

1-2014

JRNL 251.02: Beginning Video Photography and Production

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JRNL 251 Section 2

Beginning Video Photography and Production

Syllabus – Spring Semester 2014 (Syllabus subject to change)

Scope: This course will introduce you to the theory of visual storytelling and the tools to produce quality video narratives. You will learn production techniques including shooting video sequences, recording audio and post-production editing. Television is a team effort, and you will have to work with others to succeed.

Class meets Mondays and Wednesdays, from 12:40-2:00 p.m., in Don Anderson Hall 009.

Instructor: Ray Ekness, Professor, School of Journalism, Radio-Television Department.

Office: Don Anderson Hall 402

Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-10am or by appointment.

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Learning Outcomes:

- An understanding of visual literacy skills
- Critical and creative thinking
- The use of appropriate tools and technology

Specific skills will include the ability to:

1. Shoot and record steady, well-framed, properly exposed sequences of video that meets UM School of Journalism standards.
2. Record clear, understandable audio.
3. Edit video, audio, natural sound and voice narration in clean sequences using Final Cut Pro.
4. Edit using sequences to compress time.
5. Tell a simple visual story with a beginning, middle and end.
6. Export video from Final Cut Pro and understand the program's file structure.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory. This is a building-block course. If you miss even one class, you are likely to miss something that could seriously hurt your performance on current and future assignments. Excused absences must be documented by the instructor. Pre-registered students who fail to attend the first meeting of the class may be dropped.

Deadlines and Professionalism

Professionals are under constant pressure to produce high-quality work in a short time. A great story is of little value if it's finished too late to get on the air. Therefore, *deadlines in this class will be strictly enforced.* An assignment submitted after the deadline will lose 10% of its grade for each day it is late. **NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED LATER THAN ONE WEEK AFTER THE DEADLINE.**

Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

Plagiarism

As defined by "The University of Montana Student Conduct Code" plagiarism is: "Representing another person's words, ideas, data, or materials as one's own." This is strictly prohibited in this class and any case of plagiarism in this course will be subject to the penalties outlined in the student code of conduct.

Same Work for Multiple Classes in J-School

You may not submit for this course any assignment that has previously or will be concurrently submitted for another class unless you receive prior approval from the professor for this course. To do so without permission will result in an "F" for the assignment and could result in an "F" for the course.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

This course is accessible to and usable by otherwise qualified students with disabilities. To request reasonable program modifications, please consult with the instructor. Disability Services for Students will assist the instructor and student in the accommodation process. For more information, visit the Disability Services website at www.umt.edu/dss/.

Camera Equipment

- Remote equipment kits with Canon Vixia HFR10 camera, tripod, microphone, and light kit are available for use and will be checked out to groups of students by your instructor.
- Be careful with all equipment you use either in the studio or in the field. Don't leave any equipment in your car or anyplace it could be stolen. Do not lose your temper and take it out on the equipment. Problems will happen, whether you're at the network level or in college. Everything breaks down eventually. Batteries quit and computers don't always work. Be patient and learn to solve problems on your own. **You are financially responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged equipment.**
- Failure to follow proper checkout procedures will result in a loss of points for this class, affect your final grade, and may lead to losing your check out privileges.

Access

ATTENTION ALL:

a) Pre-Professional Program students

b) Those enrolled in JRNL102Y/105X/227/251/260/270, or

c) Non-JRNL majors enrolled in 300/400-level JRNL courses:

For after-hours access to the rooms and doors listed below, please complete and submit this form. Complete only ONE request per semester. Be sure to select all courses you are taking which pertain to Don Anderson Hall.

A door access code will be assigned and provided to you via email, after submitting this form. This request will also activate your GrizCard for the building. All codes will remain active until the last day of the semester. **All requests must be submitted by 5:00pm on Friday, February 7th.**

Please go to this website:

<http://jour.umt.edu/current-students/Building-access.php>

Equipment

You will need the following items for this class:

- A set of headphones with both 1/4" phone and 1/8" mini plug connectors.
- A USB hard drive and/or USB Flash drive to backup footage and to archive your work.

Grading & Critique

You will receive a class-wide critique summary and a personal critique/grading sheet following every assignment. This is a building block class. I expect to see you to continue growing throughout the semester.

Assignments

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Campus Walk | Critique Only |
| Campus Walk Script | Critique Only |
| Sequence Shooting | 100 |
| Interview Shooting | 100 |
| Prepared Script | 100 |
| 20 Shots/Sequences for Final Project | 100 |
| Interview for Final Project | 100 |
| Final Project | 200 |
| Quiz #1 | 100 |
| Quiz #2 | 100 |
| Class Attendance/Attitude/Checkout | 100 |
| Total | 1000 |

Final Grades (Plus/Minus grading)

| | |
|-----------|----|
| 950-1000 | A |
| 901-949 | A- |
| 868-900 | B+ |
| 834-867 | B |
| 801-833 | B- |
| 768-800 | C+ |
| 734-767 | C |
| 701-733 | C- |
| 668-700 | D+ |
| 634-667 | D |
| 600-633 | D- |
| Below 600 | F |

JRNL 251 Section 2 Class-by-Class Topics and Assignments

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

| Week | Date | Class | Assignments |
|-------------|--------------|---|--|
| 1 | 1/27 | Syllabus and introduction to the course | |
| | 1/29 | Video Editing and Shot Classification Logging Shots Sequences | |
| 2 | 2/3 | Editing basics | Assignment: Campus Walk edit |
| | 2/5 | Editing basics 2 | Logged Shots Bin DUE |
| 3 | 2/10 | Editing basics 3 Review-Campus Walk | Campus Walk edit DUE |
| | 2/12 | Audio booth training (in small groups) | Assignment: Walk Script |
| 4 | 2/17 | PRESIDENT'S DAY-NO CLASSES | |
| | 2/19 | Cameras and Equipment: How-To Basic Composition | |
| 5 | 2/24 | Review-Campus Walk Packages | Campus Walk Script DUE Assignment: Sequence Shooting Exercise |
| | 2/26 | More Video Camera Basics Transferring video files from camera to Final Cut | |
| 6 | 3/3 | Review-Sequence Shooting | Sequence Shooting DUE |
| | 3/5 | Shooting Interviews | Assignment: Interview Shooting Exercise |
| 7 | 3/10 | Final project discussions | Quiz 1 Assignment: Final Project Idea |
| | 3/12 | Discuss final project ideas | Final Project Idea DUE |
| 8 | 3/17 | Interview Shooting review | Interview Shooting Exercise DUE |
| | 3/19 | Shooting video for a prepared script Lighting for video | Assignment: Prepared Script Shooting |
| 9 | 3/24 | Camera, Shots, Sequencing Review | Assignment: 20 Shots for Final Project |
| | 3/26 | Editing basics-Working with effects/graphics | |
| 10 | 3/31 | SPRING BREAK-NO CLASSES | |
| | 4/2 | SPRING BREAK-NO CLASSES | |
| 11 | 4/7 | Prepared script edit review | Prepared Script Shooting DUE |
| | 4/9 | Video story formats and elements Writing to video | |
| 12 | 4/14 | Review audio for video and audio transitions | |
| | 4/16 | Review 20 shots for Final Project | 20 Shots for Final Project DUE |
| 13 | 4/21 | Interviewing Choosing sound bites Working with sound bites | Assignment: Final Project Interviews |
| | 4/23 | Script lab | Final Project Interviews DUE |
| 14 | 4/28 | In-Class Editing lab | |
| | 4/30 | Watch rough cuts of final projects | Rough Cut of Final Project DUE |
| 15 | 5/5 | In-Class Editing lab | |
| | 5/7 | Course evaluations View Final Projects | Final Project Edits DUE |
| Finals | Wed. 5/14 | Final Test Meeting-3:20-5:20pm | Quiz 2 |