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COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number
CMN243

Course Title
Cinematography

Credits
3

Hours:
lecture/Lab/Other
2/2

Co- or Pre-requisite
Prerequisite: CMN141, CMN142

Implementation
sem/year
Fall, 2009

Catalog description (2009 - 2011 Catalog):

CMN 243 Cinematography
3 credits

Prerequisites: CMN141 and CMN142

Covers directing, lighting and camera work through lecture and text materials. Includes an overview of

cinematic production with attention given to the art of lighting and cinematography.

Introduction also to steady-cam camera technique, camera lens systems, cinema lighting techniques and hi-definition image acquisition.

2 Lecture/2 Laboratory Hours

Is course New, Revised, or Modified? NEW

Required texts/other materials:

Revision date:

Course coordinator:

Barry Levy, 570-3465, levyb@mccc.edu

Information resources: www.mccc.edu/student_library_course_form.shtml)

Course Competencies/Goals:

The student will be able to:

- Establish a methodology for lighting design.
- Develop an understanding of shading techniques and applications.
- Develop an understanding of composition through lighting, camera, and color
- Develop new vocabulary related to digital cinematography.
- Demonstrate the ability to offer both technical and aesthetic criticisms of the work of peers and self
- Demonstrate practical working knowledge of a steady-cam camera system
- Demonstrate practical working knowledge of a lens system for a HD image acquisition
- Explain how composition can be used to influence viewers' responses.
- Explain how lighting can create or intensify moods

General Education Knowledge Goals

Goal 1. Communication. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Goal 2. Mathematics. Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems.

Goal 3. Science. Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.

Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Goal 8. Diversity. Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.

Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical issues and situations.

MCCC Core Skills

Goal A. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in speech and writing, and demonstrate proficiency in reading.

Goal B. Critical Thinking and Problem-solving. Students will use critical thinking and problem solving skills in analyzing information.

Goal C. Ethical Decision-Making. Students will recognize, analyze and assess ethical issues and situations.

Goal D. Information Literacy. Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Goal E. Computer Literacy. Students will use computers to access, analyze or present information, solve problems, and communicate with others.

Goal F. Collaboration and Cooperation. Students will develop the interpersonal skills required for effective performance in group situations.

Goal G. Intra-Cultural and Inter-Cultural Responsibility. Students will demonstrate an awareness of the responsibilities of intelligent citizenship in a diverse and pluralistic society, and will demonstrate cultural, global, and environmental awareness.

Units of Study in Detail

Unit 1 Blocking/Mise-en-Scene

The student will be able to:

- Identify and define setting and composition of a film scene
- Define the function of settings on a narrative
- Explain the importance of composition in a digital film
- State the importance of color palette in digital film
- Explain and debate the advantages/disadvantages of different shot composition

Unit 2: Lighting

The student will be able to:

- Demonstrate working knowledge of various types of lighting equipment including florescent lighting, directional lighting, 55 K lighting and 29 K lighting
- Recognize key terms associated with lighting
- Create mood and emotion utilizing lighting equipment
- Create a traditional “film noir” look utilizing directional lighting
- Describe the importance of the iris in regard to lighting
- Integrate flex fills, diffusion material, reflectors and filters into a lighting grid
- Re-create lighting environments from feature films
- Prepare and implement an interior lighting plan for digital film productions
- Prepare and implement an exterior lighting plan for digital film productions

Unit 3: The Camera Lens

The student will be able to:

- Differentiate between the three types of lenses
- Recognize key terms associated with camera lenses
- Implement a camera lens system for hi-definition image acquisition
- Distinguish between the various types of lenses for hi-definition image acquisition
- Comprehend and describe the importance of depth of field for narrative story telling

Unit 4: The Moving Camera

The student will be able to:

- Properly utilize a steady-cam camera system
- Analyze moving cameras and long take techniques in film
- Detail the benefits of a moving camera to reveal subject and setting
- Describe the importance of blocking with a moving camera
- Write and shoot a scene utilizing a moving camera
- Design a lighting grid for a scene utilizing a moving camera

Unit 5: Bringing it all together

The student will be able to:

- Implement a basic color correction strategy in a NLE
- Analyze and evaluate classic film scenes
- Re-create classic film scenes implementing proper lens, moving camera, color correction, and lighting
- Write, shoot and edit short scenes implementing proper lens, moving camera, color correction, and lighting

Evaluation of Student Learning

- Students' achievements of the course objectives will be evaluated through the use of the following

Evaluation Tools	Percentage of Grade
Film Analysis Reports	15%
Classic Film Lighting Recreation	15%
Color Correction Project	15%
Moving Camera Project	20%
Final Project – Write, Shoot and Edit 2 Minute Scene	25%
Class Participation & Journal Entry	10%

Academic Integrity Statement:

Students are expected to comply with the college-wide requirements for academic integrity. Mercer County Community College is committed to Academic Integrity—the honest, fair, and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception. This implies that students are expected to be responsible for their own work. Presenting another individual's work as one's own and receiving excessive help from another individual will qualify as a violation of Academic Integrity. The entire policy on Academic Integrity is located in the Student handbook and is found on the college website (http://www.mccc.edu/admissions_policies_integrity.shtml).

Special Needs Accommodations

Any student in this class who has special needs because of a disability is entitled to receive accommodations. Eligible students at Mercer County Community College are assured services under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you believe you are eligible for services, please contact Arlene Stinson, the Director of Academic Support Services. Mrs. Stinson can be reached at (609) 570-3525.