CAPILANO UNIVERSITY COURSE OUTLINE
MOPA 306 DIRECTING
Fall 2017

Division	School of Motion Picture Arts	
Course Name	**MOPA 306 – Directing**	Credits: 3
Instructor	@capilanou.ca	604.986.1911 local xxx

VISION STATEMENT

The School of Motion Picture Arts is dedicated to inspiring a new generation of independent Canadian 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
Four lecture hours per week, for fifteen weeks, which includes two weeks for final exams.

COURSE PREREQUISITES
28.5 MOPA or 27 IDF credits of 200-level or higher coursework.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

General

Students will be provided with practical opportunities to explore and develop techniques of visual storytelling, narrative judgment, and personal voice. Each student directs three short film projects, and takes key creative and technical roles on films made by their classmates.

Instructional

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

- Understand the role of the writer, director, production designer and cinematographer in the filmmaking process;
- Understand techniques of working with actors to direct and realize an effective screen performance (in collaboration with Acting for Stage and Screen);
- Understand the importance of finding and developing a unique cinematic voice through the process of writing, directing, and editing three short films;
- Screen critically the work of others and provide constructive feedback within a workshop environment.
- Work creatively, technically and collaboratively in exploring cinematic aesthetics and subtext.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
Program Mission
To provide the encouragement, equipment, training and setting for a vital experience of creation and collaboration. Student filmmakers will expand and refine their practical, professional, artistic and social skills in order to acquire craft excellence and successfully integrate into the increasingly complex and diverse industries of filmed entertainment, digital communications and new media.
Program Goals
Knowledge: To enable students to articulate and apply their knowledge of story and visual story development to documentary and narrative projects on all platforms; to combine and apply both practical and theoretical knowledge; to investigate and interpret a broad range of theoretical perspectives.   **Skills:**   To orchestrate a detailed industrial process; to manage time and budget on large projects over extended periods of time; to use technology as a tool to create innovative and authentic stories; to develop a convergent approach to creative content; to collaborate creatively.   **Value:**   To conceptualize, research, develop and produce projects from initial idea through to final product; to market and distribute projects; to develop innovative business models and strategies to build sustainable companies; to understand the role of film and the film industry in Canada's culture and economy; to identify potential areas/sectors of employment; to identify opportunities for further study; to articulate and pursue a unique and personal voice and vision through the artistic and technical means of filmmaking and visual communication, and, in particular, to use the tools and resources at their disposal with clarity, intelligence, resourcefulness and professionalism.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
Students successfully completing this program will: 1. Analyze historical, technological, philosophical and theoretical trends in the national and global cinemas;   2. Acquire a range of skills and applications of visual communication in order to expand their potential to realize and create meaningful career opportunities;   3. Contribute their technical skills, creative skills, and personal vision to the art of filmmaking;   4. Consult, liaise and negotiate in a professional manner in all aspects of the filmmaking process;   5. Develop industry relationships and create authentic learning environments in order to provide opportunities to expand their potential as independent filmmakers.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Resource material will be supplied by the instructor.

WEEKS 1-15
WEEK 1:
Course overview and introduction to first assignment. Meet with 3rd Year Acting for Stage and Screen (ASAS) Class. Teams assigned for Assignment #1 (Monologue Project).
WEEK 2:
Production teams assigned for Assignments #1, #2 & #3 Read through of monologue projects with 3rd year Acting class ASSIGNMENT#1: Monologue Project – due for in-class shooting weeks 4, 5, 6. Final versions due week 11 ASSIGNMENT #2: 3-min Non-Dialogue Scene– due start of class, Week 8
WEEK 3:
In-class rehearsals and coaching on monologues in teams with 3rd year ASAS class One-on-one meetings re: Development Project Films and Non-Dialogue Scenes ASSIGNMENT#3: Development Project Short Film due start of class, Week 10
WEEK 4:
In-class shooting of Assignment #1 (Monologue Project) in teams with 3rd year ASAS class – *Part 1* One-on-one meetings re: Development Project Films and Non-Dialogue Scenes *Production week #1 for 3-min Non-Dialogue Scene*
WEEK 5:
In-class shooting of Assignment #1 (Monologue Project) - *Part 2* One-on-one meetings re: Development Project Films and Non-Dialogue Scenes *Production week #2 for 3-min Non-Dialogue Scene*
WEEK 6:
In-class shooting of Assignment #1 (Monologue Project) - *Part 3* One-on-one meetings re: Development Project Films DEADLINE: "Best Take" of Monologues due for Screening Week 7 *Production week #3 for 3-min Non-Dialogue Scene*
WEEK 7:
Screening and critique of "Best Take" of Monologue Projects with ASAS class ASSIGNMENT#1 (Monologue Project) – Final Edited Version due start of Class, Week 11 *Production week #1 for Development Project Film*
WEEK 8:
DEADLINE: Assignment #2 (Non-Dialogue Scene) – Completed projects due at beginning of class Presentation, screening and critique of completed Non-Dialogue Scenes. *Part 1* *Production week #2 for Development Project Film*
WEEK 9:
Presentation, screening and critique of completed Non-Dialogue Scenes. *Part 2* *Production week #3 for Development Project Film*
WEEK 10:
Presentation, screening and critique of completed Development Project Films. *Part 1* DEADLINE: Assignment #3: Completed Development Project Films due
WEEK 11:
Presentation, screening and critique of completed Development Project films. *Part 2* DEADLINE: Completed Final Edit of Assignment #1 (Monologue Project) due

WEEK 12:
Practice Director Pitches/Director's Pitch Packages for Week 13 MOPA 310 pitches due
WEEK 13:
Director pitches for MOPA 310 short-listed films to whole class and Faculty Panel.   MOPA 310 project scheduling and crew-up
WEEKS 14/15:
Final exam period

Fourth hour: may include screenings, project meetings/mentoring and project work.

EVALUATION PROFILE	
*Assignments (3 x 30%)	90%
Professionalism (see BMPA Standards for Professional Behaviour)	10%
Total	**100%**

ASSIGNMENTS*	
Assignment #1 - Monologue Project	30%
Assignment #2 - 3-Minute Non-Dialogue Scene	30%
Assignment #3 - Development Project Short Film	30%
Total	**90%**

Grading Profile			
A+ = 90-100%	B+ = 77-79%	C+ = 67-69%	D = 50-59%
A = 85-89%	B = 73-76%	C = 63-66%	F = 00-49%
A- = 80-84%	B- = 70-72%	C- = 60-62%	

OPERATIONAL DETAILS:
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.
ATTENDANCE:
Attendance will be taken daily and will form part of the final grade (See Evaluation Profile). This is a professional program. Accordingly, students are expected to be on time and to attend every class. Arriving more than 20 minutes after the commencement of class, or leaving early, will be considered an absence. Students with three unexcused absences will fail the course. When students are absent from class, they are still responsible for the material covered during their absence, including announcements, assigned readings and hand-outs.
PUNCTUALITY:
Punctuality is essential and forms part of the participation grade. Late attendance will be reflected in the student's final grade.
LATE ASSIGNMENTS:
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.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:
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 Website) as such behaviour can result in suspension from the University.
INCOMPLETE GRADES:
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.
ENGLISH USAGE:
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.
STUDIO/FILMING DISCIPLINE:
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.
COMPUTER COURSE REQUIREMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES:
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.
ELECTRONIC DEVICES/LAPTOPS:
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:
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.