FTVDM 122E: DIGITAL CINEMATOGRAPHY  
Summer 2017

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**  
An introduction to the principles and techniques of cinematography, with emphasis on digital  
technology. The class is designed to enhance students’ knowledge of camera formats, camera  
controls, lighting, filters, lenses, and workflow, all in the service of visual storytelling. Best  
practices for on-set workflow, crew positions and professionalism will also be addressed.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**  
- Demonstrate proficiency with all fundamental principles of cinematography including lighting  
design, art of the camera and visual storytelling.
- Demonstrate proficiency in all basic technical aspects of cinematography including the  
coordinated use of lighting instruments and digital cameras for desired exposure, color  
balance and visual effects.
- Gain a working knowledge of on-set workflow by completing shooting exercises serving in all  
essential lighting and camera positions.
- Shoot cinematography exercises and review “dailies” to maximize experiential learning.

**REQUIRED TEXT**  
*Cinematography: Theory and Practice: Image Making for Cinematographers and Directors*  
by Blain Brown  
**ISBN-10:** 0240812093

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS**  
*The Visual Story*  
by Bruce Block  
**ISBN:** 9780240807799

*The ASC Manual: 10th Edition*  
by Michael Goi  
**ISBN-10:** 1467568309

*The Camera Assistant’s Manual*  
by David E. Elkins  
**ISBN:** 9780240818689

*Digital Cinematography: Fundamentals, Tools, Techniques and Workflows*  
by David Stump  
**ISBN:** 978-0240817910

*Painting with Light*  
by John Alton  
**ISBN-10:** 0520089499

*The Filmmaker’s Safety Book*  
by Harry Box  
**ISBN:** 9780415745079
WEEKLY COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1
6/22 Tues: Course Overview, History of Cinematography, Visual Language
Lab: Photography Exercise
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Writing with Motion” and “Shooting Methods”

6/24 Thurs: The Camera System, Lensing, Perspective, Exposure
Lab: Exterior Shoot in Groups, Setups on Different Lenses
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Visual Language” and “Lens Language”

WEEK 2
6/29 Tues: Light as a Storyteller, Properties of Light, Light Units
Lab: G&E Protocol, Safety, Power
Assignment: Choose a 2-minute scene and come prepared to present it to the class, breaking down the camera and lighting choices — what were the choices made and how do they help tell the story

7/1 Thurs: Present Scenes
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Lighting Basics” and “Lighting Sources”

WEEK 3
7/6 Tues: Power, Distro, Exposure Relationships, Concepts of Contrast, Resolution
Lab: Lighting a Subject
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Exposure”

7/8 Thurs: Light + Camera
Screening: Tracks
Assignment: Write a short paper breaking down either the camera movement and lensing or the lighting strategies in Tracks. Prep TV scene assignments.

WEEK 4
7/13 Tues: Continuity, Shooting Challenges, Screen Direction, Time
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Visual Storytelling” and “Cinematic Continuity”

7/15 Thurs: Lighting
Lab: Speedlighting, Review Dailies
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Set Operations”, “Technical Issues” and “Film Formats”

WEEK 5
7/20 Tues: Lighting
Lab: Speedlighting, Review Dailies
Reading: From Cinematography: Theory and Practice, “Camera Movement”, “Image Control”
Assignment: Prepare TV Scenes
7/22, Thurs: The Moving Camera, HD Cinematography, Workflows, Color Theory
Lab: Moving Master, Review Dailies
Reading: Reading: From *Cinematography: Theory and Practice*, “Color”
DUE: Television Scenes Materials (Shot Lists, Overheads)

WEEK 6
7/27, Tues: Camera + Lighting
Lab: TV Scene Recreation

7/29, Thurs: Final Exam, Screenings of Assignments

**GRADING**

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Students are graded at the end of class and will receive a final grade for the course as follows:
- 20% - daily preparedness, participation, attitude and integrity
- 20% - in-class exercises and assignments
- 20% - speedlight exercise
- 40% - final exam, evaluation, performance, project or assignment

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students are expected to maintain focus, be prepared, to participate, be on time, complete assignments as required and with integrity, and show respect for classmates at all times. Cell phones are prohibited during class time. Laptops are permitted only during the lecture portion of the class, and solely for taking notes.

All students are required to dress appropriately for an academic environment. Comfortable clothes are recommended for this course. For your safety and compliance with health regulations, open-toed shoes are not allowed during this course.

You must attend every class. Absences will negatively affect your grade. Any students arriving after roll call but prior to twenty (20) minutes after the scheduled start of class will be considered tardy. Three (3) instances of tardy in the same class equates to one unexcused absence. Any student arriving later than 20 minutes after the scheduled start of class will be considered absent for that class. Three (3) absences will result in a drop of one letter from your final grade.
With its status as a world-class research institution, it is critical that the University uphold the highest standards of integrity both inside and outside the classroom. As a student and member of the UCLA community, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors. Accordingly, when accusations of academic dishonesty occur, The Office of the Dean of Students is charged with investigating and adjudicating suspected violations. Academic dishonesty, includes, but is not limited to, cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, multiple submissions or facilitating academic misconduct.

Plagiarism is a serious offense. It is the presentation of another author’s words or ideas as if they were your own. If you have any questions about documentation, quotations, and related matters, please do not hesitate to ask your instructor before submitting your work.

No cell phones in class, please. Turn them off before all classes and screenings. Also, no computers or iPads in screenings.

Please also refer to the UCLA Rules of Student Conduct at the below website:
http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Student-Conduct