

Advanced Video and Advanced Movie Making

Mr. Rauscher

Dearborn High School --- Fall 2019

rauscha@dearbornschools.org

<https://iblog.dearbornschools.org/video/>

Remind Codes- Advanced Movie Making: eh6gdg, Advanced Video: b287g2

Google Classroom Codes- Advanced Movie Making: g9vzpr, Advanced Video: a90eek

I. Materials

- A. Textbook --- Steven D. Katz' *Film Directing Shot by Shot*, published by Michael Weise Productions. This stays in the classroom!
- B. Textbook --- Blake Snyder's *Save the Cat!*, published by Sheridan Books, Inc.
- C. Binder or folder. Have one place where you store the papers from this class.
- D. Paper. Sometimes we need to write things down.
- E. Pens or pencils, any color but red, pink, or yellow.
- F. A schedule. You can use an agenda book, an old fashioned schedule, or an electronic one.

II. Course Description

This is an advanced production class for film, video, and television production. This is not a class for beginners. We have four goals:

1. Communicate through Media

You will learn the techniques of communicating through various media. You will become literate in reading and comprehending media.

2. Work as a team to produce complex media projects

Complex projects require teams working together at their best. You will learn how to build effective teams. This WILL require time outside of school hours for shooting and post-production. If you're not prepared to put in time outside of class, switch to a less demanding course.

3. Specialize

In order to succeed in media, you need to know what you do best. If you don't know yet, you will try out different roles. If you do know, you will move to the next level in specific techniques. If you're already a master, you'll learn how to lead that team.

4. Prepare for a career in media production

You will understand how to pursue a career in media. This includes knowing how to define key positions on a set and actually filling these roles on various productions. We will speak with current media professionals.

III. Course Content

- A. We will focus on the practical skills of media production. We will work together to learn skills and apply them in projects. We are free to pursue the techniques that the class is most interested in.
- B. After learning the skills, you will complete small projects to demonstrate them. While you may come to class with a focus in mind, you will have to occasionally step out of your comfort zone.
- C. Yearlong projects are the culmination of our work to be screened in May. These are mainly short films.
 - 1. You will be expected to fully participate in at least one project as a major contributor (department head or lead actor) and to regularly submit updates on your progress.
 - 2. You will be assigned specific tasks on these projects through Google Classroom. These tasks are scored. Everybody will be required to complete at least 120 points worth of assignments each semester.

3. Completing more than 120 points worth of tasks will add extra credit to your grade so those who take on the most responsibility get the most reward.
4. You will also conceive of a personal media project. This is your opportunity to stretch your skills in any medium you choose, so long as it is compatible with broadcast media. You can work in teams on this, but each team member must have a specific job title.

IV. Grading, Late Work, and Make-ups

Percentage of Total Grade	Category	Description
5%	Club Participation (William Kirk Memorial rule)	Participate in fundraisers; Be a student manager; Promote WDHS on social media; a great source of extra credit
5%	Written Tests	Maybe 1 or 2 per semester
5%	Semester Final	Each semester will have a practical final in which you will demonstrate your ability to work as a team shooting something
10%	Class Participation	When we work on skills during class, be a part of it; teach other students skills; when we watch movies together, watch and answer the questions; Complete group assessments
20%	Small Projects	After learning skills in class, you will complete small projects that demonstrate these skills
55%	Yearlong Projects and Personal Projects	Participate in one or more of the yearlong projects by doing all of the following: pitch yourself to work on projects; complete journals outlining your progress; complete day-to-day tasks assigned by me or the production team; present your ideas to the class; turn in completed assets; show up to shoots

All projects will have a specific rubric. You will be scored strictly by this rubric, which determines if you have met the technical requirements of the project. Demonstrate the techniques required.

There is no late work accepted. Since our class is designed for us to screen material regularly, your failure to turn something in will result in you earning a 0 for that assignment. For absences during a solo project, please contact me personally.

You will have the opportunity to redo any project within two weeks of the original due date and the higher grade will apply.

You are responsible for seeing me after class for your make-up work if you have an excused absence. You have the number of days you were out to make-up and hand in the work you missed. If your absence is unexcused, no make-up work will be given and you will receive a zero for any assignments from the day(s) you missed.

You have the right to retake or makeup tests. Retakes of tests will happen after school or during lunch on specific days in the week after the test. Again, the higher grade will apply.

V. What if I'm in Both Classes?

Unless otherwise stated, any assignments shared by both classes are required for both classes. You may have to do some things twice. This includes club participation assignments.

VI. Grading Scale

A = 100-94
A- = 93-90
B+ = 89-87
B = 86-84

B- = 83-80
C+ = 79-77
C = 76-74
C- = 73-70

D+ = 69-67
D = 66-64
D- = 63-60
E = 59 and below

VII. Rules

All rules fall under four categories:

- A. To help learning
- B. To keep safe
- C. To preserve property
- D. To keep me my job

If any rules do not fall under these categories, feel free to question them. The big rules are:

1. Respect each other
 - a. Don't touch each other
 - b. Don't insult each other
 - c. Keep the volume reasonable
2. Be prepared
 - a. Come to class ready to learn
 - b. Look productive
3. Respect equipment
 - a. Don't touch equipment we aren't using
 - b. Don't let random people into the studio
 - c. Don't steal. Equipment leaves the studio only if it has been checked out.
 - d. Be careful with the equipment
 - i. If you have a consistent pattern of breaking or losing equipment, you may be asked to leave the class and will be held financially responsible for it.
 - e. Be patient with the equipment
4. Don't leave the room without permission
5. No cell phones in class unless specifically told to take them out
 - a. If I see them, I keep them until the end of the class
 - b. If you're a repeat offender, we'll get more strict.
6. Follow the the DHS student handbook at all times.

VIII. Attendance

Your attendance in this class is incredibly important. Every day, a group is dependent on you to complete your part of the assignment.

In every group project, each member earns a different grade. Each group member will have the opportunity to grade each other's performance and that will be taken into account.

IX. Passes

The school is very strict about letting people out of the classroom. We will follow the rules of the school to the letter. Some days you will want to shoot outside the classroom. Make sure you have your planner for that!

X. Watching Movies

We will watch clips of movies throughout the class. Movie we will watch include:

Rushmore, Stranger Things, The Warriors, Rear Window, Swingers, Ghost World, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Breakfast at Tiffany's, Moneyball, Winter's Bone, Trainspotting, Henry V, Shawshank Redemption, Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist, The Godfather, Apocalypse Now, Star Wars, and Office Space

XI. Communication

I don't answer emails after 8pm. I live an hour away. I wake up at 4am. I have twin babies. My sleep is very, very precious. Don't wait until 10pm the night before to email me a question.

To keep posted on shooting dates, project deadlines, and other assignments, sign up for Remind at <https://www.remind.com/join>. Class Codes: Advanced Movie Making: eh6gdg, Advanced Video: b287g2

Individual assignment may be handed out through Google Classroom. You are required to check here regularly. To sign up, go to <https://classroom.google.com/> and use these codes - Advanced Movie Making: g9vzpr, Advanced Video: a90eek. You must use your Dearborn Public Schools email address.

XII. Time Outside Class

This class absolutely requires time outside of class. There will be shoots at various locations that may go late. There will also be time you may want to edit late at school. Be prepared to commit to extra time.

You will want studio and edit time outside of class. I will want to go home occasionally. If you need to stay late on Monday or Thursday, you should ask in advance. During crunch time, there will be specific planned late nights. The shoot days will be scheduled well in advance.

XIII. Equipment

There is a great deal of equipment at WDHS. Access to it is a privilege. Therefore, you must agree to the following rules regarding equipment use:

- You acknowledge that you will be responsible for equipment you use.
- You will not use equipment that you do not know how to use. you will ask to train on new equipment.
- If you use equipment, you will put it away.
- If you break something, you will inform the Equipment Manager and Mr. Rauscher immediately.
- While wear and tear and accidents do happen, you may be held responsible for equipment damaged due to negligence, misuse, malice, or through my poor choices.
- Violating these equipment policies may result in my losing check out privileges.

XIV. Parent Night

On Thursday, September 19th at 6:30pm, your parents are invited to visit the studio for an informational session. It is suggested that every student has at least one parent or guardian attend. We will cover important topics:

- Goals of the Program
- Requirements Outside of Class
- Careers in Media
- The Northwestern Scholarship

XV. Acknowledgement

This acknowledges that you and your parents understand the requirements of this course including the policy using equipment, watching movies, and attending Parent Night.

Student Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____