

DMA 327

Independent TV Production (W 12:30-6:30pm)

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OFFICE HOURS

After Class or by Appt.

COURSE OBJECTIVE : advanced techniques and practice in producing, directing, and editing single-camera, film -style programs on an independent producer basis. Each student will serve as a co-producer in the production of a “10-12 min drama project” and will submit an individual Drama Project Report at the end of the semester.

Prerequisite: DMA 322 and DMA 323.

MATERIALS:

- (1) Class 10 SDHC card for camera original source footage and final edited sequence \$12ea
- (1) Walkman Headphones with 1/8” Mini Plug (*For monitoring audio on location*) \$10
- (1) Leather Work Gloves (*For handling Lighting Equipment on location*) \$3
- (1) DP Kit (*Assortment of tools, gels, and other expendables per DP Kit List in DMA 325*)
- (*) Food and beverages for talent and crew on location shoots, rehearsals, and casting sessions.

COURSE CONTENT

1. Pre-Production Phase - program concept and development; pitching the idea; script writing; shot blocking; location scouting; location clearances; casting; auditioning; costuming; props and art direction.
2. Production Phase - practice in single-camera EFP location shooting; basic camera dolly and crane operations; shot composition; lighting on location; directing talent on location; continuity shooting; and boom microphone system operations on location.
3. Post Production - practice in shot logging; EDL (Edit Decision List); continuity editing, music selection, and roll credits design and applications.

PRODUCTION PROJECT - each student, in conjunction with his or her co-producer team, will produce a:

DRAMA PRODUCTION - requires a minimum of “3” actors speaking lines in at least “2” separate sets for a total running time of 10-12 minutes including opening and closing credits. Each project must be shot utilizing a single-camera, film-style approach for subsequent continuity editing in post production. All footage must be shot using the department’s AG 150 HD Camcorders and edited on one of the department’s HD editing stations on campus.

Each co-producer team is responsible for securing its own script, actors, costumes, props, make-up, sets, location clearances, and talent releases.

CLASS CODE OF CONDUCT

NO FOOD or DRINKS! Consumption of food and beverages in our classroom and production labs is NOT allowed at any time. Food and beverages must be stored outside of class and labs.

NO CELL PHONES! Before entering the classroom each day, make sure that your cell phone is turned OFF so that any incoming calls will not disturb the class or cause you to be pulled away from class.

E-MAIL ACCOUNT REQUIRED In order to receive course information, assignments, and announcements, you must have an e-mail account which you can access daily. (*Campus accounts can be arranged for free*).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Cheating or plagiarism in connection with an academic program or class at a campus is subject to discipline as provided in Sections 41301 through 41304 of Title 5, California Code of Regulations. Please consult the University Catalog section titled “Academic Integrity” for campus policy on cheating and plagiarism.

DISABILITIES: Students with disabilities are encouraged to consult the University Catalog for information on Disabled Student Services at (310) 243-3660. Any disabled student requiring assistance with exams or other course work may use these services.

MODE OF OPERATION :

1. Each student will have the opportunity to pitch his or her idea for a drama project to the class. The instructor, in consultation with the class, will decide which projects will be produced for the semester.
2. Each student will then have the opportunity to decide which “project and co-producer team” he or she will work on during the semester. If the students in the class are not able to arrange equitable co-producer teams on their own, then the instructor will assign individual students to various co-producer teams based on the needs and balance of the class productions.
3. All projects must receive “**final script approval**” from the instructor before production on the project begins.
4. All co-producers on a project are “**equally responsible**” for all expenses (*SD Cards, transportation, craft services, and rentals*) encumbered during the project.
5. All co-producers on a project are “**equally responsible**” for all aspects (*pre-production, production, and post production activities*) involved in the completion of the project.
6. Each co-producer must submit a separate Drama Project Report (*See Drama Project Report format*) summarizing his or her participation on the project. Because different individuals within the team may perform different types, quantity, and quality of work, it is possible for co-producers to receive different grades for their work on the same project.
7. Students must secure a signed “**talent release**” from all actors, extras, musicians, dancers, and narrators who appear in the drama production. (*See Talent Release Form*). **All talent release forms must be submitted to the instructor at the end of the semester in order for the student to receive a letter grade for the course.**

STUDENT OUTCOMES - by the end of the course, each student will be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the basic techniques of drama project conceptualization and development, script writing format, shot blocking, location clearances, casting, auditioning, costuming, producing, directing, basic dolly/crane camera movements, and continuity editing of a drama project shot with a single-camera, film-style approach.

GRADING CRITERIA : the grade for the course will be based on the following weighted criteria:

1. **DRAMA PRODUCTION** - the resulting production value and entertainment value of the project. The higher the quality of the finished product, the better the grade. All projects will be graded according to the **Drama Production Critique** (*See Drama Critique sheet*). *Projects submitted LATE will be marked down one full grade.*
2. **DRAMA PROJECT REPORT** - the contribution of your work to the overall quality of the finished product. Each co-producer will submit a separate **Drama Project Report** (*See Drama Project Report format*) summarizing and evaluating his or her work on the project. The more you contribute to the project, the better the grade. The more challenging and sophisticated your level of work on the project, the better the grade. Your diligence in completing a thorough, astute, and well-written Drama Project Report, separate from your co-producers’ reports, will significantly affect your grade for the course. *Reports submitted LATE will be marked down one full grade.*
3. **PROFESSIONAL IMAGE** - the characteristic attitude and demeanor you project to your professor, staff members, and classmates during class and productions. It is the REPUTATION you earn based on your: punctuality; dependability; willingness to work and focus on the project at hand; ability to cooperate with classmates as a “team player”; interpersonal skills which allow you to be in control of your emotions during stressful situations; and your resilience to bounce back after failures. It is the image people have about working with you in the future. Professional Image will be based on your professor’s observations of your work and the evaluations you receive from your co-producers.

FINAL GRADE for the course will be based on the following formula:

50% DRAMA PRODUCTION
25% DRAMA PROJECT REPORT
25% PROFESSIONAL IMAGE

A (4.0) = 99-90%
B+(3.3) = 89-88%
B (3.0) = 87-80%
C+(2.3) = 79-78%
C (2.0) = 77-70%
D+(1.3) = 69-68%
D (1.0) = 67-60%
F (0.0) = 59 - 0%