

Salt Lake Community College
Sample Syllabus

Credits: 4 Prerequisite Courses: FLM 1045, 1055

Instructor: TBD

Meet by appointment

# **Course Description**

This course teaches film directing techniques and theory. Students will write direct and produce their own narrative short film. Students will explore film terminology, language and grammar; and story structure and basic acting theory. Students will learn how to manage actors and crew, and produce a complex and creative work of art.

#### Course Objectives and Outcomes:

- 1. Design, produce and create an original, narrative short film.
- 2. Implement proper use of film language, screen grammar and related terminology.
- 3. Assemble a cast and crew, and practice effectively communicating their vision with a variety of departments and roles, including cinematographers, assistant directors and designers.
- 4. Develop collaboratively together on group projects (in-class and out-of-class), which includes scripting, storyboarding, designing, shooting and editing, mixing and producing.

5. Identify the history of directing in film production.

#### Course Content:

The content for this course is broken into:

- 1. Readings, written assignments, and exams.
- 2. Lectures, labs & workshops
- 3. Projects and exercises

## Required Supplies

### **Suggested Textbooks:**

Film Techniques and Aesthetics, Michael Rabiger, 4th edition — Focal Press

Each student is responsible for purchasing a portable hard drive, which can be used in the computer lab or edit bays. Hard Drive must be USB 3.0 with 7200rpm minimum speed or SSD. It is recommended that students purchase their own portable hard drive storage for safekeeping and working at home if desired. It is also recommended that you bring your own pair of good quality headphones to use in the lab. Must format the drive to ExFat.

Cameras and equipment can be checked out from the equipment room. Protocol will be discussed during class.

## **Grading:**

31.	
Participation	10%
Auditions	9%
Script Draft 1	15%
Script Draft 2	15%
Final Film	51%
	100%

94% and above	Α
90% -93%	A-
87%-89%	B+
80%-86%	В
77%-79%	C+
70%-76%	С
60%-69%	D
0%-59%	E (Fail)

<u>Grading</u> will be based on attendance, written assignments, quizzes and finished productions listed under ASSIGNMENTS. Once

assigned to a group crew, you cannot exit the group, unless there is fear for one's safety (which should be reported to the instructor or proper authority). Learning to work with people different than your self is a huge part of film production and life itself.

### Participation:

Attendance is mandatory. Roll will be taken; there is no way to make up for instruction, activities and discussion which will occur in class, and a portion of your grade will be based on your participation in classroom discussion and exercises. In order to score well on the participation portion of your grade, you should present your works-in-progress before the class on a regular basis and participate actively during class.

#### FINAL SCREENING

Students who cannot attend the final exam/ screening on the designated date must inform the teacher BEFORE the date of the exam. If the student does not show up on the day of the exam without at least a 24-hour prior agreement, the student will not be able to submit the final film. There will be no exceptions.

# CORE Projects and Assignments:

3-10 minute movie: The final project will be a 3-10 minute film, written, produced, directed and editing by each student. The film should contain elements using the 3-act story structure, lighting and sound effects & mixing, including foley, and music. No dangerous stunts. No illegal locations etc. The project will be graded on the story, pre-production management, storyboard, cinematography, lighting, acting, direction, and editing. Music must come from royalty free websites, or "cleared original music". NO COMMERCIAL MUSIC!!

Films will be edited the following semester by the Advance Editing class. Your participation in the post process next semester is encouraged regardless of enrollment status.

3-10 Minute Movie Producer/ 1st AD- Student will act as Producer during Pre-production and 1st AD during filming for another student's film. Producer will create and turn in a digital Production Binder, containing: Marked Script, Schedule, Call Sheet, Daily Production Report, Actor and Crew Releases, and Credit List.

Casting/ Auditions - Student will take a shift running college wide film auditions. May be outside of Directing class time. Responsibilities include sign in sheets, recording auditions, and reading with actors.

# Schedule and Assigned Projects:

**WEEK 1** — Intro to class. Assignments discussed. Story structure.

ASSIGNMENT 1: 1st Draft script

WEEK 2 - 1st Draft Script Feedback.

WEEK 3 - Script Feedback.

**WEEK 4 —** Casting

**WEEK 5** — Working with Actors

WEEK 6 - Storyboards and Shoot Design

Week 7- ASSIGNMENT 2: 2nd Draft script of Final Project.

Week 8- Script Feedback.

Week 9- Production Design.

Week 10- Spring Break

Week 11- Locations

WEEK 12- 1st AD jobs

**WEEKS 12-16** — Combo Lecture/ In-class shooting of **Films.** Attendance is critical these weeks.

WEEK 13- Production Sound

WEEK 14- Post Production for Directors.

**WEEK 15** — Film Festivals

WEEK 16- Sound

**WEEK 17** — Dailies Screening

# **Key Dates (Example):**

- Last day to drop with 100% refund. **1-29-24**
- Last Day to Withdraw (with no refunds). **3-19-24**
- Holidays when classes are not in session. MLK, Spring Break
- Last day of class **4-28-24**