

Television Production Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Miss Sabiston
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CLASSROOM: 252 -TV STUDIO
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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course will provide an opportunity for students to create a variety of video productions, allowing students to express personal creativity while developing the ability to conceptualize story ideas and effectively translate these ideas into video productions. Through assigned readings, the viewing of videos, and the completion of a series of video assignments, students are expected to acquire a thorough understanding of the basic elements of video production. This understanding should include the following ten areas:

1. General audio and sound micing techniques, including the handling of common audio problems.
2. Camera placement and operations, including a basic understanding of camera color balancing, camera optics, light levels and the use of special filters.
3. The use and characteristics of the various video and audio recording media.
4. Lighting techniques, including existing light, bounced light and three-point lighting.
5. Technical and production differences between standard definition (SDTV) and HDTV/DTV production.
6. Elements of effective visual composition.
7. Editing techniques: assembly and insert, on-line and off-line, linear and random access, and the use of time-code.
8. The advantages and disadvantages of analog and digital data
9. A general understanding of postproduction, including associated audio and video equipment.
10. The ability to critique the strengths and weakness of video productions.

BEING LATE FOR/MISSING CLASSES

Every class period will begin with a "Bell Ringer" activity. The activity will consist of a short quiz, reading, writing, or creative assignment linked to our video production curriculum. The assignment will be posted on the board and students are expected to immediately take their seats and begin the assignment when the bell rings. Be advised that if a beginning-of-the period quiz is given during a class session, it can't be made up. You are responsible for finding out what went on-including any assignments that were given -while you were gone. Assignments will be posted on Miss Sabiston's Black Board page on the South Fort Myers High website.

POLICY ON LATE PAPERS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Meeting deadlines is central to broadcasting and telecommunications - if you want to keep your job. Therefore, in this course deadlines on papers and assignments will be absolute. We are airing a daily TV show and your missing assignment can result in dead air space - completely unacceptable.

If you blow a deadline, be an adult and professional about it. It is a good idea hand in your papers early and save yourself much worry, don't wait until the last minute and take a major gamble. Each semester several people lose that gamble. It's always a good idea to have a photocopy (or computer disk copy) of every assignment. Things can happen. Remember, spelling, punctuation and grammar all count in written work.

GRADING

The final grade in the course will be based on:

Tests, quizzes: 15% of grade.

Video Assignments and related paper and written work: 35% of grade.

Class attendance and Participation = 35% of grade

Written Assignments: 15%

The criteria for the final grade in the course is as follows:

A = outstanding work; a 90% or above average on tests and written material; a demonstration of excellent production and editing skills; an ability to effectively critique the strengths and weakness of other projects; all work turned in on time.

B = an 80% average on tests and written material; an ability to meet deadlines; a proven ability in production and editing; strong critiques.

C = a 70% average on tests and written material; an ability to meet most deadlines and an acceptable grasp of editing and production techniques; a basic knowledge of basic critique elements.

D = a 60% average on tests and written material; however, student has fallen short in one or more major areas: meeting deadlines, an understanding of editing equipment and decisions, critiques, or the ability to effectively use production or editing equipment

F = below a 60% average on tests and written material; student has fallen below the minimally acceptable requirements for the course.

VIDEO TAPING OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM

No one is to leave the classroom for any reason without permission of the teacher. If your work requires you to leave the classroom during class, you must first obtain a Pass before leaving.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

All students are expected to be seated at the time the bell rings. After the Bell Ringer activity, each day will begin with a meeting to discuss how the spreads are coming along. No one is to get out any equipment until after the meeting has finished. No one is to leave the classroom for any reason without permission of the teacher. If your work requires you to leave the classroom during class, you must first obtain a pass before leaving.

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS

Problems with video and audio equipment are a fact of life in any broadcast or video production facility. However, "technical problems" are actually often "operator problems." If you encounter a significant technical problem in completing your assignment, you will need to indicate this by writing out a malfunction report.

When the video is shown to the class, it will be determined if the nature of the problem was (1) totally beyond your control, (2) the result of not fully understanding the equipment or its operation, or (3) potentially salvageable by employing a simple alternate approach. Most camcorder problems can be discovered by doing a short audio and video check before leaving the equipment checkout area. This also protects you. Because you are responsible for equipment, this procedure will uncover problems for which you might otherwise have been held responsible.

EQUIPMENT RESPONSIBILITY

When you check out equipment you are legally responsible for that equipment until you turn it back in. Considering the cost of this equipment, you will not want to loan it to a fellow classmate or leave it in a place that has questionable security. (The latter might even include your home or car.) If you have camcorder of your own, you are invited to use it. With large classes this will save you problems in checking out school equipment.

SUPPLIES: Pen or Pencil * One Ream of Paper * Camera (if available) * Folder or Binder
8Gig SD card or greater 8 gig USB thumb drive or greater

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT:

While individual work is necessary, working as a team member is essential.

We are a family! Treat others with respect and dignity.

Maintain studio equipment, cameras and press passes

Please protect our reputation and privileges.

Clean, organized work areas promote a good working environment

Attendance and punctuality to class and to all deadlines is paramount.

Have a positive attitude

NO food, gum, or candy allowed in the control room or studio

Plan Your Work, and Work the Plan

I expect the highest level of good behavior at all times in my classroom. If your behavior becomes distracting or unsafe at any time you will be asked to leave. If you are asked to leave during class, this will negatively impact your participation grade. In addition you will be subject to any punishment imposed by the Dean of Students.