

9-2013

## MAR 251.03: Digital Video Production Tech

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### Recommended Citation

Roos, Aaron A., "MAR 251.03: Digital Video Production Tech" (2013). *Syllabi*. 525.  
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# Syllabus

Course Syllabus **Digital Video Production Tech**

MAR 251 - Section 03 / 3 credits / Fall 2011

Course Meeting Times: TR 3:10-4:30 pm / MCG 126/121

**Instructor:** Aaron Roos

**E-Mail:** [aaron.roos@umontana.edu](mailto:aaron.roos@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) 48 Hour Film Festival – 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 (3<sup>rd</sup> 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).*

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

Week 1: (Aug 26 – Aug30) **NO CLASS WEEK ONE!**

-Read from Filmmaker's Handbook, Chapter 1 & 2 - *Introduction to Video and Film Systems & Before you Begin Production*

-Read chapter 3, *The Video Camcorder*

Week 2: (Sept 2 - Sept 6)

Tuesday, September 3

**Introduction to the class/Camera Intro**

-Required items and production bags

-Assignment-weekend film fest

- In Class Workshop: Introduction to the PANASONIC DVX 100.

-In class workshop: Choosing a format + Camera Controls

-Assign groups for 48-hour Film

**Film Space**

-In class workshop: Shot Sizes and Framing

-Read chapter 9, *The Shoot*

Thursday, September 5

### Set Operations

- In class workshop: Slate Calls - Who makes them and Why?

- Crew positions and duties

-Read chapter 4, *The Lens*

Week 3 : (Sept 9 - Sept 13)

Tuesday, September 10

### Visual Language

-In class workshop: Aspect Ratio and Cinematic Composition

Thursday, September 12

### Lens Language

-In class workshop

-*DUE: Production Bags*

**-Assign 48 Hour Film Festival**

Week 4: (Sept 16 - Sept 20)

Tuesday, September 17

### Project Viewing

-In class project viewing and Critique

-Cinematographer presentation 1

**-DUE: 48 Hour Film Festival Fine Cuts**

-Read chapter 5, *The Video Image*

Thursday, September 19

Optics

-In class workshop

-Cinematographer Presentation 2

-Read chapter 12, *Lighting*

Week 5: (Sept 23 - Sept 27)

Tuesday, September 24

Tools of Lighting

-In class workshop: Lighting Instruments

-Cinematographer Presentation 3

Thursday, September 26

Tools of Lighting Cont.

-In class workshop: Grip Equipment

**-Assign Group IV Project (due October 24)**

-Cinematographer Presentation

Week 6: (Sep 30 - Oct 4)

Tuesday, October 1

Lighting Workshop

-In class workshop: Exteriors

-Cinematographer presentation 5

Thursday, October 3

Lighting Workshop Cont.

-In class workshop: Interiors (day/night)

-Cinematographer Presentation 6

Week 7: (Oct 7 - Oct 11)

Tuesday, October 8

Lighting Workshop Cont.

-In class workshop: Techniques of Green Screen Lighting

-Cinematographer Presentation 7

Thursday, October 10

Camera Dynamics

-Dolly, focus

-Pulling focus from stationary points

-Cinematographer Presentation 8

Week 8: (Oct 14 - Oct 18)

Tuesday, October 15

Camera Dynamics Cont.

-In class workshop: Setting up the Jib arm + Handheld shooting

-Cinematographer Presentation 9

Thursday, October 17

### Camera Dynamics Cont.

-In class workshop: Interior Car Lighting + Car Mount

-Cinematographer Presentation 10

Week 9: (Oct 21 - Oct 25)

Tuesday, October 22

### Project Viewing

**- DUE: Group IV Project**

-Cinematographer Presentation 11

Thursday, October 24

### Continuity

-In class workshop

-Cinematographer Presentation 12

**-Assign 30 Second Commercial**

-Read chapter 10, *Sound Recording Systems*

Week 10: (Oct 28 - Nov 1)

Tuesday, October 29

### Sound Recording

-In class workshop: Location Sound Recording Techniques

-Cinematographer Presentation 13

-Read chapter 11, *Sound Recording Techniques*

Thursday, November 31



### Review for Proficiency Exam

-Work on projects

-Cinematographer Presentation 14

Week 11: (Nov 4 - Nov 8)

Tuesday, November 5

### Proficiency Exam Week

-Work on your projects

- *Proficiency Exams*

Tuesday, November 7

### Proficiency Exam Week

-Work on your projects

- *Written Mid-Term*

Week 12: (Nov 11 - Nov 15)

Tuesday, November 12

### Post Production Workshop

-Color Correction

-Cinematographer Presentation 15

Thursday, November 14

### Post Production Workshop

-How to properly set up your edit + Broadcast Safe Picture

-Cinematographer Presentation 16

-Cinematographer Presentation 17

Week 13: (Nov 18 - Nov 22)

Tuesday, November 19

Post Production Workshop

-Broadcast Safe Audio

-Cinematographer Presentation 18

-Cinematographer Presentation 19

Thursday, November 21

NO CLASS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Week 14: (Nov 25 – Nov29)

ALL PROJECTS DUE/CRITIQUES BEGIN

-Cinematographer Presentation 20

Week 15: (Dec 2 - Dec 6)

ALL PROJECTS DUE/CRITIQUES BEGIN

-In class critiques of rough cuts of 30 Second Commercials

Week 16: (Dec 9 - Dec 13)

MAR 251:03 Final

Tuesday, December 12 - 3:20-5:20 pm

McGill 126

- ALL PROJECTS DUE -