

Video 1: Experimental Short Films



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to contemporary video at the intersection of art, culture, and internet memes. Through hands-on experience, students will learn to operate digital video cameras, edit with Premiere Pro, and navigate the full production process—from scriptwriting and storyboarding to shooting, editing, and festival submissions. Emphasizing experimentation and personal voice, the course explores a range of video formats, including short films, experimental video, and meme culture. Discussions and screenings of contemporary artists and filmmakers will provide historical and conceptual context, while technical workshops will equip students with the skills to bring their ideas to life. No prior experience is required.

This course will be broken down into four sections and three video projects; 1) a single scene short film, 2) a narrative after drunk history, & 3) an experimental final project.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- Understand the relationship between contemporary art and culture
- Integrate traditional and unconventional filmmaking techniques
- Utilize digital editing software
- Understand how to operate a digital video camera with proper lighting
- Navigate and apply to film festivals on Film Freeway

Movies:

Day is Done

5,000 fingers of Dr. T

Live-Action:

Spongebob Scary Robot Movie <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eRzBNzVohc>

Bear in the Big Blue House (any 1 episode)

Tribute to Django Reinhardt 100th Anniversary

All Star But They Don't Stop Coming YTP

All I want for Christmas is to Hit Those Notes YTP

JOJ YTP

Billy Mays (suite of YouTube poops)

Slap Chop YTP

Cartoons:

Courage the Cowardly Dog S1E7a King Ramses Curse

Courage the Cowardly Dog S2E12 The House of Discontent

[Every Spongebob Gross-Up](#) YT

We Gotta Get Spongebob Back YT

Jimmy Neutron Happy Family Happy Hour YT

Shrek is love Shrek is life (parts 1,2,3) YT

Dog of Wisdom YT

Pamtri (YouTuber, suite of videos)

**Artists:**

Mike Kelly

Paul McCarthy

KJ Skidmore

Susana Wailin

Paul Pfeiffer

CLASSROOM RULES

1. No phones or headphones permitted outside of free work time or without necessary accommodation.
2. Eating is permitted in class as long as you keep drinks away from computers.
3. If you finish your assignment in class, you get to start another assignment or exercise!
4. Elaborating on rule #3, you may not leave until class is over. Penalty is a tardy.
5. We will take a 10 minute break in the middle of class.
6. Remember to talk to your studio neighbors and look at your peer's work.
7. Studio cleanup begins 10 minutes before class ends.

Material List:

- Portable 500 GB Hard Drive Capable of Working with Video Files, with USB 3 ports
- Headphones editing video in class
- Portable flash drive
- Notebook for mapping scene

SCHEDULE (depending on unavoidable circumstances, such as school closures due to weather, the schedule on the syllabus can be flexible)

Week #1 INTRODUCTION

Day 1- Syllabus Overview

Studio Exercise: Ice Breaker

Watch: *Courage the Cowardly Dog* S1E7a: King Ramses Curse

Watch: Spongebob Scary Robot Movie

Watch: Drake & Josh Tree-House Medley

Round-Circle Discussion

Homework: Watch *Courage the Cowardly Dog* S2E12 The House of Discontent

Homework: Bring Snacks for Class

Day 2- Watch: *Day is Done* & eat snacks

Week #2 FILM 1- Script

Day 1- Discussion: Day is Done

Lecture: Camera & Set Anatomy

Group Exercise: write a 1-scene, 2 minute short film script

Homework: complete short film script

Day 2- Script Workshop

Studio Exercise: Camera Practice

Homework: pre-production

Week #3 FILM 1 - Production

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #4 FILM 1 - Editing

Day 1- Lecture: Video Editing

Exercise: Video Editing

Day 2- work day

Week #5 Green Screen

Day 1- Film Festival - Critique

Lecture: Green Screen Setup & Editing

Day 2- Lecture: Film 2 - narrative after drunk history

Studio Exercise: green screen

Homework: watch 5,000 fingers of Dr. T

Week #6 FILM 2- narrative after drunk history

Day 1- Round-Circle Discussion

Exercise: script writing and brainstorming

Homework: script writing

Day 2- script workshop

Homework: pre-production

Week #7 FILM 2 - narrative after drunk history - production

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #8 FILM 2- narrative after drunk history -editing

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #9 Professional Practices

Day 1- Film Festival - Critique

Lecture: Final Project

Homework: start script for final project

Day 2- Revisiting Film 1 and Film 2

Week #10 Professional Practices

Day 1-Script workshop

Lecture: Film Freeway

Homework: research and apply to 10 free film festivals

Day 2- work day

Week #11 Final Project -pre-production

Day 1- Lecture: directing a film?

Day 2- work day

Week #12 Final Project - production

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #13 Final Project - production

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #14 Final Project - editing

Day 1- work day

Day 2- work day

Week #15 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Day 1 - work day

Day 2 - No class (Holiday)

Week #16 TEST FREE WEEK- FINAL CRITIQUE FILM FESTIVAL

Day 1 - Final Critique Group A

Day 2 - Final Critique Group B