

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR: : CN 4345 MAKING THE SHORT FILM		3/0/3
<p>(Previously: CN 4545 Making the short fiction film) (Updated: Fall 2025)</p>		<p>Instruction Hours/lab hours/US Credits: 3/0/3 UK LEVEL (appropriate only for validated courses): L6 UK CREDITS: 15</p>
PREREQUISITES:	<p>CN 2127 Introduction to Film and Television Studies CN 3160 Digital Storytelling OR CIN 3130 Directing Fundamentals</p> <p>CO-REQUISITE: CN 4337 Screenwriting</p>	
CATALOG DESCRIPTION:	<p>Techniques and methods of preproduction, production and postproduction of short films.</p>	
RATIONALE:	<p>This course familiarizes students with all relevant stages required to make a short fiction film. Students are instructed regarding the planning, designing and executing of their film with special emphasis to preproduction requirements, producing, writing, directing and lighting technique and editing. This is an essential course for students interested in making films as it allows them to hone the skills they have acquired through the program and develop them further.</p>	
LEARNING OUTCOMES:	<p><i>As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create a video project that displays a variety of aesthetic and directing techniques. 2. Demonstrate knowledge of the application of aesthetic elements that help translate an idea into a visual message. 3. Evaluate the aesthetic parameters of a project and how they are used to effectively clarify, intensify and interpret visual messages. 4. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the requirements for planning and organizing the production of a short film 5. Apply suitable pictorial principles of visual communication to meet production objectives. 	
METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:	<p>In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures and class discussions. • Homework assignments. • Film and video screenings. • Film Workshops • Editing labs • Office hours held by the instructor to provide further assistance to students. • Use of library facilities for further study and preparation for the exams • Use of the Blackboard course management platform to further support communication, by posting lecture notes, assignment instruction, timely announcements, formative quizzes and online submission of assignments. 	

ASSESSMENT:	<p>Summative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="643 185 1441 443"> <tr> <td>First assessment -Portfolio of preparatory work for production (3,300-3,500 words)</td><td>30%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Second Assessment: In-class final project presentation</td><td>10%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Final assessment -Final video project (7 – 10 min ')</td><td>60%</td></tr> </table> <p>Formative:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="643 515 1441 589"> <tr> <td>In-class exercises</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> <p>The formative assessments aims to prepare students for the summative assessments. The first assessment (portfolio) tests learning outcome 2, 3 and 4 The second assessment tests learning outcomes 2 The final assessment tests learning outcome 1, 4 and 5.</p> <p>Students are required to resit failed assessments in this module.</p>	First assessment -Portfolio of preparatory work for production (3,300-3,500 words)	30%	Second Assessment: In-class final project presentation	10%	Final assessment -Final video project (7 – 10 min ')	60%	In-class exercises	0
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In-class exercises	0								
INDICATIVE READING:	<p>REQUIRED READING: Hurbis-Cherrier, M. (2018). Voice & Vision (3rd ed.). Taylor and Francis.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED READING: Ascher, Steven and Pincus, Edward. The Filmmaker's Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide to the Digital Age. Plume; 2013 Mamer, Bruce. Film Production Technique: Creating the Accomplished Image, Wadsworth, 2000. Mamet, David. On Directing Film. Penguin Books; 1992 Rea, Peter and Irving, David Zettl, Herbert. Applied Media Aesthetics, Wadsworth, 2008 Other sources, including journal and newspapers' articles, research papers etc. recommended by the instructor throughout the semester.</p>								
INDICATIVE MATERIAL: (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)	<p>REQUIRED MATERIAL: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL: Sam Mendez. <i>American Beauty</i> (1999) Joe Wright. <i>Atonement</i>(2007) Tom Tykwer. <i>Heaven</i> (2002) Godfrey Reggio. <i>Koyaanisqatsi</i> (1982) Stanley Kubrick. <i>Full Metal Jacket</i> (1987) M. Night Shyamalan. <i>The Sixth Sense</i> (1999) Krzysztof Kiesloski. <i>Trois couleur: Bleu</i> (1993) Michael Curtiz. <i>Casablanca</i>(1942) Alfred Hitchcock. <i>Rear Window</i> (1954) Charlie Chaplin. <i>City Lights</i> (1931) David Lean. <i>Lawrence of Arabia</i>(1962)</p>								

COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:	Blackboard and an active ACG email account. High standards of oral and written English for all assignments
SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:	MS Office and Blackboard CMS Screenwriting software; Editing Software
WWW RESOURCES:	https://www.studiobinder.com/ https://www.shortoftheweek.com/ https://vimeo.com/channels/staffpicks https://www.youtube.com/c/omeleto https://www.lecinemaclub.com/ https://wolfcrow.com/online-film-school/ UbuWeb: http://www.ubu.com http://www.openculture.com/freemoviesonline
INDICATIVE CONTENT:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preproduction development 2. Script development 3. Casting and rehearsal 4. Visual design and storyboards 5. Production logistics 6. Sound and microphones 7. Cinematography: photography and framing 8. Postproduction 9. Editing and compositing 10. Visual effects 11. Sound mixing