

FMST 181-20 INTRODUCTION TO FILMMAKING (ONLINE)

MON, TUES, WED, THURS

PROFESSOR: MELISSA BRUNO / MB1660@GEORGETOWN.EDU

OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This online course explores introductory film production techniques and strategies. Students will practice video and audio recording techniques, scriptwriting and non-linear editing using Premiere Pro software. Visual storytelling concepts and creative post-production editing will be emphasized. Additionally, critiques and screenings of student and professional film work will provide students with an understanding of film genres.

Taking a production course is a time-intensive commitment. You will be required to spend many hours outside of class time reading, reviewing materials and working on projects. Please make note of other professional and personal obligations and plan accordingly. Late work will greatly affect your grade.

SUGGESTED TEXTS:

1. The Filmmaker's Handbook, 2013 Ed. Steven Ascher & Edward Pincus.
2. Additional readings will be posted on Canvas throughout the summer session.

SUGGESTED PURCHASE:

External hard drive preferably formatted for Mac computers, Firewire 800 to store your film footage and projects. Aim for 500gb size or higher and be sure to have this before you start editing first project.

Recommended drives:

-*Lacie Rugged*

-*G Tech, G Drive*

EQUIPMENT AND EDITING:

Since this is an online course, you will only have access to equipment you personally own or may borrow from someone else. In many instances, you can use your computer's built-in camera and microphone for recording as well as your smart phone. You will get free access to Premiere Pro editing software. If you have any questions about equipment, please consult with me.

PROJECTS:

Course requirements include 4 projects. Emphasis is placed on your ability to visually tell a story. All projects for this course must be created by the student in the class. The projects will be evaluated on both technical and creative levels.

Project 1 Audio Story: This assignment will be done individually and you will be assessed on your ability to tell a story using only dialogue, sound effects and music. Length: 3-5 minutes.
(20 points out of 100)

Project 2 Collage Film: Curate and edit a combination of found and original footage. Length: 3 minutes.
(20 points out of 100)

Project 3 Scene Study with Shot List: Write a short, fiction scene study. You will also assemble a shot list of the necessary shots to film the scene. Length: 4-5 pages.
(20 points out of 100)

Project 4 Photo Film: Create a film using still photos & audio. The audio can be a combination of narration, dialogue, sound effects and music. Length: 3-6 minutes.

(40 points out of 100)

ADDITIONAL HELP WITH THE COURSE:

If at any time you are having problems with the assignments or with your understanding of materials covered, please do make an appointment with me. I will be more than happy to clarify information and help you succeed!

SUMMER 2020 COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1

- July 6
 - ◆ Introductions video
 - ◆ Assignment: Project #1 (Audio Story), due 7/15
 - ◆ Reading: (Ch. 11) Filmmaker's Handbook pg. 353-361
- July 7
 - ◆ Listen to audio stories
 - ◆ Email project ideas
- July 8
 - ◆ Watch Lynda Premiere Pro tutorial
- July 9
 - ◆ Start recording audio stories
 - ◆ Reading: (Ch. 15) Filmmaker's Handbook "Sound Editing"

WEEK 2

- July 13
 - ◆ Edit during class
 - ◆ Email rough cuts
- July 14
 - ◆ Edit during class
- July 15
 - ◆ **Project #1 Audio Story due**
 - ◆ Assignment: Project #2 (Collage Film), due 7/22
- July 16
 - ◆ Watch previous student work

WEEK 3

- July 20
 - ◆ Watch Screenwriting & Scene Construction video
 - ◆ Reading: Story Ch. 3 & Ch. 18 (on Canvas)
 - ◆ Assignment: Project #3 (Scene Study), due 7/29
- July 21
 - ◆ Email rough cuts before class begins
 - ◆ Edit during class
- July 22
 - ◆ **Project #2 Collage Film due**
 - ◆ Present ideas for Project #3
- July 23
 - ◆ Assignment: Project #4 (Photo Film), due 8/6
 - ◆ Watch previous student work, *La Jetée*

WEEK 4

- July 27 ♦ Submit script drafts
 - July 28 ♦ Watch Shot Composition video
♦ Reading: (Ch. 9) Filmmaker's Handbook pg. 346-353
 - July 29 ♦ **Project #3 Scene Study due**
 - July 30 ♦ Watch Color Correction video
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WEEK 5

- Aug 3 ♦ Email rough cuts before class begins
- Aug 4 ♦ Edit during class
- Aug 5 ♦ Edit during class
- Aug 6 ♦ **Project #4 Photo Film due**