Filmmaking Program
Northwest College

Filmmaking
Aric Nitzberg, Chair

RTVB 1321 – TV Field Production
CRN 12750 - Fall 2016
Alief Campus Rm B306
Tuesdays 1:00 – 5:00 pm
3 units / 48 hours per semester / 16 weeks
Lecture/Lab

Instructor: Jenny Waldo

Contact Information:
jennifer.waldo@hccs.edu
310-709-6937

Office location and hours:
C322 (other side of atrium)
Tuesdays 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Wednesdays 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
Or by appointment

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. You do not need to wait until you have received a poor grade before asking for my assistance. Your performance in my class is very important to me. I am available to hear your concerns and just to discuss course topics.

Course Description
This is an intro to "narrative" filmmaking. You will learn the pre-production, production, and post-production processes and make 3 films. Topics include camera setup and operation, audio, television directing, and basic continuity editing with an emphasis on underlying principles of video technology.

Prerequisites: None

Course Goal
Have audio and filmmaking majors begin thinking, writing, and dialoguing creatively and critically about story-telling through the use of visuals and sound while experiencing hands-on the production process.

Student Learning Outcomes
The student will be able to:
  1) Set up and operate cameras, tripods, audio equipment, and lighting instruments
  2) Explain aesthetic concepts relating to visual images
  3) Describe, produce, and name the basic camera shots
  4) Summarize and demonstrate key concepts of lighting and audio
  5) Perform storyline editing

Learning Objectives
Students will:
1.1 Show a basic understanding of the video recording process
1.2 Demonstrate the proper operation of common video equipment
2.1 Understand the various aspects of the film and video industry
2.2 Discuss various concepts relating to visual images
3.1 Properly frame and compose basic camera shots
3.2 Discuss the development of personal cinematic styles
4.1 Explain basic lighting concepts
4.2 Demonstrate the proper setup of basic lighting
4.3 Understand basic concepts pertaining to audio technology and acoustics
5.1 Understand terminology relating to video editing
5.2 Develop storylines and perform basic editing processes

SCANS or Core Curriculum Statement and Other Standards
The following workplace competencies and foundation skills have been designed into this courses curriculum:
  • **Managing Resources:** Time, Materials, Space
  • **Exhibiting Interpersonal Skills**: Work in team, Lead work teams, Negotiate with others
  • **Working with Information:** Acquire and evaluate data, Organize and maintain information, Interpret and communicate data, Process information
  • **Applying Systems Knowledge:** Understand systems
  • **Using Technology:** Apply technology to specific tasks
  • **Demonstrating Basic Skills:** Reading, Writing, Listening
  • **Demonstrating Thinking Skills:** Creative thinking, Problem solving, Seeing with the mind's eye
  • **Exhibiting Personal Qualities:** Individual responsibility Sociability, Self-management, Integrity

16 WEEK CALENDAR

WEEK ONE (8/23/16)
Course Orientation
Introductions
Cinematic Story
<u>Assigned Reading</u>: Chapter 1

WEEK TWO (8/30/16)
Visual Language
Project #1 Assignments
**Quiz #1
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 3

WEEK THREE (9/6/16)
Preparing for Production
**Quiz #2
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 6

WEEK FOUR (9/13/16)
Organizing Cinematic Time & Space
**Quiz #3
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 4

WEEK FIVE (9/20/16)
Basic Lighting for Film & DV
Sound for Production
**Quiz #4
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 12 – 16

WEEK SIX (9/27/16)
**Project #1 Due
**Quiz #5

WEEK SEVEN (10/4/16)
Project #2 Assignments
Review for midterm
Film Critiquing: Watch film
**Film Analysis #1 Due

WEEK EIGHT (10/11/16)
**MIDTERM
The Screenplay
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 2

WEEK NINE (10/18/16)
Directing
**Quiz #6
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 7

WEEK TEN (10/25/16)
**Project #2 Due
The Lens & Camera Support
From Screenplay to Visual Plan
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 5, 10 & 11

WEEK ELEVEN (11/1/16)
Project #3 Assignments
Mock Set – Set Protocol
**Film Analysis #2 Due
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 17 & 18

WEEK TWELVE (11/8/16)
**Project #3 Script read-throughs
Mock Set – Set Protocol

WEEK THIRTEEN (11/15/16)
The Art & Technique of Editing
**Quiz #7
**Film Analysis #3 Due
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Chapter 20 & 21

WEEK FOURTEEN (11/22/16)
Visual Aesthetics: Tell your story visually
**Quiz #8
<u>Assigned Reading:</u> Handouts

WEEK FIFTEEN (11/29/16)
**Project #3 Due
Review for Final Exam

WEEK SIXTEEN (12/6/16)
**FINAL EXAM
**Film Analysis #4 Due

Instructional Methods
RTVB 1321 is a required course for all Filmmaking majors. The class is comprised of a variety of instructional methods including lectures, class discussions, lab assignments, and hands-on demonstrations. As a student wanting to learn about the field of filmmaking, it is your responsibility to do the assigned readings, submit assignments, labs and projects in a timely fashion, study for exams, participate in classroom activities, and attend class.

Student Assignments
Students will be required to complete the following assignments during the semester:

Assigned Readings
Readings will be assigned for the weeks following quiz. It is important to read the textbook to reinforce what we talk about in class.

In-class Quizzes
Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. These quizzes will include multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. They will cover material from all previous class periods and assigned reading.

Film Reviews
Students will view and evaluate 4 films of their choosing throughout the semester.

Midterm Exam
Multiple-choice questions covering class lectures and assigned readings. You will NOT need a Scantron card to complete the test.

Final Exam
Multiple-choice questions covering class lectures and assigned readings. You will NOT need a Scantron card to complete the test.

Extra Credit
Students have the opportunity for Extra Credit by turning in **two additional film reviews.** Each analysis can earn up to 5 grade points. Other extra credit opportunities at the instructor's discretion.

Student Group Projects
Working in small groups (3 – 6 students) the students will complete the following projects:

* Project 1 – Create a movie using the principles of **coverage**
* Project 2 – Create a short film with **no dialogue**
* Project 3 – Script and shoot a 3 - 5 minute short film using the **4 narrative basics**

The student will be evaluated on the basis of production quality, participation and completion of required elements. The instructor will supply specific requirements for each scene and segment, as needed. ***Note: Professionalism is one of the criteria for each project and students turn in peer assessments. Your behavior on set and as part of a team will effect your overall grade!***

Late Assignments & Absences
Assignments are due at the beginning of class.

If you are unable to be present in class on the date an assignment is due, you can always email me your assignment by 1:00pm the day of class and I will count it as on time.

If you are unable to be present in class for a quiz, you can make-up the quiz the NEXT week by arriving at 12:45pm to take the quiz.

If you are unable to turn in the assignment on time, **10 points will be deducted from the final grade of the assignment for each week that it is late.** **Projects that are granted extensions are exempt.

Instructional Materials

- **VOICE & VISION: A CREATIVE APPROACH TO NARRATIVE FILM AND DV** by Mick Hurbis-Cherrier (Focal Press, 07/2011) ISBN 978-0240811581 ***required**
- **THE BARE BONES CAMERA COURSE FOR FILM AND VIDEO** by Tom Schroeppel **optional*
- Digital media (SD cards) and other materials as needed for projects. (Please note that all final projects become the property of Houston Community College and will not be returned.)
- All lecture materials will be posted after the class on the Learning Web: http://learning.hccs.edu/

Equipment Use Orientation
The Filmmaking department requires that any student who wished to check out equipment (which you will need to pass this class) will need to take an equipment use orientation. Please ensure that you take part in one of the offered equipment use orientations.

Instructor Requirements
For each assignment, the instructions will define what the Instructor expects from the student in order to earn a "C" grade. This will give the student an idea of what the instructor considers the "average". The instructor will give higher grades based on demonstration of knowledge and understanding and even higher grades based on innovation and creativity related to the topic. This class should showcase your enthusiasm and demonstrate your skills/knowledge and ability to perform in the workforce.

HCC Grading Scale

A = 100- 90	4 points per semester hour
B = 89 - 80:	3 points per semester hour
C = 79 - 70:	2 points per semester hour
D = 69 - 60:	1 point per semester hour
59 and below = F	0 points per semester hour

W (Withdrawn)	0 points per semester hour
I (Incomplete)	0 points per semester hour

*To compute grade point average (GPA), divide the total grade points by the total number of semester hours attempted. The grades "IP," "COM" and "I" do not affect GPA.

Grading Criteria

Your final grade will be based on the following proportions:
1. Attendance and Participation – 10%
2. Quizzes – 20%
3. Class Project 1: 10%
4. Class Project 2: 10%
5. Class Project 3: 20%
6. Film Reviews: 10%
7. Midterm Exam – 10%
8. Final Exam – 10%

HCC Policy Statements

Access Student Services Policies on their Web site:
http://central.hccs.edu/students/student-handbook/

- ADA accommodations
- Academic Honesty
- Student Attendance
- 3-peaters
- Withdrawal deadline = October 28, 2016

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 requires that institutions have policies and procedures that protect students' rights with regard to sex/gender discrimination. Information regarding these rights is on the HCC Website under Students-Anti-discrimination. Students who are pregnant and require accommodations should contact any of the ADA Counselors for assistance. It is important that every student understands and conforms to respectful behavior while at HCC. Sexual misconduct is not condoned and will be addressed promptly. Know your rights and how to avoid these difficult situations.

Log in to www.edurisksolutions.org. Sign in using your HCC student e-mail account, then go to the button at the top right that says Login and enter your student number.

Access HCC Online Policies on their Web site

All students are responsible for reading and understanding the HCC Online Student Handbook, which contains policies, information about conduct, and other important information. For the HCC Online Student Handbook click on the link below or go to the HCC Online page on the HCC website.

The HCC Online Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains

valuable information, answers, and resources, such as HCC Online contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the HCC Online Student Handbook by visiting this link: http://www.hccs.edu/media/houston-community-college/distance-education/student-services/HCC-Online-Student-Handbook.pdf

Access CE Policies on their Web site: http://www.hccs.edu/continuing-education/

**SYLLABUS QUIZ NEXT WEEK!!