

MEDIA 20 Course Outline as of Fall 2011**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: MEDIA 20 Title: DIGITAL FILMMAKING

Full Title: Introduction to Digital Filmmaking

Last Reviewed: 9/22/2025

Units	Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks		Course Hours Total	
Maximum	4.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	4.00	Lab Scheduled	3.00	6	Lab Scheduled	52.50
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	6.00		Contact Total	105.00
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 210.00

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

Catalog Description:

An intensive introduction to the fundamentals of digital filmmaking, including writing and structuring a story concept, developing a shooting script, basic camera and lighting techniques, editing, and post-production processes. The successful student develops the basic skills to work as a member of a production crew.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:**

Course Completion of MEDIA 10

Limits on Enrollment:**Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: An intensive introduction to the fundamentals of digital filmmaking, including writing and structuring a story concept, developing a shooting script, basic camera and lighting techniques, editing, and post-production processes. The successful student develops the basic skills to work as a member of a production crew. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Course Completion of MEDIA 10

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.

Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:

AS Degree:	Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU GE:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
IGETC:	Transfer Area	Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective: Fall 2011	Inactive:
UC Transfer:	Transferable	Effective: Fall 2011	Inactive:

CID:

Certificate/Major Applicable:

Both Certificate and Major Applicable

COURSE CONTENT

Outcomes and Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Design and create a short visual story.
2. Compose a short script with proper formatting.
3. Employ the terminology of digital filmmaking in a production context.
4. Plan, organize, and execute the production of a short digital video project.
5. Operate basic digital video equipment.
6. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of single camera coverage techniques.
7. Apply basic methods and techniques directing actors for the camera.
8. Work as part of a film crew.
9. Assemble a fine cut using basic practices and strategies of digital video editing.
10. Demonstrate a basic understanding of sound design to complete a project.

Topics and Scope:

I. Introduction to Writing Short Story Projects and Spec Spots

- A. Development of an Idea and Structure
- B. The Logline
- C. The Pitch
- D. The Treatment
- E. The Workshop Process
- F. The Rough Draft
- G. Rewriting
- H. Final Drafts

II. Introduction to Pre-Production

- A. Script Breakdown and Analysis
- B. Budgeting

- C. Location Scouting
- D. The Rehearsal Process
- E. Mise-en-Scene
- F. Art Direction
- G. Storyboards
- III. Introduction to Digital Film Production
 - A. Scheduling and Call Sheets
 - B. Camera Rehearsals
 - C. Blocking and Staging
 - D. Crew Positions
 - E. Set Procedures and Protocol
 - F. Production Equipment
 - G. Directing Actors for Camera
 - H. Coverage
 - I. Moving Camera
 - J. Mise-en-Scene
 - K. In-class Production Workshops
- IV. Introduction to Post-Production
 - A. Editing Software
 - B. Logging
 - C. Assembly Cuts
 - D. Rough Cuts
 - E. Fine Cutting
 - F. Picture Lock
 - G. Sound Design and Editing
 - H. Final Prints for Screening

Assignment:

1. 10-20 pages of reading from texts and manuals
2. Preparation of 3-5 short scripts and storyboards
3. Exercises related to camera operation, 3-point lighting, 2-channel audio, and editing
4. 3-5 self evaluation and peer critiques
5. 3-5 quizzes and exams including final exam
6. Individual or group short digital video project

Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

Writing: Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Scripts, self evaluations, peer critiques

Writing 10 - 20%

Problem Solving: Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

Individual or group short digital video project

Problem solving 10 - 20%

Skill Demonstrations: All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

Class performances, Individual or group short digital video project, Performance exams

Skill Demonstrations
30 - 60%

Exams: All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Quizzes, Exams: Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion

Exams
10 - 20%

Other: Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Class participation

Other Category
10 - 30%

Representative Textbooks and Materials:

Video Basics. Zettl, Herbert. Wadsworth: 2009

Film Directing Shot By Shot. Katz, Steve and Wiese, Michael: Michael Wiese Productions: 1991 (Classic)

Videomaker Guide to Video Production. Videomaker. Focal Press: 2007

Filmmaker's Handbook. Ascher, Steven and Pincus, Edward. Plume: 2007