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MAR 251.01: Digital Video Production Tech

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Course Syllabus

Digital Video Production Tech

MAR 251 - Section 01 / 3 credits / Fall 2011

Course Meeting Times: TR 9:10-10:30 pm / MCG 126/121

Instructor: Jason Gutzmer

E-Mail: jason1.gutzmer@umontana.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:

The course is a hands on video based production course. This class will focus on the building and nurturing of the "Production Unit" and will be paramount to your success in film making in the Media Arts Bachelor's Degree.

Objectives:

Digital Video Production Tech is designed to enhance video production knowledge in the areas of camera, lighting, sound and post-production in advanced production situations. Students will work in small production groups to develop and execute short group and individual projects.

Course Expectations:

1. Attendance is mandatory. 3 absences will result in a loss of a full letter grade. I require that you not only be present physically but also intellectually! Your participation in class discussions is essential.
2. Crewing for your production unit is mandatory. The creation of film/video projects are possible only through collaboration. Students will be evaluated on their level of participation in class and on shoots/meetings through peer evaluations.
3. There are no make-up exams or extensions given for projects or written work. All work must be turned in on time. For each day late, your assignment will incur a 10% penalty.

All motion picture projects must be uploaded to the correct page on Moodle. All papers must be typewritten and submitted to me in hard copy form.

4. You will be expected to meet with me and your groups outside of class time as needed.

5. You are required to purchase a small Fire-Wire or USB 2.0 portable hard drive for this class as well as materials for your production bag.

6. Our lab is a place dedicated to creating motion pictures. Treat it with respect. This means no Facebook, no Twitter, and no other activities that are not directly related to the creation of your films are to take place in this lab. This also applies outside of our class meeting time.

Course requirements / Project Outlines

- 1) Film an Action– 20
- 2) Group Profiles – 20
- 3) Cinematographer Presentations – 15
- 4) Mid Term Proficiency Exam – 35
- 5) Mid Term Written Exam – 40
- 6) Project Critiques – 15
- 7) Reading Quizzes – 25
- 8) 30 Second Commercial - 30

COURSE TOTAL: 200 Points

Required Texts:

The Filmmaker's Handbook (3rd Edition), Steven Ascher and Edward Pincus

Suggested Texts:

Gaffers, Grips and Best Boy's, Eric Taub

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 disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at

www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/Index.cfm/page/1321 <<http://www.umt.edu/SA/VP/SA/Index.cfm/page/1321>>.

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommasson 154. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate accommodation. For more information, please consult <http://www.umt.edu/disability>

Link to post production tutorials....refresher<http://www.umontanamediaarts.com/MART112/tutorials?dslc=active>

COURSE SCHEDULE

<p>Week 1: Tues, August 26</p> <p>-Read from Filmmaker's Handbook, Chapter 1 & 2 - Introduction to Video and Film Systems & Before you Begin Production</p> <p>Introduction to the class/Introduction to the Cannon XA10</p>	<p>Thursday Aug, 28</p> <p>-Read chapter 3, The Video Camcorder</p> <p>Camera Intro Continuation</p>
<p>Week 2: Tuesday, September 2</p> <p>-Assign Required items and production bags</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Assignment-Shoot an Action • Assign Groups <p>-In Class Workshop: Introduction to the Cannon XA10</p> <p>-Read chapter 9, The Shoot</p>	<p>Thursday, September 4</p> <p>-In class workshop: Choosing a format + Camera Controls</p> <p>Set Operations</p> <p>- In class workshop: Slate Calls - Who makes them and Why?</p> <p>- Crew positions and duties</p> <p>-Read chapter 4, The Lens</p>
<p>Week 3 : Tuesday, September 9</p> <p>Film Space</p> <p>-In class workshop: Shot Sizes and Framing</p>	<p>Thursday, September 11</p> <p>Lens Language</p> <p>-In class workshop</p>

<p>Visual Language</p> <p>-In class workshop: Aspect Ratio and Cinematic Composition</p> <p>Continue Shooting/Review/Edit</p>	<p>Continue Shooting/Review/Edit</p> <p>-DUE: Production Bags</p>
<p>Week 4: Tuesday, September 16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign Cinematographer presentation group assignment- Multi format presentations • <p>-DUE: Shoot an Action Fine Cuts</p> <p>-In class project viewing and Critique</p> <p>-Read chapter 5, The Video Image</p>	<p>Thursday, September 18</p> <p>Optics</p> <p>-In class workshop</p> <p>-Read chapter 12, Lighting</p>
<p>Week 5: Tuesday, September 23</p> <p>Tools of Lighting</p> <p>-In class workshop: Lighting Instruments</p>	<p>Thursday, September 25</p> <p>Tools of Lighting Cont.</p> <p>-In class workshop: Grip Equipment</p>
<p>Week 6: Tuesday, September 30</p> <p>Lighting Workshop</p> <p>-In class workshop: Exteriors</p> <p>-Cinematographer presentations</p>	<p>Thursday, October 2</p> <p>Lighting Workshop Cont.</p> <p>-In class workshop: Interiors (day/night)</p> <p>-Cinematographer Presentation</p>
<p>Week 7: Tuesday, October 7</p> <p>Lighting Workshop Cont.</p> <p>-Cinematographer Group Presentation</p> <p>Assign Group Profiles...Shoot an interview in the style of...</p>	<p>Thursday, October 9</p> <p>Camera Dynamics</p> <p>-Rack focus</p> <p>-Pulling focus from stationary points</p> <p>-Cinematographer Group Presentation</p>

<p>Week 8: Tuesday, October 14</p> <p>Camera Dynamics Cont.</p> <p>-In class workshop: Interviews</p> <p>-Cinematographer Group Presentation</p>	<p>Thursday, October 16</p> <p>Camera Dynamics Cont.</p> <p>-In class workshop: + Handheld shooting</p>
<p>Week 9: Tuesday, October 21</p> <p>Project Viewing</p> <p>- DUE: Group Profile Project</p>	<p>Thursday, October 23</p> <p>Continuity</p> <p>-In class workshop</p> <p>-Assign 30 Second Commercial</p> <p>-Read chapter 10, Sound Recording Systems</p>
<p>Week 10: Tuesday, October 28</p> <p>Sound Recording</p> <p>-In class workshop: Location Sound Recording Techniques</p> <p>-Read chapter 11, Sound Recording Techniques</p>	<p>Thursday, November 30</p> <p>Review for Proficiency Exam</p> <p>-Work on projects</p>
<p>Week 11: Tuesday, November 4</p> <p>Proficiency Exam Week</p> <p>-Work on your projects</p> <p>- Proficiency Exams</p>	<p>Thursday, November 6</p> <p>Proficiency Exam Week</p> <p>-Work on your projects</p> <p>- Written Mid-Term</p>
<p>Week 12: Tuesday, November 11</p> <p>Post Production Workshop</p> <p>-Color Correction</p>	<p>Thursday, November 13</p> <p>Post Production Workshop</p> <p>-How to properly set up your edit + Broadcast Safe Picture</p>
<p>Week 13: Tuesday, November 18</p>	<p>Thursday, November 20</p>

<p>Post Production Workshop</p> <p>-Broadcast Safe Audio</p>	<p>NO CLASS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</p>
<p>Week 14: (Nov 24 – Nov28)</p> <p>ALL PROJECTS DUE/CRITIQUES BEGIN</p>	
<p>Week 15: (Dec 1 - Dec 5)</p> <p>ALL PROJECTS DUE/CRITIQUES BEGIN</p> <p>-In class critiques of rough cuts of 30 Second Commercials</p>	<p>-In class critiques of rough cuts of 30 Second Commercials</p>
<p>Week 16: (Dec 8 - Dec 12)</p> <p>MAR 251:03 Final</p> <p>Tuesday, December 12 - 3:20-5:20 pm McGill 126</p> <p>- ALL PROJECTS DUE -</p>	