

0501A212

Digital Filmmaking

Instructor: TBA

E-mail: TBA

Time: December 21, 2026 - January 8, 2027

Office Hours: 2 hours (according to the teaching schedule)

Contact Hours: 60 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 4

Course Description

In this course, we will study the essentials of digital film production, including the technical foundations of effectively using camera, lighting, and other tools to convey a message, script writing, directing, editing, etc. The course will examine the video production industry for its job possibilities, focusing on the movie industry. This course also aims to deepen students' understanding of film as a technical medium by examining its fundamental forms and features and exploring various aspects of moving image production through practical and formalist approaches. This course will enhance students' comprehension of the technical, aesthetic, and sensory aspects and potential of audiovisual media through practical exercises and case studies. It will also expand their knowledge of how both artists and mainstream producers utilize film and video. A successful film is the combination of understanding the industry including conceptualizing and promoting a movie idea from idea to completion, understanding the language of the industry and the aesthetic/artistic decisions necessary throughout the process. Discussion will include presenting options for using such skills in related jobs such as making corporate videos, commercials and short-form media content.

Required Textbook (s)

Reading materials will be provided by the course instructor.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts on this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week I

- Course Introduction
- Job opportunities with the skills to be presented
- What all video content includes
- Why people watch media and how you can gain viewers with this knowledge
- Goals of media
- What's involved in saving video to your drive—it's a big issue
- Movies: the art and the business
- Elevator pitch; introduction to screenplay writing; film crew
- Narrative forms in films
- Tracking shots to develop characters
- Structure of movies—starting with beginnings
- Movie openings—grabbing the audience
- **READ PART ONE OF THE TEXT**

Discussion

Week II

- Mise-en-scène
- Trailers and making movies on a budget with examples
- Meanings in movies; structure of movies; how some directors made their films great;

- Narrative form of movies
- Lighting for video
- Cinematography and composition
- F-stops
- Camera framing
- Editing terms and concepts with examples
- **READ PART 2 OF THE TEXT**

Discussion

Exam 1

Project 1

Week III

- Editing continued; montage editing
- Effective Use of sound and how to attain quality sound
- Introducing genres and tropes
- Film genre and tropes
- Horror films
- Mixing genres
- Parody
- Documentary
- **READ PART 3 OF THE TEXT**

Discussion

Project 2

Exam 2

Grading Policy

Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Project 1	20%
Project 2	30%
<u>Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%

Examinations

There will be 2 exams. Each exam is worth 20%. Students are expected to demonstrate a good understanding of lectures and related readings in their exams.

Projects

There will be 2 projects. Students are expected to demonstrate a good understanding of lectures and related readings in their projects. Instructor is at liberty to request more information from students regarding their projects as a means of showing work is solely that of the student.

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors, however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to receiving a failing grade for the entire course.