

## Syllabus - Film 24 - Basic Film Production

(Revised 1/9/04)

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### I - COURSE SPECIFICS - FILM 24 - Basic Film Production (3 units, degree applicable)

- A. FORMAT** - 3 hours lecture/lab. Production work by arrangement.
- B. PREREQUISITES** - None
- C. DESCRIPTION:** Motion picture production using Super 8 cameras and associated equipment. Students will work on one short film and a final project that may be shot in either film or video. Emphasis is placed on developing basic skills in camera operations, scripting and planning, recording wild sound, basic lighting and editing. Students are required to complete the assigned projects. Each student is responsible for purchasing their own film/tape stock, processing, and editing supplies.

### II - COURSE OBJECTIVES/CONTENT

- A. Objective** - To introduce students to basic production in Super 8 to enable them to shoot and edit a film or video short.
- B. Content** - The class will cover such subjects as camera operation, use of exposure meters, basic lighting, Super 8 editing and basic sound track editing using linear video or non-linear digital video.

### III - INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH / METHOD OF EVALUATION

- A. APPROACH** - The initial class will be used to discuss students' own objectives and to outline the course. Lecture/demonstrations on various aspects of film production will be held in subsequent classes. Students will work on one filmed assignment and a final assignment to be shot in either film or video. In-class critiques of each project will be held.
- B. ATTENDANCE** - Students (registered or not) who do not attend the first class will not be admitted. Since the basics of camera operation and film visualization and film language will be covered in the first five classes, attendance at these classes is mandatory. Make up sessions will not be held. Students who miss more than three classes during the semester may be dropped. Students who wish to withdraw from the class must inform the instructor or initiate withdrawal action themselves. Failure to take appropriate action in timely manner may result in a student receiving a grade of "F" for the class.
- C. EVALUATION** - Grades will be based on:
- 1) Mid-Term (15 points) and Final (20 points)
  - 2) Treatments and project presentations (10 points)
  - 3) Film and/or videos produced (45 points)
  - 4) Class attendance and participation (10 points)

To receive credit students must pass a mid-term quiz and final exam that are based on the lectures, handouts and the text. Exam grades (35 per cent) are combined with grades for the film/video projects. These creative projects will constitute sixty (45) per cent of the final grade. Students will lose one point for each unexcused absence. Late assignments will receive less than full credit.

- D. MATERIALS** - C.C.S.F. will furnish all production equipment. Each student must supply:

Stock and processing - (based on four rolls)	\$ 80	(note: less if video used for final project)
Editing materials and sound supplies - estimate	50	
Required Text: <i>Filmmakers Handbook</i> (bookstore)	20	
Total estimated materials cost for this class	<u>\$150</u>	

**Film 24- Basic Film Production**  
**January 15 - May 20, 2003**  
 (Prepared 1/9/04)

**Class Activities, Reading and Assignments**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Reading Assignment:</u>	<u>Work Assignment</u>
Class 1 - 1/15	The Camera Composition	<i>Filmmaker's Handbook</i> Pages 42-62 Pages 215-222	<b>Assn. # 1 Description</b>
Class 2 - 1/22	Film Systems (camera) Filming Sequences	Pages 3-12 Pages 213-14	<b>Description #1 Due</b> <b>Start filming Assn. #1</b>
Class 3 - 1/29	Depth of Field/Focussing Exposure Meter Basics	Pages 86-92+Handout Pages 132-148	
Class 4 - 2/5	Screen Direction/180 line Camera Movement vs. Zoom	Pages 216-18, 350 Pages 97-98, 214-215, 234-240	
Class 5 - 2/12	Screen/Critique Assn.#1 Tripod Use/Basic Lighting Writing Effective Treatments	Pages 229-234,304-330 Handout	
Class 6 - 2/19	Lighting, part 2 Planning the Shoot	Pages 331-345 Pages 208-213	<b>Film #1 Due (unedited)</b> <b>Work on Tmt. - Film #2</b>
Class 7 - 2/26	Montage/Editing Basics	Pages 225, 349-52+handout	<b>Treatment for #2 due</b> <b>Shoot retakes - Film #1</b>
Class 8 - 3/4	Editing, Part 2	Pages 354-360+handout	<b>Finish retakes Film #1</b>
Class 9 - 3/11	Review for Mid-Term Using Storyboards	Handout	<b>Begin Editing Film #1</b>
Class 10- 3/18	<b>Mid-term Exam</b> Lecture: Sound Rec. Basics	Pages 287-296+Handouts	<b>Complete Edit-Film #1</b>
Class 11- 3/15	<b>Screen and critique Edit of Film #1</b>		<b>Film #2 Presentations</b>
Class 12- 4/1	<b>Final Project Presentations</b> (with <u>treatment</u> & <u>storyboards</u> )		<b>Begin shooting Film #2</b>
<b>Spring Break</b> - April 5 - 10			
Class 13- 4/15	Sound Editing using the S-VHS Edit System	Pages 446-454+Handout	<b>Shoot Film #2</b>
Class 14- 4/22	On Location Shoot (or other activity)		<b>Complete Shooting</b>
Class 15- 4/29	Sound Editing, Part 2	Pages 455-460+Handout	<b>Edit Picture</b>
Class 16- 5/6	Cinematography Lab - Work on Final Project	Pages 62-75	<b>Edit Sound Tracks</b>
Class 17- 5/13	Lab - Work on Final Projects		<b>Do Take Home Final</b>
Class 18- 5/20	<b>Final Film Project &amp; Final Quiz Due</b> - Screen and critique films in class.		