Film Directing 1

FLM - 2015 001

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.

Prerequisite(s): FLM 1045, FLM 1055, or instructor approval.
Semester(s): Fall & Spring

Course Student Learning Outcomes

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

Course Prerequisites

FLM 1045, FLM 1055

Engagement Plan

Example language:

- I will respond to email within 48 hours. I will offer feedback on major assignments within 2 weeks. The best way to contact me is via the Canvas Inbox, as I will prioritize this email over other modes of communication.

- In this course I will be posting interactive announcements which will offer specific opportunities for class questions and extra credit every other week.

- Additionally, I will be participating in the discussion forums with you to share my perspective within the discipline and to offer some nuances of interpretation that may not be present in your textbook.

- Lastly, we'll be holding small group Q & A sessions, where we can learn from our peers (and faculty) on some of the more difficult units within the course.

Brief Description of Assignments/Exams

The main assignment is creating your short film and working on other student's short films. A successful and completed short film is required to pass this class.

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.

Assignment Schedule

Due Date	Assignment Name	Assignment Type	Points
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Introduce Yourself	Discussion	0
	Roll Call Attendance	Assignment	200
9/8/25	1st Draft of Script	Assignment	100
9/24/25	Casting Notice	Assignment	25
10/8/25	Sides Creation	Assignment	50
10/13/25	2nd Draft	Assignment	50
10/15/25	Auditions Server Input	Assignment	50
12/15/25	1st AD Role	Assignment	100
12/15/25	3-10 Minute Film	Assignment	300
12/15/25	Dailies Screening	Assignment	300

Grading Scale

Grading:
Participation 10%
Auditions 9%
Script Draft 1 15%
Script Draft 2 15%
Final Film 51%
 100%

94% and above A

90% -93% A-

87%-89% B+

80%-86% B

77%-79% C+

70%-76% C

60%-69% D

0%-59% E (Fail)

Grading 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.

How to Navigate to Canvas

Institutional Policies

As members of our academic community, we would like to invite you to review the Institutional Syllabus which covers important policies and procedures. This document contains important links for students on the code of student rights and responsibilities, academic integrity, and grading policies, Title IX and other important acknowledgements. By familiarizing yourself with this information, you can help us create a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

For more information, navigate to the Institutional Policies tab on the Institutional Syllabus page.

Learning Support and Tutoring Services

We are pleased to offer a range of tutoring and learning support services to help you achieve your academic goals. Whether you need assistance with a specific subject or

want to improve your study skills, you have many options for tutoring or other support.

To learn more about the services we offer and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Tutoring and Learning Support tab. We encourage you to take advantage of these resources to help you succeed in your studies. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tutoring session, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Advising and Counseling Support Services

At our institution, we are committed to supporting your academic and personal growth. That's why we offer a range of advising and counseling services to help you navigate the challenges of college life. To learn more about the resources available to you and how to access them, visit the [Institutional Syllabus](#) page under the Advising and Counseling Support Services tab. Our advising team and the support centers across campus are here to support you in achieving your goals and overcoming any obstacles you may face.

Student Academic Calendar

As students you should be aware of all important dates in the semester, such as the day that courses begin and end, as well as the drop date and the last day to withdraw. To learn more about those dates, navigate to the Student Academic Calendar below:

[SLCC Student Academic Calendar](#)