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JRNL 351.01: Intermediate Video / Television Directing

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JRNL 351
Intermediate Television Directing
Spring Semester 2015 Syllabus
(Subject to Change)

Class meets Tuesdays & Thursdays
1:10-4:00pm in DAH 114 & 109

Instructor

Professor Ray Ekness
UM Radio-TV Department, School of Journalism
DAH 402 (Office hours M & W 9-11am or by appointment)
243-4088-office
542-0251-home
E-mail: ray.ekness@umontana.edu

Scope and Expectations

You will continue to hone your storytelling, directing, photography and editing skills with work on a variety of studio-based and remote assignments. I expect you to show up to class prepared for whatever I have for you on that day. Television is a team effort. You will have to learn to work with others to be successful. You will also be working very closely with members of JRNL 352 on a variety of assignments. Your cooperation and willingness to work together and get along during productions will be noticed and recorded.

Learning Outcomes

This intermediate video production class will give you the following:

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

Specific skills will include the ability to:

- An understanding of the aesthetic quality of the power of moving images in television news stories and programs.
- A basic understanding of the language of a live television director.
- An expanding knowledge of a variety of video and audio software.
- An expanded knowledge of variety of video and audio hardware.
- An understanding of how to produce, write, photograph, edit, organize and direct creative, informative and entertaining television news segments, programs and promotions.
- An understanding of how to become a team leader and team member.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Each unexcused absence will cost you 10% off your final grade. Excused absences must be documented by the instructor.

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.umn.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>.

Deadlines

Professionals are under constant pressure to produce high-quality work in a short time and have it on-the-air at a specific time. 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.

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 professors for both courses. To do so without permission will result in an "F" for the assignment and could result in an "F" for the course.

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.

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/.

Checkout (Also see attached sheet on checkout procedures and penalties)

Remote equipment kits with Sony EX-1 HDTV video cameras, tripods, lights, batteries and microphones are available for use through Student Checkout. You can check out the kits for a maximum of 24-hours.

Do not expect to always get the equipment at the exact time you need it. Always have a secondary plan. And always start early. You will be given more than enough time to finish an assignment. If you wait until the last minute, you may not get equipment or studio time.

Be careful with all equipment you use either in the studio or in the field. Don't leave any equipment in your car or any place 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 die and computers don't always work properly. Be patient and learn to solve problems on your own.

You are financially responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged equipment. If you are absent for checkout or late for check-in, your grade will suffer in addition to fines and the possibility of losing checkout privileges.

Access and Security

For after hours access to Don Anderson Hall, you should all have a code that will allow you into the building and into the DAH 114 classroom. If you don't have a code, you will need to complete and submit this form online:

<http://jour.umt.edu/after-hours/> by Friday, February 6th. Students who miss that deadline will be subject to a late fee and a delay in processing.

Complete only one request form per semester. Be sure to list all the courses you're taking.

Door codes to DAH 114 and the radio studios in DAH 307-311 will be assigned and provided to you via email. Do not share this code. If someone else enters under your code or swipe, you will be responsible for any damage or theft.

This request will also activate your Griz Card for the front door of DAH and DAH 101. Each person entering must swipe their own card. Do not allow classmates, friends or anyone else to enter with your card.

Codes will remain active until the last day of the semester. You will not have 24/7 access to other areas of Don Anderson Hall.

We expect and need you to assist in building security. If you see anything suspicious contact a faculty member or call public safety!

Only R-TV and Journalism students are allowed to use our labs. It's up to you to help us protect our equipment and facilities.

Studio and Labs

All studios and labs must be cleaned and everything put away or thrown away at the end of each class or in-studio lab. Anything you bring into the classroom or studio, you must take with you when you leave. No food or drink is allowed in any editing bays or control rooms. Please clean up your areas. Please log off when you are done working on a workstation. Please take good care of our equipment, studios and labs.

Equipment Needed

A good set of headphones with both 1/4" phone and 1/8" mini plug connectors

A hard drive or storage device to backup footage and to archive your footage and completed work

#2 Pencils

Grading & Critique

You will receive a personal critique, class-wide critique and a critique sheet following every remote or studio lab assignment. This is a building block class. We expect to see you to continue growing throughout the semester.

Studio-based Program Directing/Crew Assignments

• Studio Directing Basics	Critique Only
• 30-Second Studio Commercial	100
• Newscast Lab I (2:30)	100
• Newscast Lab II (8:00)	100
• Newscast Lab III (12:00)	100
• Newscast Lab IV (16:00)	100
• Interview	100
• Demonstration	100
• Crew Positions	100
• Team Project	
• Variety Program	100
• ENG/EFP Assignments	
• Deko	100
• Newscast Open	100
• News Series Promo	100
• News Show Promo (w/ JRNL 352)	100
• Quizzes (2)	200
• Attendance	100
• Student Checkout/Class Participation	100
• Total	1700

Final Grades - (Plus/Minus grading in effect)

A = 1581-1700 (93-100%)

A- = 1530-1580 (90-92%)

B+ = 1496-1529 (88-89%)

B = 1411-1495 (83-87%)

B- = 1360-1410 (80-82%)

C+ = 1326-1359 (78-79%)

C = 1241-1325 (73-77%)

C- = 1190-1240 (70-72%)

D+ = 1156-1189 (68-69%)

D = 1071-1155 (63-67%)

D- = 1020-1070 (60-62%)

F = 1020 and Below (Below 60)

(You need a C- or better in all JRNL practice classes to continue into the professional program.)

JRNL351

Intermediate Television Directing

Spring Semester 2015 Schedule (Subject to Change)

Tuesday, January 27

Welcome/Course Preview

Introduction to Television Production

Thursday, January 29

Director's Language & Script Marking

Crew Positions

Tuesday, February 3

Crew Positions

Assignment-Basic Directing

Quiz #1

Thursday, February 5

Crew Positions-Review

Crew JRNL 352 VO/SOT recording

Review Basic Directing Scripts

Basic Directing Run-thru

Tuesday, February 10

Direct-Basic Directing

Writing 30-second Studio Commercial

Assignment-30-second Live Commercial

Thursday, February 12

Prep for 30-second Studio Commercial

Deko Production

Assignment-Deko

Tuesday, February 17

Direct-30-second Studio Commercial

Review-30-Second Studio Commercial

Directing Newscasts

Thursday, February 19

Directing Newscasts Review/Run-thru

Assignment-2:30 Newscast

Due-Deko

Tuesday, February 24

Direct-2:30 Newscast

Review-2:30 Newscast

Thursday, February 26

News Infographics

Assignment-News Infographic

Directing Interviews

Assignment-5:00 Interview

Tuesday, March 3

Studio Lighting Basics
Interview Run-thru
Using iNews for Directors

Thursday, March 5

Direct-5:00 Interviews
Review-Interviews
Assignment-8:00 Newscasts
Prep-8:00 News casts

Tuesday, March 10

Direct-8:00 Newscasts

Thursday, March 12

Direct-8:00 Newscasts

Tuesday, March 17

Review-8:00 Newscasts
Quiz #2

Thursday, March 19

Due-News Infographic
Assignment-News Open

Tuesday, March 24

Assignment-12:00 Newscasts
Rough Cut-News Open

Thursday, March 26

Due-News Open
News Promotions
Assignment-News Series Promo
Prep-12:00 Newscasts

Tuesday, March 31

Spring Break-No Class

Thursday, April 2

Spring Break-No Class

Tuesday, April 7

Breaking News Day

Thursday, April 9

Direct 12:00 Newscasts

Tuesday, April 14

Direct-12:00 Newscasts

Thursday, April 16

Review 12:00 Newscasts
Directing Demonstrations
Assignment-5:00 Demonstrations
Assignment-Variety Program

Tuesday, April 21

Demonstrations Run-Thru/Script Review
Due-News Series Promo/Review
Directing Variety Programs
Assignment-16:00 Newscasts

Thursday, April 23

Direct-5:00 Demonstrations
Review Demonstrations
Prep for 16:00 Newscasts
Assignment-News Show Promo (working with JRNL352)

Tuesday, April 28

Direct-16:00 Newscasts

Thursday, April 30

Final Prep for 16:00 Newscasts
Due-First Cut of News Show Promo

Tuesday, May 5

Direct-16:00 Newscasts

Thursday, May 7

Due-News Show Promo
Update on Variety Program

Finals Week-Thursday, May 14 1:10-3:10pm

Direct-Variety Program
Review-Variety Program