Cinematography
University of Alaska Fairbanks
WINTERmester
FLM F293-FQ1 - 3 credits - CRN: 39389
Meets Mon-Fri 10am-4pm in Theatre 101(Green Room)

Instructor:
Dave Selle, Cinematographer
Office Location: UAF
Office Phone: (907) 328-8228
Office Hours: Call me
Email: daveselle600@gmail.com

A. Required Reading

B. Suggested Reading:
- The American Cinematographer Magazine.

C. Course description:
Cinematography is a craft; a craft that is in a constant state of change. Change is driven by new products, new technology, but more than all of those the pressure on those practicing the craft to push out the “envelope”. Like all crafts there are facts and formulas; the “science” to learn. And there is the “art”, which is harder and takes longer to learn. The course covers the fundamentals of lighting, exposure, use of film and motion picture cameras, general use of equipment, safety procedures, and methodology for working on location and in the studio; the aesthetics, techniques, and technology of cinematography and how it is currently practiced in the television and motion picture industry. Class meetings will consist of lectures, group discussions, in-class demonstrations, and viewing of contemporary films.

C. Goals:
- Understand the style and look of camera work present in today's films and television.
- Understand the style, aesthetics, and techniques of several genres and their distinguishing characteristics.
- Understand composition, movement, and framing.
- Understand cameras, film and video, their care and handling.

D. Student Learning Outcomes:
- Students will set up and operate a professional video camera, frame shots, perform pans, tilts and zooms seamlessly.
- Students will know how to prep, build a camera from its individual parts and maintain a camera during production.
- Students will be able to break down a script for coverage and plan out the shooting of that scene.
- Students will understand basic lighting: aesthetics and the tools
E. **Instructional methods:**
The class will meet for lecture and “hands-on” demonstration and practice of various techniques and exercises. Lecture and Lab hours are mixed during every day, as the course will detail various aesthetics principles and then the functional application of these principles through “hands-on” demonstrations and practice.

F. **Course policies:**

1. **Attendance/Participation:**
   Attendance and punctuality is mandatory. Any absence will drop your grade 5%. Tardiness will drop your grade 2%. Participation points (50) are based on students taking part in classroom demonstrations and discussions, exercises and projects. Any student not actively working with the equipment, scripts, or projects will be docked their participation points.

2. **Cell Phones:**
   No Cell Phones Allowed.

3. **Equipment:**
   Each student crew is responsible for checking out, returning and maintaining equipment (video cameras, tripods, microphones, etc.). You will be billed for any equipment damaged.

4. **Production Teams:**
   Each student will participate in production teams, which will rotate responsibilities on the set from project to project. I recommend that teams work together to share information and experience.

5. **Production Assignments and Final Evaluation:**
   Each student will demonstrate skill and aptitude through a series of hands on assessments.

   1. Students will demonstrate how to build and care for the camera. 5% of final grade.

   2. Student will demonstrate how to operate and set up the camera and the camera menus. 5% of final grade.

   3. Students will demonstrate how to build and care for basic lighting equipment. They will be assessed on the differences in hmis and incandescent units as well as various lenses. 5% of final grade.

   4. Student will also demonstrate how to operate lamps (tungsten and hmis) and various pieces of grip equipment (c-stands, double and single nets, flags, and hardware – cardellini’s, mayfers, junior receivers, baby pins). 5% of final grade.

   5. Student will finally demonstrate proper lighting and camera work of both a narrative scene and an interview set up. 25% of final grade.
Grading will be based on participation, knowledge and skill.

The instructor will assign scripts.

6. **Brown Test**

Brown Test is written and will cover information from the Brown Textbook.

G. **Evaluation of Work & Grades**

1. **Values**

   All work will be evaluated using a +/- grading system as follows:

   - A+ = 4.0 100-97%
   - A = 4.0 96-93%
   - A- = 3.7 92-90%
   - B+ = 3.3 89-87%
   - B = 3.0 86-83%
   - B- = 2.7 82-80%
   - C+ = 2.3 79-77%
   - C = 2.0 76-73%
   - C- = 1.7 72-70%
   - D+ = 1.3 69-67%
   - D = 1.0 66-63%
   - D- = 0.7 62-60%

**Value of Assigned Work toward Final Grade:**

- Attendance/participation & discussion .................. 50%
- Production Assignments and Final Evaluation .......... 45%
- Brown Test... ............................................. 5%

Total ........................................................................ 100%

2. **Late Papers/Assignments**

   ALL ASSIGNMENTS (written or performed) WILL BE COMPLETED ON TIME OR BE PENALIZED 5%.

H. **Disability Services:** The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. State that you will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHIT, ph: 907-474-5655, tty: 907-474-1827, fax: 907-474-5688 or email: uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.
I. **Course Calendar:** Tentative schedule. Readings should be completed by the date assigned.

### Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 1</td>
<td>Introduction of the class and the players, overview of syllabus.</td>
<td>Have read Brown’s <em>Cinematography</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>What is Cinematography?</td>
<td>Test over Brown’s <em>Cinematography</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3, 2014</td>
<td>Your Team. Camera, Grip and Electric Composition – How to Organize the Frame</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Lens: Framing, Lenses and Lens Choice, Depth of Field, Camera Angles, POV</td>
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| Day 2        | Review of Composition. Movement – how and why we move the camera      | In class demonstrations and hands on experience.                           |
| Saturday     | Dollies, Cranes, Other Camera support Movement within the Frame       |                                                                            |
| January 4, 2014 | In class demonstrations and hands on experience.                     |                                                                            |

| Day 3        | Review of Movement Lighting – A visual metaphor Tips, tools and techniques | In class demonstrations and hands on experience.                           |
| Monday       | Assignment due: Bring in examples of C, M, L                          |                                                                            |
| January 6, 2014 | Review of Composition, Movement and Lighting                         |                                                                            |

| Day 5        | The Camera: Zebras, White Balance, Gain                               | In class demonstrations and hands on experience.                           |
| Wednesday    | Assignment due: Bring in examples of C, M, L                          |                                                                            |
| January 8, 2014 | In class demonstrations and hands on experience.                     |                                                                            |
### Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 6</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>January 9, 2014</th>
<th>Breaking down a scene and shooting it. Hands on walk thru of blocking and coverage of a scene.</th>
<th>In class demonstrations and hands on experience.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 7</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>January 10, 2014</td>
<td>The Business Union vs. non union Staff vs. free lance</td>
<td>In class demonstrations and hands on experience.</td>
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<td>Continue Lighting the Interview</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 8</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>January 13, 2014</td>
<td>PROJECT WORK</td>
<td>Will Demonstrate aptitude and working knowledge of camera and grip/lighting equipment through the shooting of a scene and lighting the doc interview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 9</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>January 14, 2014</td>
<td>PROJECT WORK</td>
<td>Will Demonstrate aptitude and working knowledge of camera and grip/lighting equipment through the shooting of a scene and lighting the doc interview. Evaluation of project work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 10</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>January 15, 2014</td>
<td>PROJECT WORK</td>
<td>Will Demonstrate aptitude and working knowledge of camera and grip/lighting equipment through the shooting of a scene and lighting the doc interview. Evaluation of project work.</td>
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