

FVC310 - FILM DIRECTING

Course Title	<b>FILM DIRECTING</b>			
Course Code	<b>FVC310</b>			
Course Type	Required			
Level	Bachelor			
Year / Semester	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year / 6 <sup>th</sup> Semester			
Teacher's Name	Panayiotis Charalambous			
ECTS	6	Lectures / Studio / week	3	Laboratories / week
Course Purpose	<p>This course seeks to develop student's ability to make unique and coherent directorial filmmaking choices while also developing the basic skills related to a director's craft.</p> <p>Consisting of seminars and studio work, this course develops the student's ability to communicate with actors and shape on-screen performance; to capture performance effectively through shot design and sequencing; to manage technical crew to fulfil a creative vision and to articulate a meaningful cinematic narrative.</p>			
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrate an understanding of the functions and responsibilities of a film director in the creation of a short film;</li> <li>• explore and exercise the techniques of script analysis, casting and rehearsals;</li> <li>• expand their visualization techniques by creating storyboard, floor plan and script marking;</li> <li>• explore and demonstrate the aesthetics and techniques of visual and aural communication and the creative possibilities of the filmic language;</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>employ all steps of pre-production, production and post-production through producing, directing, designing camera shots, lighting and editing for their own short films.</li> </ul>		
Prerequisites	CVC108	Corequisites	
Course Content	<p><b>Artistic identity and drama</b></p> <p>The World of the Film Director, Characteristics of a good director.</p> <p>Why Hollywood Methods won't work. Who is your audience, Styles and genres, Identifying the overall Theme.</p> <p><b>A director's screen grammar</b></p> <p>Film Language and Human Perception,</p> <p><b>Pre-production</b></p> <p><b>Script analysis &amp; breakdown</b></p> <p>Preparing the Script - Theme (spine of the movie), Premise and Concept, Director's Intentions</p> <p>Characters Objectives, The relevance of Character Wants, Actions and Activities, Conflict, Growth, and Change, Storyboards &amp; Floor plans, art directing and mise en scene.</p> <p><b>Directing actors</b></p> <p>Working relationship between director &amp; actor, casting and rehearsal are studied through exercises and discussions, actor and director prepare a scene, movement, gesture and voice that communicates emotional truth and meaning.</p> <p><b>Production</b></p> <p>The director during a production day, crew and equipment. Bringing actors and crew together. Blocking, lighting, rehearsing and shooting. Directing the actors on the set. Shooting with Editing in mind, continuity and coverage.</p> <p><b>Picture Composition</b></p>		

	<p>Camera Position and Movements, Scene Axis Essentials, Character and Camera Blocking, fragmenting the scenes, staging &amp; blocking on paper with floor plan and story board design.</p> <p><b>Post-production</b></p> <p>Preparing to edit, Editing principles, Editing from fine cut to sound mix, Titles, Acknowledgments, and Promotional material.</p>
<p>Teaching Methodology</p>	<p>Lectures, demonstrations and screenings together with detailed critical analysis at each stage engage students in the practice and disciplines of Directing. Lectures address the theory of film directing and are supported by practical demonstrations in which the information imparted is put into practice. Screenings are used to critically analyse student projects and to provide examples of good practice. This process is supported by individual student research through directed and independent learning.</p> <p>Students are required to produce and direct a short-length feature movie based on a script they have already written. The work is then critically analysed in a group discussion and screening.</p> <p>Lecture notes and presentations are available through the web for students to use in combination with the textbooks</p>
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p>Bibliographical References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frost, J. B. (2009), <i>Cinematography for Directors: A Guide for Creative Collaboration</i>, Michael Wiese Productions.</li> <li>- Reisz, K. Millar, G. (2010) <i>The Technique of Film and Video Editing</i>, Focal Press</li> <li>- Rabiger, M. (2007) <i>Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics</i>, Amsterdam: Focal Press.</li> <li>- Weston, J. (1999) <i>Directing Actors</i>, Michael Wiese Productions.</li> </ul>
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>Overall, the course is evaluated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Final Assessment 34%</b></li> <li>- Design Intelligence 40%,</li> <li>- Research and Methodology 20%,</li> </ul>

- Experimentation and Analysis 20%,
- Time management and Presentation 20%

- **Course work 66%**

Interim Critique 33%

Final Critique 33%

Students are required to produce and direct a short-length feature film based on a script they have already written. Students will be graded according to:

- Organization. How well organized and efficient is the production team?
- Is there evidence of thorough pre-production and planning?
- The originality of their approach to the medium,
- Technical competence in using the equipment,
- Over-all understanding and progress demonstrated throughout the production. Degree of Difficulty. How ambitious, imaginative and challenging is the production?
- Is the production well executed?
- Are the video and audio elements well integrated?
- To what degree does technique heighten or diminish the overall impact of the film?

Specific requirements for the final project and the assessments criteria are written down on project briefs that are handed out to you.

The active participation in class and in the activities that the course may suggest is also taken into consideration.

Special emphasis is also given to the final presentation of the final project during the final assessments before a panel of program tutors and the program supervisor.

**Assessment Criteria for the project are:**

Research and Analytical Skills                      - 30%

	Production competency and solution - 20%
	Presentation and Communication - 20%
	Final Assessments - 30%
Language	English