

FMA 20 Course Outline as of Summer 2025**CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: FMA 20 Title: DIGITAL FILMMAKING

Full Title: Introduction to Digital Filmmaking

Last Reviewed: 3/13/2023

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: MEDIA 20

Catalog Description:

Students will receive an intensive introduction to the fundamentals of digital filmmaking, including: writing and structuring a story, developing a shooting script, basic camera, sound and lighting techniques, editing, and post-production processes. Students will develop the basic skills to work as a member of a production crew.

Prerequisites/Corequisites:**Recommended Preparation:**

Concurrent Enrollment in CS 74.22 and MEDIA 10 and MEDIA 18

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

Description: Students will receive an intensive introduction to the fundamentals of digital filmmaking, including: writing and structuring a story, developing a shooting script, basic camera, sound and lighting techniques, editing, and post-production processes. Students will develop the basic skills to work as a member of a production crew. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Concurrent Enrollment in CS 74.22 and MEDIA 10 and MEDIA 18

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

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Plan, organize, and execute the production of a short digital video project.

Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Design and create a video/film project.
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/film project.
5. Operate basic digital video and audio 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 pitch
 - C. The rough draft
 - D. Rewriting
 - E. 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

All topics are covered in the lecture and lab portions of the course.

Assignment:

Lecture-Related Assignments:

1. Reading from texts and manuals (10-20 pages per week)
2. Written self-evaluations
3. Written peer critiques

Lab-Related Assignments:

1. Preparation of 1-3 short script(s) (2 to 6 pages in length) and storyboard(s)
2. Exercises related to coverage, camera operation, sound recording, and editing (Performance exams)

Lecture- and Lab-Related Assignments:

1. Quizzes (4-12) and a final exam
2. The creation of an original film, from script to screen

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.

Script(s) and storyboard(s); 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.	
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; final exam	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:

Voice & Vision: A Creative Approach to Narrative Film and DV Production. 3rd ed. Hurbis-Cherrier, Mick. Focal Press. 2018