EMF 221
PRINCIPLES OF FILM AND MEDIA PRODUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Basic techniques, principles and aesthetics of film, video and audio production.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students in this class will:
1. Learn the terminology of film production and film analysis.
2. Discover strategies for audio-visual storytelling.
3. Understand the elements of mise en scene including camera placement, composition and design.
4. Understand the basics of audio production and the aesthetics of sound design.
5. Understand the main principles of editing and montage.
6. Discover the impact of the digital revolution and new media on film, video and audio.
7. Explore and examine job opportunities in film, video and audio.


Assignments:
1. Two in-class exams.
2. Final exam.
3. Out-of-class projects involving scriptwriting, audio, and still photography.
4. In-class exercises, which will ask you to work with current class topics. Exercises are usually not announced in advance.

Schedule of Topics, Readings and Assignments

Introduction, Content, Ethics and Legalities; Treatments
Reading: 1-26.

Storytelling; Creativity
Reading: sample treatments

Creativity and Writing; Authorship
TREATMENT DUE

Controlling the Frame
Reading: 27-71

Light and Lighting
Reading: 73-113
ANALYSIS OF ONE IMAGE DUE

Audio
Reading: 115-153
EXAM 1

Audio, cont.

Time: Sound and Image
Reading: 155-184
AUDIO PROJECT

Depth and Movement
Reading: 185-210
AUDIO PROJECT

Linear Structure; Continuity Editing
Reading: 213-246
SECOND EXAM

Building a Film/Video Story

Editing Concepts and Technology; Non-linearity
Reading: 247-298
SHOT OUTLINE DUE

Editing Concepts, cont.
Reading: 299-323

Organizing a Media Project
Careers in Electronic Media and Film
PHOTO PROJECT DUE

Careers in Electronic Media and Film; Authorship—in front of and behind the camera; Review for Final Exam

Review for final exam

FINAL EXAM

COURSE POLICIES

1. Attendance policy: Attendance will be taken at all class meetings. There is no penalty for missing a few class meetings. However, a great deal of the work of this course occurs in class. Therefore, a student who misses 10 or more class meetings will be considered to have not taken the course, and will fail. No exceptions.

2. In-class exercises will be given on an irregular, unannounced schedule throughout the semester. They cannot be made up. Exercises count for 10% of your class grade, which means that any individual exercise will count only 1 or 2%.

3. Late assignments will be lowered 5% per day. A weekend counts as one day. This penalty may be waived by the instructor in cases of documented illness.
4. It is possible to earn 1000 points in this class. Specific point totals for the individual assignments are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Script Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of 1 Image</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shot Outline</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography Project</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Exercises</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 1,000 pts.

5. Plus/Minus Grades: This class will use plus/minus grading. Here is the grading scale:

- 92.5 to 100 = A
- 90 to 92.5 = A-
- 87.5 to 90 = B+
- 82.5 to 87.5 = B
- 80 to 82.5 = B-
- 77.5 to 80 = C+
- 70 to 77.5 = C
- 67.5 to 70 = D+
- 60 to 67.5 = D
- below 60 = F

Students are responsible for understanding and following the Department and University policies on plagiarism. The Department policy is attached to this syllabus. The University policy may be found at www.towson.edu/provost/resources/student academic.asp.

6. Students with disabilities should speak to the instructor early in the semester so that their needs (e.g., for more time on exams) can be met. See the University's website on disability support for more information: www.towson.edu/dss

7. Students cannot repeat a TU class more than once without the permission of the Academic Standards Committee.

See the Roberts-Breslin Textbook, p. 359, for a Bibliography on Media Production Principles.