Course Number: Comm-4312_001
Course Title: Advanced Production: Narrative
Credit Hours: 3
Semester: Spring 2015
Time/Location: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. BH 235

Instructor: Edward R. Tyndall
Office: 327 Bay Hall
Office Hours: Tues and Thurs 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. and Wed 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
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Phone: 361-825-2296

TEXT:

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:
If approached properly, this course will be one of the most demanding and time consuming courses you take during your time at TAMU-CC. Be prepared for this.

Work in the Editing Lab OUTSIDE of scheduled class time is required to be successful in this course.

You MUST be able to attend the ONE scheduled weekend shoot to be successful in this course.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
One SanDisk 16GB SD Class 10 Ultra Card
Three DVD –Rs
Funds to print one poster
Funds for one film festival submission

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:
Advanced techniques in the creation of narrative media content with a focus on scripting, production, and distribution of a short narrative film.

PRE/COREQUISITES:
Comm 3313, Comm 3315

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
- Demonstrate an understanding of the cycles of production by successfully writing, producing and distributing a short narrative film.
- Analyze practical approaches to shooting and directing narrative film content through field production and classroom exercises.
- Illustrate a mastery of post-production workflows through the editing, sound design and color correction of a short narrative film.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON THE ASSIGNED DATE:**
No late assignments will be accepted. Assignments turned in after the due date will receive a zero. Incomplete assignments will be graded as is. No exceptions other than for family tragedy or medical emergencies (w/documentation). No incompletes will be given for this course.

**ACADEMIC HONOR CODE:**
Students are expected to know and abide by the TAMU-CC Academic Honor Code. For all projects and exams each student must sign the following statement: “I have abided by the TAMU-CC Academic Honor Policy on this assignment or examination.”

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**
Strict attendance is required. There are no “excused” absences other than medical emergencies for which a physician’s care is required and that can be documented in writing or validated by the University Health Center. Such documentation or validation must be at the student’s initiative. All documentation must be submitted within one week (seven days) after you return to class.

After the second (2nd) absence (excluding documented, medical emergencies as just noted), the course grade will be reduced by one-third of a letter grade (3.33 points on a 100-point scale) for each absence. After the fifth (5th) unexcused absence, the student will be given a failing grade in the course. Tardiness or early departure from the class will be considered an absence unless the instructor has been informed and has approved, in writing, of mitigating circumstances.

**DROPPING A CLASS:**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

**CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students
engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in CCH 116, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC ADVISING:
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS:
Students who feel that they have not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in this class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, cla.tamucc.edu/students/studentinfo.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean.

GRADING:
5% Script Pitch
15% Script Draft
5% Green Lit Script Final Draft
20% Individual Production Book
10% Group Production Book
10% Shoot Participation
10% Small Group Criticism
25% Final Cut & Deliverables

GRADING SCALE:
100 – 90 = A
89.99 – 80 = B
79.99 – 70 = C
69.99 – 60 = D
59.99 – 0 = F
TOPICAL OUTLINE:

January 22 --- Review of Syllabus
Assignment --- Begin Work on Pitches
Assignment --- Screen FIVE Short Films on Reserve in Library
Assignment --- Get Textbooks
Reading Assignment --- Read Chapters 1-2 Running the Show

January 27 --- In Class Short Film Screenings/ Discussion

January 29 --- In Class Short Film Screenings/ Discussion
Assignment --- Finish Pitches

February 3 --- Pitches Group 1
Due --- Pitches
Reading Due --- Chapters 1-2 Running the Show
Reading Assignment --- Read Chapters 3-4 Running the Show

February 5 --- Pitches Group 2
Assignment --- Finish First Drafts Script

February 10 --- First Draft Workshop
Due --- First Draft Script

February 12 --- First Draft Workshop
Reading Due --- Chapters 3-4 Running the Show
Reading Assignment --- Read Chapters 1-14 Film Directing Fundamentals

February 17 --- First Draft Workshop

February 19 --- First Draft Workshop
Due --- Green Lit Scripts Announced

February 24 --- Small Group Workshop Green Lit Scripts

February 26 --- Small Group Workshop Green Lit Scripts
Reading Due --- Read Chapters 1-14 Film Directing Fundamentals
Reading Assignment --- Read Chapters 15-19 Film Directing Fundamentals
Assignment --- Finish Final Drafts Green Lit Scripts

March 3 --- Work Individual Production Books
Due --- Final Drafts Green Lit Scripts
March 5 --- Work Individual Production Books
Assignment --- Finish Individual Production Books

March 10 --- Small Group Pre-production
Due --- Individual Production Books
Assignment --- Start Group Production Books, Location Scouts, Casting
Reading Due --- Chapters 15-19 Film Directing Fundamentals

March 12 --- Small Group Pre-production

March 17 --- No Class; Spring Break!

March 19 --- No Class; Spring Break!

March 24 --- Small Group Pre-Production

March 26 --- Small Group Pre-Production
Critical Task – Locations Secure, Casting Complete
Assignment --- Finish Group Production Books, Conduct Tech Scouts

March 31 --- Small Group Pre-Production
Due --- Group Production Books
Critical Task – Tech Scouts Complete

April 2 --- Gear Draw/Shoot

April 7 --- Gear Return

April 9 --- Begin Editing

April 14 --- Continue Editing
Assignment --- Complete Small Group Criticism #1 Notes

April 16 --- Continue Editing
Due --- Notes Small Group Criticism #1

April 21 --- Continue Editing
Assignment --- Edit for Picture Lock
Assignment --- Complete Small Group Criticism #2 Notes

April 23 --- Start Sound Design
Due --- Notes Small Group Criticism #2
Critical Task – Picture Lock Complete
Assignment --- Finish Sound Design
April 28 --- Start Score/ Final Mix
Critical Task – Sound Design Complete

April 30 --- Continue Score/ Final Mix
Assignment --- Finish Score/Final Mix

April 5 --- Start Color Correction
Critical Task – Score/Final Mix Complete
Assignment --- Finish Final Cut!!!!
Assignment --- Complete Deliverables (Poster, Proof of Facebook Page, Submission to one or more film festivals [films to be sent after final screening])

Final Exam --- Screening of Finished Films
Due --- Finished Film and other deliverables (Poster, Proof of Facebook Page, Submission to 1 or more film festivals)
Final films will be voted on by class at the exam period, the winner in each group will go on to festival submission and student showcase screening.

Relevant Websites

Indiewire
http://www.indiewire.com

IMDB
http://www.imdb.com

IFP
http://www.ifp.org

Filmmaker Magazine
http://filmmakermagazine.com

Withoutabox
https://www.withoutabox.com

Vimeo
https://vimeo.com