Course Description:

CMS4410 is a production course focusing on the aesthetic and communicative aspects of digital video. Class projects will result in a portfolio of work integrating sound, typography, moving images, and music.

Number and Title:

CMS 4410 (CRN 25926)
Digital Video Production

Credit Hours:

3.0 semester credit hours (3-0-3)

Catalog Description:

An introduction to the three phases of digital video creation: pre-production, production, and post-production. Students will be required to attend events (e.g. video shoots) scheduled outside of regular class hours.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite(s): CMS 2100 (C).

Computer Requirement:

Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to http://www.clayton.edu/hub/itpchoice/notebookcomputerpolicy.
Software Requirement:

To properly access the course content you will need to download the following free software:
- Adobe Reader (needed to access files in PDF format): http://get.adobe.com/reader/
- Adobe Flash (needed to access video content): http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/

Computer Skill Prerequisites:

- Able to use the Windows™ and Mac™ operating systems
- Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing
- Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™
- Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email
- Able to use a Web browser.

In-class Use of Student Notebook Computers:

Student notebook computers will not be used in the classroom in this course. Computers will be required to access course materials and to communicate with your instructor.

GeorgiaVIEW Desire2Learn (Online Classroom):

On-line activity will take place in Desire2Learn, the virtual classroom for the course.

You can gain access to Desire2Learn, by signing on to the SWAN portal and selecting :“GaVIEW” on the top right side. If you experience any difficulties in Desire2Learn, please email or call The HUB at TheHub@mail.clayton.edu or (678) 466-HELP. You will need to provide the date and time of the problem, your SWAN username, the name of the course that you are attempting to access, and your instructor’s name.

Major Student Activities:

- Reading and thoughtfully reflecting on class reading/viewing assignments
- Creating treatments, scripts, and storyboards for projects
- Shooting, lighting, and editing video projects
- Answering and asking questions during class and participating actively in discussions, critiques, and workshops
- Taking quizzes and examinations
Program Learning Outcomes:

General education outcomes:

The following link provides the Communication and Media Studies learning outcomes:

http://www.clayton.edu/vpa/cms

This course provides support for the following CMS learning outcome:

“Apply media aesthetics to the production of communication vehicles using appropriate technologies”

Course Learning Outcomes:

CMS 4410 is an elective course in the Communication and Media Studies program:

Course Outcomes:

1. A basic understanding and initial mastery of the three primary phases of video creation: pre-production, production, and post-production
2. A basic understanding and initial mastery of appropriate techniques/uses for camerawork, lighting, sound design, and editing as each contributes to the meaning of video texts.
3. The ability to make appropriate aesthetic choices among different approaches to media-making according to the attributes listed in #2.
4. The ability to effectively analyze and critique media produced/viewed in the course.

Term:

Spring Semester 2013

Instructor Information:

Instructor:

Jonathan M. Harris, MFA
e-mail: JonathanHarris2@clayton.edu
internet: http://faculty.clayton.edu/jharris91

Office: Music Education Bldg., Room #214
Office hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Other times by appointment

Class Meetings:

Classroom:

Music Education, Room #144

Class times:

12:45p.m.-2:00p.m., Monday and Wednesday

Textbook Information:

Text:


Additional readings will be provided through library reserves and Galileo.

Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects (Project I 100, Project II 100, Project III 100)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm examination</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination**</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly assignments (treatments, storyboards, scripts, etc.)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online quizzes: 10 quizzes @ 10 points each</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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Grading:

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<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>900 - 1000 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>800-899 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>700-799 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>600-699 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 600 points</td>
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</tbody>
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Mid-term Progress Report:

The mid-term grade in this course, which will be issued on February 25, reflects approximately 30% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, or withdraw on-line using the Swan by mid-term, which occurs on March 1. Instructions for withdrawing are provided at this link.

The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is Friday, March 1, 2013.

"When you're making movies, you just have to take something and just push it to the wall, and never, never give up until you shoot it." -director Martha Coolidge

Class Schedule

01/07 Welcome and Introduction—Fundamentals of Film/Video Production, an overview
  Read: Chapter 9

01/09 Film/Video systems and introduction to visual storytelling
  Read: Chapter 1
  *Due in class: Assignment #1, Three ideas for Project #1

01/14 Camera Language I—Proximity and Angle and The Pitch
  Read: Chapters 3 and 4
  *Due: Quiz #1 online by class time

01/16 Pitches for Project I
Read: Chapters 1 and 3
*Due: Assignment #2. Pitch to the class and upload three images with strong composition to assignment in GeorgiaView.

01/21  MLK Holiday--NO CLASS

01/23  Introduction to the Video Camera -workshop(DO NOT MISS—NO MAKEUP)
Read: Chapters 4, 9 and Camera Manual on GeorgiaView
Bring a SONY Mini-DV tape to class from this point forward!
Due: Quiz #2 online by class time

01/28  Camera Language II--- Storyboarding, Shot lists, and Continuity
Read: Chapter 5
*Due: Assignment #3 Project I treatment
*Due: Quiz #3 online by class time

01/30  Exposure and the lens--The Basics
Read: Chapters 10 and 12
*Due: Assignment #4—Storyboards for Project #1 and Shot List
*Due: Quiz #4 online by class time

2/4  Exposure and the lens—workshop
Read: Chapters 10, 12 and 17
Shooting Begins: Project #1

2/6  Editing—Getting Started
Read: Chapters 19 and 20
*Due: Quiz #5 online by class time

2/11  Developing the Non-Fiction Project
Read: TBA
Due: Assignment #5—3 ideas for short non-fiction piece

2/13  Editing--more advanced techniques
Read: Chapters 19 and 20
*Due, Assignment #6, Treatment for Project II
*Due: Quiz #6 online by class time
"Documentary should act on our hearts, not just our minds; it exists to change how we feel about something." –Michael Rabiger, from Directing the Documentary.

2/18 Screening of work in progress/editing workshop
*Due: Rough Cuts of Project #1
Reading: TBA

2/20 Screening of Project #1
*Due: Final Cuts of Project #1 Due in specified format by class time! Check GeorgiaView for details!

2/25 Lighting I--Basic Concepts
Read: Chapters 13 and 18
*Due: Quiz #7 online by class time

2/27 Lighting-workshop
Read: Chapter 14 and TBA
*Due: Shooting schedule for project #2
*Begin shooting project #2

3/4 Spring Break- No Class

3/6 Spring Break- No Class

3/11 Writing the Fiction Short
Read: TBA
Due: Quiz #8 by class time

3/13 Writing the Fiction Short pt 2/Writing workshop
Read: TBA
*Due Assignment #7, three ideas for short fiction

3/18 Midterm Examination

3/20 Pitches for Short Fiction
Read: Chapter 6 and TBA
*Due: Assignment #8--pitches for Short Fiction
***Rough Cut of Non-Fiction Project***
“Dare to film what you really are, what you really feel, what you really see around you. Don’t be afraid of being too personal. Your most private emotions, most secret puzzlements, most idiosyncratic obsessions are the only legitimate subject of your art.”

- from “An Open Letter to the Next Generation of American Filmmakers.”

3/25  Production Strategies for the Short Narrative Film
Read: Chapter 6 and TBA
*Due: Quiz #9 online by class time

3/27  Screenings of Project #2
*Due: Assignment#9-- Treatments for Short Fiction
*Due: Project #2

4/1  Working with Sound: Production
Read: Chapter 15
*Due: Shot list for Project #3

4/3  Script Workshop
Read: TBA
*Due: Assignment#10-- Script for Short Fiction

4/8  Preparing the schedule/script breakdowns
Read: Chapter 6
*Due: Assignment#11—Revised script/storyboards/shotlist
*Begin shooting Project #3

4/10  Directing Actors
Read: Chapter 7
*Due: Quiz #10 online by class time

4/15  Working with Sound: Post-Production
Read: Chapter 23

4/17  Editing II—Working with Continuity—Screening of student work
Read: Chapter 21
4/22 Editing III—Using Montage and Jump Cut and Screening of Student work-in class editing workshop
Readings: Chapter 14 and Handouts

4/24 Screenings of student work in progress/in class editing workshop

4/29 Gala Screening of Final Project/Deal Signing(not guaranteed by instructor) *Due: Final Project---Screening location TBA!

*****All project materials will be deleted from lab computers at the end of each semester. Back up all project materials now and save them for your demo reel!*****

Course Policies:

General Policy
Students must abide by policies in the Clayton State University Student Handbook, and the Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities.

University Attendance Policy
Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students’ ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.

Course Attendance Policy
Attendance is expected for all class periods. Attendance is required for quiz and examination periods. Any absence must be accompanied by a written excuse from a doctor or other competent authority.

Missed Work
Without a valid excuse, a grade of zero points will be assigned for the missed work. If a valid excuse is provided:

• Make-up quizzes will be given only if they are taken before quiz solutions are posted (afternoon of the day the quiz is given). If the make-up quiz cannot be taken before the solutions are posted, the missed quiz will be dropped from
grade calculations for that student.

- Make-up examinations will be given only if they are taken before graded examinations are returned to students (next class period). In the event that a make-up examination cannot be taken before exams are returned to other students, the missed examination will not count in calculating the course grade. This means that other graded work will be responsible for a greater weight in determining the course final grade.

- The final examination must be taken. Students missing the final examination should contact their instructor concerning the applicability of an **Incomplete grade**.

**Academic Dishonesty**
Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described beginning on page 14 of the **Student Handbook** (Procedures for Adjudicating Alleged Academic Conduct Infractions)

**Disruption of the Learning Environment**
Behavior which disrupts the teaching–learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF.

A more detailed description of examples of disruptive behavior and appeal procedures is provided at:


**Writing Assistance**
The Writers' Studio 224 is located in the A&S building, room 224. There you can talk with trained writing consultants about your writing projects. They are available to work with you at any stage of your paper, from generating ideas to organizing your paper to understanding how to format it correctly. The service is free; you may drop in and wait for a consultant or sign up for a regular appointment. But remember: you, not your consultant, are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the papers you submit.
Aside from meeting with consultants one-with-one, you can also participate in consultant-led writing workshops. In these workshops, consultants will guide you in discussions and activities important to academic writing topics. Consultants and student-writers will collaborate on ways to apply writing concepts and strategies to specific writing situations. You will be identify, analyze, integrate, and synthesize writing principles through a series of writing exercises. Remember that we are here to collaborate with you as you develop your own experiences as a student-writer.

http://www.clayton.edu/arts-sciences/english/writersstudio

Other Policies

· Limit cross-talk during class
· Remain engaged during class time whether the professor or a classmate is talking
· Switch off cell-phones and other noise-making devices during class. Any student talking/texting/updating Facebook etc. on a cell phone during class may be asked to leave and receive an absence for that day.

Operation Study
At Clayton State University, we expect and support high motivation and academic achievement. Look for Operation Study activities and programs this semester that are designed to enhance your academic success such as study sessions, study breaks, workshops, and opportunities to earn Study Bucks (for use in the University Bookstore) and other items

Important dates:

Last day to withdraw without academic penalty: Friday, March 1, 2013.

Last update: January 5, 2013