

RTV 1243C Directing
Syllabus
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Course Description:

The students will learn the disciplines, techniques and procedures used by the Director during the television production process. The student will assume the responsibilities of the Director's position; he/she will coordinate the various production elements from the television control room. The student will learn key terms used by the Director; the student will master all of the equipment in the control room and in the studio.

Learning Competencies

- Television equipment identification.
- Television equipment operation.
- Understanding the duties of the various television crew positions.
- Supervising all production crew personnel in the preparation of the studio, and during the actual production process.
- Translating a script into an actual television image.
- Understanding and usage of the Director's commands.
- Understanding primary, secondary, and tertiary movement.
- Analyzing scripts and marking them with proper camera locations, proper camera selections, and proper shot choices.
- Adding and subtracting clock time in order to complete a production on time.
- Analyzing depth of field possibilities, and background/foreground relationships.
- Revising scripts to conform to studio capabilities.
- Modifying set and lighting based on the need of the scripts.

Learning Methods

Outcomes and competencies will be achieved through lectures, readings, viewing the productions of others, demonstrations of equipment, and hands-on experience.

Course Requirements

1. *Newscast*
Each student will direct "The Fake News Network", complete with music, graphics, and commercials that will be given to you. The rest of the class (a rotation chart will be used) will assume the remaining crew positions, and will be graded for participation.

2. *Talkshow*
Each student will direct a 10 minute (exact) talk show, complete with music, graphics, and commercials that you will create/choose. The rest of the class (a rotation chart will be used) will assume the remaining crew positions, and will be graded for participation.

The Talkshow must be accompanied by the following:

1. Treatment: General narrative of the content (audience, general objective, and justification. What are you planning to do? Why do it this way? What will the program content accomplish? What is the best means of accomplishing the objectives?
2. Script: Typewritten, fully written, appropriate segment lengths, details about audio and video, etc.
3. Storyboard: Simple sketches indicating main action, transitions, and suitable script information to allow for matching your script.
4. Audio requirements: What audio equipment will you use? Any pre-recorded material? Which microphones and how many? What equipment from the control room will be needed?
5. Floor Plan: Basic diagram of the studio area you will use.
6. Lighting Plan: Basic lighting diagram.
7. Individual Evaluation: Your *individual* thoughts on the project. How did it go? Any problems? Did everyone hold up their end of the bargain?

Lab Time

Lab time will be made available so that you may practice and complete assignments. It may be necessary for the class to meet as a group with the instructor during the semester for a lab.

School of Entertainment Technologies Policy

All work must be accomplished by the student without the assistance of anyone outside the class. All work must be original. Only equipment of MDCC, School of Entertainment Technologies, North Campus may be used to accomplish course objectives. No dubbing during courses for personal objectives is permitted. Upon student request, instructors may arrange a time and place after the course conclusion to dub portfolio copies as a group, with an appointed representative. Students must supply personal tape stock. Only authorized duplicating facilities will be used under the supervision of the faculty or staff (producers), and only upon approval of the instructor.

Readings, Assignments, Exams and Dates

Week 1
Introduction

Week 2
Review

Week 3
Review
Quiz

Week 4
TFNN Practice

Week 5
TFNN Practice
Quiz

Week 6
TFNN Practice

Week 7
TFNN Performance

Week 8
TFNN Performance

Week 9
Talkshow Practice

Week 10
Talkshow Practice

Week 11
Talkshow Practice

Week 12
Talkshow Practice

Week 13
Talkshow Practice

Week 14
Talkshow Practice

Week 15
Talkshow Perform

Week 16
Talkshow Perform

Attendance Policy

the School of Entertainment Technologies operates on professional industry standards, in which on-time attendance is expected for every meeting. Because of the importance of time in the expectations of employers, students will be required to follow the same policy in the School of Entertainment Technologies. Attendance will count at least 20% of the final grade. Two tardies (any time after the roll is called) constitutes one absence. A tardy or absence *may* be excused if the student calls ahead. A total of 6 class hours of absence will result in an automatic grade of “F”. Course withdrawal is the students’ responsibility. Lack of attendance will not automatically withdraw the student. This will result in a failing grade.

Grading/Evaluation (100 points)

Attendance & Participation	20%
Individual Project #1	30%
Individual Project #2	30%
Written Final Exam (and Quizzes)	20%

Judging, like judging video in the industry, is not an exact science. This class is unlike typical general education courses that might use multiple choice exams to measure your knowledge objectively. Although there is objective scoring in the class, most video assignments get grades that are subjective. That means that you or someone else may have a different opinion of the merit of your video. But as in the industry itself, the person in charge sets the standard. In this case, it is the instructor. You can rely on your instructor to know what are the standards in the industry, and to apply them here. Please note that subjective does not mean unfair. Within the class, the same standards are applied to everyone:

100% - 90%	A	Professional	Could air as shot
89% - 80%	B	Good	Needs a few minor corrections
79% - 70%	C	Fair	Adequate student work
69% - 60%	D	Poor	Needs major revisions
59% - 0%	F	Failing	Late, or not as assigned

Required Text

Zettl, H. (1998). Television Production Handbook. 7th edition.
Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

Prerequisite

RTV1242C - Television Studio Production 2