	1/13	Adaptation Workshop		
Week Three	1/18	Genre Presentations		Class Presentations Due
	1/20	Intro to Screenwriting	Rabiger P. 33-73 Syd Field Reading – handed out in class p. 7-33	
Week Four	1/25	Workshop Scripts		Scripts Due
	1/27	Storyboard Theory and Practice		Storyboards Due
Week Five	2/1	Camera and Lighting Workshop	Handout	
	2/3	AVID Workshop	Editing Handout	AVID Tip – each student will share one trick they have discovered.
Week Six	2/8	Film Viewing TBA/1 st project workshop		
	2/10	View and Critique class projects		First Project Due
Week Seven	2/15	Viewing: <i>Spectres of the Spectrum</i>		
	2/17	Collage Film Tradition	Handout	
Week Eight	2/22	Experimental techniques	Handout	
	2/24	“Dogme 95” Viewing: <i>Celebration</i>	Dogme 95 Website http://www.tvropa.com/tvropa1.2/film/dogme95/index.htm	
Week Nine	3/1	Sound Workshop	Handout	
	3/3	View and Critique Second Project		Second Project Due
Week Ten	3/8	Spring Break		
	3/10	Spring Break		
Week Eleven	3/15	Final Project Workshop – stop motion	Handout	Final Project Concept Due

	3/17	3D workshop		
Week Twelve	3/22	Script Workshop		First Draft 4-5 Page Script
	3/24	Production Process		
Week Thirteen	3/29	Production Con't		
	3/31	Critique Storyboards		Storyboards Due
Week Fourteen	4/5	Short Films by Hal Hartley		
	4/7	Viewing: TBA/Final Project workshop		
Week Fifteen	4/12	View and critique first cuts of final projects		First Cut Final Project Due
	4/14	Festivals: How to get your work out there.	Handout	
Week Sixteen	4/19	How To Distribute Independent Video	Handout	
	4/21	View Final Projects		Final Project Due*
Week Seventeen	4/26	EXAM WEEK		

* NOTE: Final projects are due the last week of classes to allow you to submit them for the end of year film festival.