

# CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE

## FILM 180 – TECHNICAL DIRECTING

Summer 2016

Division	School of Motion Picture Arts		
Course Name	FILM 180 – Technical Directing	Credits: 3	
Instructor	TBA	604.986.1911 local xxxx	
Office			

### VISION STATEMENT

The School of Motion Picture Arts is dedicated to inspiring independent filmmakers through the fostering and mentoring of emerging talent utilizing progressive learning environments and authentic production experiences, such that graduates make valued contributions to the global media culture.

### COURSE FORMAT

60 hours of lecture over 4 weeks, contact hours will vary per week to meet the requirements of the specific class content.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

#### General

This course is designed to familiarize students with the foundation processes, paperwork, and procedures involved in filmmaking at all levels. From developing a story through to production models, it lays the groundwork upon which all filmmaking is built. This includes introducing students to the core elements of the sequence of events on set: block, light, rehearse, and shoot, while describing, in detail, the various and specific functions of the production team and giving students multiple opportunities to apply their learning on set.

#### Instructional

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to

- \* Collaborate with technicians and other crew members on a film set;
- \* Describe the responsibilities of the filmmaking crew on a set;
- \* Schedule both preproduction and production;
- \* Complete production paperwork;
- \* Demonstrate an ability to structure and develop a story from concept to set;
- \* Demonstrate the individual and team discipline necessary to complete tasks.

### RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Mohansky, T. (2007). *Film Terms A-Z. Vancouver B.C.*: First Wave Publishing ; 1<sup>st</sup> Edition (2011).

*Crew Responsibilities Book* – Motion Picture Arts, Certificate (on Moodle).

Bowen, C. and Thompson, R. (2013). *Grammar of the Shot*. Focal Press: Third Edition.

Additional readings provided by the Instructor.

<b>Classes</b>
<b>Class 1: Introduction – Themes</b> Intro and Overview Professional Behaviour Stages of Production Intro Exercise A- Groups, Scripts, Schedule and Evaluation
<b>Class 2: Pre-Production</b> Formal Systems and Classical Narrative- Discussion Breaking down a scene- Dramatic Blocks and Blocking with Actors Concept Meeting Demo
<b>Class 3: Pre-Production</b> Departments, Unions and The Chain of Command Narrative Conventions: Suture, Eyelines, Matching Cuts and the 180 Degree Rule/The Axis Tech Survey and Prod Meeting Demo Casting
<b>Class 4: Production</b> PRE VIZ- Shot List, and Shot Geography A Typical Day Blocking - In Class Exercise Block, Light, Rehearse and Shoot – In Class Exercise Call Sheet
<b>Class 5: Production</b> EXERCISE A- Shoot Day 1
<b>Class 6: Production Week</b> EXERCISE A- Shoot Day 2
<b>Class 7: Script Breakdown</b> Breaking down a Script- AD terminology and production vocabulary
<b>Class 8: Foundations of scheduling</b> Debrief and Screen Exercise A Breakdown Sheets and Production Boards
<b>Class 9: Production</b> EXERCISE B- Shoot Day 1
<b>Class 10: Production</b> EXERCISE B- Shoot Day 2
<b>Class 11: Production</b> EXERCISE B- Shoot Day 3
<b>Class 12: Applied film Scheduling</b> One-line and Shooting Schedules
<b>Class 13, 14, 15: Production paperwork and Project review</b> Debrief and Screen Exercise B The Call Sheet –collaborative in-class exercise applying all scheduling skills to date

Fourth hour: includes screening and evaluation sessions, release of project guidelines, meetings outside of office hours.

<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	
Projects *	60%
Exercise A and B	30%
Participation and Attendance	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>*Projects</b>	
Project 1: Inspiration	20%
Project 2: Directors Assignment	20%
Project 3: Prep and Scheduling Assignment	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>60%</b>

**Exercise A:** An in-class Production Exercise. Groups of 4 will prep and produce 4 short projects (2 projects per class) in two consecutive classes. Roles will include: Director, AD, Cam Op and Sound Mixer/Boom Op. Each student will deliver one complete project.

**Exercise B:** An in-class Production Exercise. Groups of 6 will prep and produce 6 short projects (2 projects per class) in three consecutive classes. Roles will include: Director, AD, Cam Op, Sound Mixer/Boom Op, Grip and Electric. Each student will deliver one complete project.

**Inspiration Assignment :** What is it in your life that inspires you? For this assignment, students will do a 3-5 minute presentation about what inspires them. The structure for the presentation should be a story, with a beginning, middle and end. The subject might be a person, music, a moment, a mentor, a concept, activity etc. Students may choose to play an instrument, show artwork, or talk about work or a project that has been done in the past.

**Directors:** From the list provided, individuals will choose a Director, research and write a 1000 word essay about that Director. The paper should include: biographical details, themes, aesthetics and production notes.

**Directors Prep and Scheduling Assignment:** Complete a Synopsis, Directors Statement, Cast Breakdown, Visual Concept, Beat Sheet, Shot Geo and Shot List, Script Breakdown, Breakdown Sheets, Oneline Schedule, Day out of Days and Call Sheet based on a production scenario.

<b>GRADING PROFILE</b>
<p><b>CR=CREDIT</b></p> <p>To achieve credit the student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Display professional conduct in all work.</li> <li>-Demonstrate good to excellent work in the assignments and in classes.</li> <li>-Show a heightened awareness of a specific craft by the end of the course.</li> </ul>
<p><b>NC=NO CREDIT</b></p> <p>Failure to meet the standards listed above.</p>

<b>OPERATIONAL DETAILS:</b>
Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.
<b>ATTENDANCE:</b>
Attendance will be taken daily and will form part of the final grade (See Evaluation Profile). When students are absent from class, they are still responsible for the material covered during their absence, including announcements, assigned readings and hand-outs.
<b>PUNCTUALITY:</b>
Punctuality is essential and forms part of the participation grade. Late attendance will be reflected in the student's final grade.
<b>LATE ASSIGNMENTS:</b>
All assignments must be delivered at the place and time specified by the instructor. Late assignments will only be accepted if prior approval for a late submission date has been given by the instructor.
<b>MISSED EXAMS AND QUIZZES:</b>
Missed exams and quizzes will be assigned a grade of zero. Students will be allowed to make up exams and quizzes only under the following conditions: if a doctor's certificate of illness is provided; if, in the case of the death of a close family member, a death certificate is provided; if prior approval of the instructor has been obtained.
<b>CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:</b>
Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's work or ideas as if they were one's own. Plagiarism is both dishonest and a rejection of the principles of scholarship. All students should familiarize themselves with the University Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism (See the University Calendar) as such behaviour can result in suspension from the University.
<b>INCOMPLETE GRADES:</b>
Grades of Incomplete "I" will be granted only if there is a valid reason for extending the evaluation deadline and if students have a reasonable chance of improving their grade to pass the course.
<b>ENGLISH USAGE:</b>
All written work submitted must use good academic English and follow the guidelines provided in the Capilano University Guide to Writing Assignments (available from the University Bookstore). It is the responsibility of students to proof-read all their writing for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors.
<b>STUDIO/FILMING DISCIPLINE:</b>
Students must be dressed appropriately. Wet and cold weather requires waterproof and warm clothing. Students are required to wear work clothes for technical and production sessions. Clothing may be subjected to dirt, paint and dust. Sturdy shoes are a must. No food or beverages are allowed on set during production activities and during technical classes. Disruptive students will be asked to leave.
<b>COMPUTER COURSE REQUIREMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES:</b>
You are expected to abide by the Statement of Appropriate Use of Information Technology Facilities and Services in any use of computers at the University. This statement can be obtained from your department, the Library, Computer Services or on the University website.
<b>ELECTRONIC DEVICES/LAPTOPS:</b>
Use of electronic devices is not allowed during class time, except at the discretion of the instructor.

**COMPUTER LAB USAGE:**

No food or beverages are allowed in the University's computer labs at any time. Students must not abuse internet privileges by visiting inappropriate or illegal websites. Intentionally opening and/or altering other students' projects will not be tolerated. Respect for other students' work is of utmost importance. Offences regarding the above will result in the "0" mark in the participation grade, and restricted access to facilities.

**PARTICIPATION/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOUR:**

The grade for class participation is based on both the frequency and the quality of students' comments, questions and observations, with the emphasis on quality. The quality is determined by, among other things, the relevance, insight and clarity of remarks. Students are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude and behaviour towards their work, fellow-students, and their instructor. Students should demonstrate reliability, respect for and co-operation with colleagues. A willingness to work calmly and courteously under difficult conditions as well as a determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines is necessary in this course. Students should have respect for equipment and systems, and a constructive response to criticism.

**EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:**

Students should familiarize themselves with emergency procedures posted in the classroom.