

I. Course Information

Subject: FILM

Course Number: 234

Descriptive Title:* Cinematography I

Division: Fine Arts

Department:*

Film/Video

Course Disciplines: Film/Video

Catalog Description:*

This is an intermediate-level course in traditional and electronic cinematography that explores lighting design, composition, visual interpretation and camera operation.

Conditions of Enrollment:

Prerequisite:

Film/Video 122 with a minimum grade of C

Co-requisite:

Recommended Preparation:

Enrollment Limitation:

Course Length: Full Term

Hours Lecture (per week): 2

Hours Laboratory (per week): 3

Outside Study Hours:* 4

Total Hours:* 90

Course Units:* 3

Grading Method: Letter Grade and Pass/No Pass

Credit Status: Credit, degree applicable

Transfer CSU: Yes

Effective Date: 03/18/2002

Transfer UC: No

Effective Date:

Term:

Other:

CSU GE:

Term:

Other:

IGETC:

Term:

Other:

II. Outcomes and Objectives

A. Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (The course student learning outcomes are listed below.)

Student Learning Outcomes:

SLO #1 Calculating Exposure

At the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate how to properly use an incident light meter to calculate normal exposure for digital cinema cameras.

SLO #2 Measuring Lighting Ratios

At the end of this course, students will be able to demonstrate how to measure lighting ratios using an incident light meter.

SLO #3 Style Described by Director

At the end of this course, students will be able to plan, light, and shoot a given scene based on the style described by the director.

B. Course Objectives (The major learning objective for in this course are listed below)

Course Objectives:

1. Demonstrate camera operating skills, including framing a shot, panning, tilting, and dollying with a moving subject.
2. Solve color temperature problems by using gels and filtration techniques for both film and video.
3. Calculate exposure settings for a given selection of shots using both incident and reflective metering techniques.
4. Create a lighting plan using a variety of visual styles based on the genre of a given script.
5. Analyze a video clip from a feature film or television program and hypothesize a possible lighting scheme the cinematographer may have employed.
6. Create and implement a lighting plan for a scene based on instructions given by the scene's director.
7. Differentiate between natural and artificial lighting sources and their use in creating a given look for a scene.
8. Differentiate between hard and soft lighting sources and their use in creating a given look for a scene.
9. Compare and contrast lighting styles for motion pictures from their origins to contemporary times.

III. Outline of Subject Matter

(Topics should be detailed enough to enable an instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered to ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)

Example:

- I. Main Topic (3 hours, lecture)
 - A. Sub topics
 - B. Sub topics
 - 1. Super sub topic
 - 2. Super sub topic

Major Topics

- I. Camera/lighting terms and definitions (5 hours, lecture)**

- II. Exposure Review (15 hours, lecture)**
 - A. Depth-of field
 - B. Luminance ranges for film and video

- III. Introduction to Cinematography Fundamentals (16 hours, lecture)**
 - A. Incident and reflective metering techniques
 - B. Neutral density filters
 - C. Screening of lab projects

- IV. Basic Lighting Set-Ups (15 hours, lab)**
 - A. Balancing color temperature
 - B. Natural and artificial lighting
 - C. Eight Hollywood lights
 - D. Grip gear and terminology

- V. Quality and Directionality of Light (12 hours, lab)**
 - A. Day-for-night shooting
 - B. Night-for-night shooting
 - C. Screen lab projects

- VI. Operating the Camera (12 hours, lab)**
 - A. Composition
 - B. Lighting for camera and actor movement

- VII. Shooting Documentary and Nonnarrative Projects (15 hours, lab)**
 - A. Screen final
 - B. Lab projects

Total Lecture Hours: 36

Total Laboratory Hours: 54

Total Hours: 90

IV. Primary Method of Evaluation and Sample Assignments

A. Primary Method of Evaluation (choose one):

Primary Method of Evaluation 3) Skills demonstration

B. Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation

Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation: Working in groups of 3-4, plan and shoot a series of shots that illustrate how to light for silhouette and semi-silhouette using both artificial and natural light.

C. College-level Critical Thinking Assignments

Critical Thinking Assignment 1: Given a hypothetical lighting set-up with a particular film stock and mixed lighting sources, color correct the lighting fixtures to match the color balance of the film stock in order to maintain proper color rendition.

Critical Thinking Assignment 2: Striving to maintain normal exposure on the subject's face throughout the take, plan and shoot a shot where the camera follows an actor who moves from an inside location to an outside one.

D. Other Typical Assessment and Evaluation Methods

Other Evaluation Methods: Class Performance, Completion, Matching Items, Multiple Choice, Objective Exam, Performance Exams, Presentation, True/False, Written Homework

V. Instructional Methods

Instructional Methods: Demonstration, Discussion, Group Activities, Guest Speakers, Lab, Lecture, Multimedia presentations, Other (specify)

If other:

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. Work Outside of Class

Work Outside of Class:* Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content (such as theatre event, museum, concert, debate, meeting), Problem solving activity, Required reading, Skill practice, Study

If Other:

VII. Texts and Materials

A. Up-to-date Representative Textbooks: (Please use the following format: Author, Title, Edition, Publisher, Year. If you wish to list a text that is more than 5 years old, please annotate it as a “discipline standard”.)

Up-To-Date Representative Textbooks: Schroeppel, Tom, The Bare Bones Camera Course for Film and Video, 3rd ed., Allworth Press, 2015.

Discipline Standard

B. Alternative Textbooks: (Please use the following format: Author, Title, Edition, Publisher, Year. If you wish to list a text that is more than 5 years old, please annotate it as a “discipline standard”.)

Alternative Textbooks:

C. Required Supplementary Readings

Required Supplementary Readings:

D. Other Required Materials

Other Required Materials:

VIII. Conditions of Enrollment

A. Requisites (Course Prerequisites and Corequisites) Skills needed without which a student would be highly unlikely to succeed.

Requisite: Prerequisite

Category: sequential

Requisite course(s): Film/Video 122
List both prerequisites and corequisites in this box.

Requisite and Matching skill(s): **Bold the requisite skill.**
List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).

Fundamentals of video camera operating

FILM 122 - Demonstrate the proper techniques for the operation and the utilization of basic film/video production and postproduction equipment.

Knowledge of basic exposure concepts for film/video

FILM 122 - Identify the basic components of a film/video system designed for location production.

Prior experience in producing student films/videos

FILM 122 - Demonstrate the ability to work with a film/video production crew by taking and/or giving directions.

FILM 122 - Demonstrate competence in using strategies and techniques for solving common production problems.

FILM 122 - Demonstrate the ability to conceptualize, write, and produce a short film or video from the initial idea to the finished product.

B. Requisite Skills: (Non-Course Prerequisite and Corequisites) Skills needed without which a student would be highly unlikely to succeed.

Requisite:

Requisite and Matching Skill(s):
Bold the requisite skill(s). If applicable

C. Recommended Preparations (Course) (Skills with which a student's ability to succeed will be strongly enhanced.)

Requisite course:

Requisite and Matching skill(s):
Bold the requisite skill.
List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).

D. Recommended Preparation (Non-Course) (Skills with which a student's ability to succeed will be strongly enhanced.)

Requisite:

Requisite and Matching skill(s):
Bold the requisite skill.
List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). If applicable

E. Enrollment Limitations

**Enrollment
Limitations and
Category:**

**Enrollment
Limitations Impact:**

Course Created by: Kevin O'Brien

Date: 11/01/2001

**Original Board
Approval Date:** 03/18/2002

**Last Reviewed and/or
Revised by:** Kevin O'Brien

Date: 04/12/2019

**Last Board Approval
Date:**