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MART 499.01: Senior Project

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MAR 499 Senior Projects (3cr.)
Autumn 2014 – School of Media Arts
Professor Michael Murphy - McGill 229
Office Hours: Tues. 11-12:30/Thurs. 3-4:30
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a capstone project course for Seniors in the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Filmmaking track. Class members will work in various capacities to define projects that meet the criteria for Senior Projects and take on assigned roles that meet with their educational goals developed for the semester.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Defining a Personal Trajectory, Goals and Research

Technology Application and Creative Work

- Students must pick one or more areas that will be their main focus in terms of applying hard and software expertise that will allow them to display these talents on a professional “reel” during the second semester personal marketing portion of their year.
- Students must define their creative work in one or more of the following areas: Writing, Directing, Production Design, Lighting and Camera, Sound, Acting, Producing or Assistant Direction.

Written Proposal of Project Parameters and Goals

- Students must submit a comprehensive research document containing a proposal for the above areas, a definition of research areas and projected materials and experiences through which research will be conducted, a journal of processes involved over the course of the project, and a final personal assessment of the project work based on its original goals.

Criteria for the class

You will be graded in this class by my analysis of your ability to:

- be able to articulate in writing and with your collaborators the relationship between your work and the narrative arc of the project in which you are involved.
- demonstrate technological competence in all areas to which you are assigned.
- demonstrate Aesthetic excellence in the areas to which you are assigned.
- participate in collaborative meetings, production and support work for the project with which you are involved
- be punctual and dependable in making meetings and work dates
- MEET DEADLINES!

TEXTS AND READING MATERIALS

There are no texts for this class, but the instructor may assign reading and other materials based on particular project needs and research.

COURSE POLICIES

Projects/Grading:

Senior Project Written Proposal	20 pts.
Final Physical Project Delivered	40 pts.
Final Written Research/Assessment	30 pts.
Peer Assessment	10 pts.
TOTAL POINTS	100 pts.

CLASS TOPICS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND DUE DATES

Pre-Week 1	Read: Excerpt, <i>The Courage to Create</i> , Rollo May
Week 1 Aug. 25	<p>PITCHING POTENTIAL PROJECTS</p> <p>In Class: Everyone checks in with what their potential projects and roles might be.</p> <p>Action Assignments: For Sept. 8 Bring in more developed written description and/or script</p> <p>Online Discussion: Each class member has it's own area on Moodle where they can post work, create discussion areas and develop their online communications.</p>
Week 2 Sept. 1	LABOR DAY
Week 3 Sept. 8	<p>PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION</p> <p>In Class: Class members with Proposals ready to present will do so and receive feedback from their peers and instructor. Those who are still developing their ideas will check in as well.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: Throughout the term the instructor will assign materials as is appropriate given the types of projects moving forward.</p> <p>Action Assignment: Move forward with project pre-production work and research.</p> <p>Online Discussion: Use the Moodle site to help facilitate pre-production communication and design development.</p>
Week 4 Sept. 15	<p>PROPOSAL PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION</p> <p>In Class: Class members with Proposals ready to present will do so and receive feedback from their peers and instructor. Those who are still developing their ideas will check in as well.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: Throughout the term the instructor will assign materials as is appropriate given the types of projects moving forward.</p> <p>Action Assignment: Move forward with project pre-production work and research.</p> <p>Online Discussion: Use the Moodle site to help facilitate pre-production communication and design development.</p>

Week 5 Sept. 22	<p>PRE-PRODUCTION WORK ON PROJECTS</p> <p>In Class: We will have specific project meetings (1/2 hour each)</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Continued research, casting, re-writes, location scouting and visual design work</p> <p>Online Discussion: As previously defined</p>
Week 6 Sept. 29	<p>PRE-PRODUCTION WORK ON PROJECTS</p> <p>In Class: We will have specific project meetings (1/2 hour each)</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Continued research, casting, re-writes, location scouting and visual design work</p>
Week 7 Oct. 6	<p>PRE-PRODUCTION WORK ON PROJECTS</p> <p>In Class: We will have specific project meetings (1/2 hour each)</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Continued research, casting, re-writes, location scouting and visual design work</p>
Week 8 Oct.15	<p>PRODUCTION WEEK 1:</p> <p>In Class: Class will be used for ongoing production meetings.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Shooting Films</p> <p>Online Discussion: Ongoing communication</p>
Week 9 Oct. 22	<p>PRODUCTION WEEK 2:</p> <p>In Class: Class will be used for ongoing production meetings.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Shooting Films</p> <p>Online Discussion: Ongoing communication</p>

Week 10 Oct. 29	<p>PRODUCTION WEEK 3:</p> <p>In Class: Class will be used for ongoing production meetings.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Shooting Films</p> <p>Online Discussion: Ongoing communication</p>
Week 11 Nov. 5	<p>PRODUCTION WEEK 4:</p> <p>In Class: Class will be used for ongoing production meetings.</p> <p>Reading Assignment: as needed</p> <p>Action Assignment: Shooting Films</p> <p>Online Discussion: Ongoing communication</p>
Week 12 Nov. 12	<p>PRODUCTION WEEK 5:</p> <p>In Class: Class will be used for ongoing production meetings.</p>

	Reading Assignment: as needed Action Assignment: Shooting Films Online Discussion: Ongoing communication
Week 13 Nov. 19	POST-PRODUCTION WEEK 1: In Class: Class will be used for viewing of rough cuts of films. Reading Assignment: as needed Action Assignment: Editing Films Online Discussion: Ongoing communication
Week 14 Nov. 26	THANKSGIVING WEEK
Week 15 Dec. 3	POST-PRODUCTION WEEK 2: In Class: Class will be used for viewing of rough cuts of films. Action Assignment: Editing Films Online Discussion: Ongoing communication
Finals Class	FRIDAY DEC. 12TH 8:00-10:00—VIEWING OF FILMS Due: Final Film Role Paper/Description/Research

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND THE STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at <http://www.umt.edu/SA/vpsa/index.cfm/page/1339>

DISABILITY ACCOMODATION

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>.