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**NAME OF SCHOOL: SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATIONS, CINEMATIC AND CREATIVE ARTS**

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COURSE: FLA 1040 CAMERA OPERATIONS AND AESTHETICS

CREDIT: 3

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**FLA 1040 CAMERA OPERATIONS AND AESTHETICS****COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The course will enable learners learn the fundamentals of how to effectively use a camera to complete an industry standard motion picture through proper framing, shot composition, appropriate and well exposed, focused and balanced images. The final outcome will include producing a film and emphasis will be on the application of key production elements.

**COURSE OVERVIEW**

This course is a skills based training on camera operations, techniques and aesthetics of cinematography. Students will be exposed to the competent and skilful use of the camera through a series of assignments that will stress the use of various tools of production into producing properly composed shot sequences. During the course, Pre- Production elements which are important ingredients for successful productions will be produced. Students will also develop group synergy by working as art of a team on a pre-determined script through lectures, workshops and consultation where formative feedback will be a common thread on work in progress throughout the course. The course operates in a working environment that is flexible; creative; self-paced; and provides off-class privileges for students to complete video projects.

**NOTE: In addition to class hours, additional hours and homework will be required outside of class time.**

**LINK TO UNIVERSITY MISSION OUTCOMES & TO PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES**

This course seeks to equip the students with the requisite knowledge and skills necessary for the use of Film/Video Cameras. Students develop the ability to apply basic cinematic techniques of composition and movement and when applied will empowers the students with the ability to become competent visual story tellers. Students also develop competency in visual communication using film-based technologies. The course also sharpens student's awareness, knowledge and appreciation of different camera operation techniques that enables the students to grow their ability to be competent Camera operators.

**EXPECTED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

At the end of the course you should be able to:

1. Explain fundamental film terminologies used in the film production industry.
2. Skilfully use cinematography techniques to communicate visually

3. Skilfully operate a film/video camera to capture and complete aesthetic visual projects.
4. Understand and perform a variety of functions of crew members in a film production.
5. Produce a portfolio demonstrating a working knowledge of Pre-production
6. Produce a portfolio demonstrating a working knowledge of cinematography.

**CONTENT & CLASS SCHEDULE:**

WEEK	LECTURE/WORKSHOP TOPICS	LEARNING OUTCOME	ACTIVITY/ASSIGNMENT	NOTES/READINGS/ASSESSMENTS
1	Lecture: Introduction to Camera Operations and Aesthetics course.	Welcome note Overview of course outline and expected learning outcome	Discussion	Watch and Discuss Documentary SIDE/SIDE
2	SHOT LIST <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Close up: Wide Close up, Wide Close up</li> <li>2. Wide Shot: Long Shot, Full shot</li> <li>3. Medium Shot: (Dolly ZOOM) Medium Close up, Medium Long shot, Cowboy Shot</li> <li>4. Extreme Close up:</li> <li>5. Extreme Long Shot</li> </ol> Best Shots of all times; <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWiiEiyWFTY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWiiEiyWFTY</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SINviMsi0K0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SINviMsi0K0</a>	Help students become visually literate. Learn importance of shot list To engage students in an exploration of Shot types/ Framing	<b>Lecture,</b> <b>Watch Video tutorials.</b> <b>Design a shot list template.</b> <b>Present and illustrate good examples of Shots and frames</b>	Setting up your Shots (Page 1-11) Grammar of the Edit (Pg 13-23)
3	Week 3: Angles and perspective and Composition Techniques  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLfZL9PZI9k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLfZL9PZI9k</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SINviMsi0K0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SINviMsi0K0</a>	Help students become visually literate. Learn importance of angles and perspectives To engage students in an exploration of Angles and perspectives	Watch a favorite movie and imagine of different equipment used to move the camera.  Present and illustrate good examples of Angles and perspective	Setting up your Shots (Pg 51-63) Film production Techniques (pg7-10)
4	SHOTS OF PEOPLE Over the shoulder Shots Dual layer Shots <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4hfGzDtzXk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4hfGzDtzXk</a>	Help students become visually literate. Learn importance of shots of people	<b>Present and illustrate good examples of Shots of people</b>	Film makers Handbook (Pg 253-270) Setting up your Shots (Pg 13-22)

	Two Shot <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbZD74gnoqU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbZD74gnoqU</a> GROUP SHOT Crowd Shots <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHY1HealSL4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHY1HealSL4</a>	To engage students in an exploration and the art of composing and shooting people.		
5	Camera Movement Slow push in –Dolly in Creep Out-Dolly Out PAN, TILT, COMBINATION WONDERING CAMERA MOVEMENT  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbnYBmqBbKA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbnYBmqBbKA</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2c3JZ6X3f8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2c3JZ6X3f8</a>	Help students become visually literate. Learn importance of camera movements To engage students in an exploration of the art of camera movement.	<b>Present and illustrate good examples of Camera movements</b>	Setting Up your Shots (Pg 23-49) Film Production Techniques (Pg 1-18)
6	THE CINEMATOGRAPHER (ROBERT YEOMAN) Talking about pre-visualization SHOT LIST and SHOOTING SCRIPT OVERHEAD and STORY BOARD <a href="https://onanimation.com/2016/12/12/behind-the-scenes-with-cinematographer-robert-yeoman/">https://onanimation.com/2016/12/12/behind-the-scenes-with-cinematographer-robert-yeoman/</a>	Help students become visually literate. Learn importance of four pre-visualization elements. To engage students in an exploration of the design of pre-visualization elements.	Present and illustrate good examples of the four pre-visualization elements.	Film Production Techniques (Pg 58-69)
7	<b>MID TERM EXAMINATION (This is a Sit-in Examination covering all that has been discussed in Class)</b>			
8	Practical Camera Operations: SHOT LIST AND SHOOTING SCRIPT Field Production (Script attached) (Due week 9) Intro <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCEkkhulzYY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oCEkkhulzYY</a>  Shots <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyML8xuKfoc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyML8xuKfoc</a> Shot list <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhXMPbk3GDA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhXMPbk3GDA</a>	<b>Pre-visualization elements assignment Discussion</b> Design Shot List and Shooting script.	Create and use preproduction documents  Present and illustrate good examples of Shot list and Shooting script	Setting up your Shots (Page 1-11) Grammar of the Edit (Pg 13-23)  Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360)  Group and Individual consultation

	<p>How to make a shot list Line script <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1HOiaikLJw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1HOiaikLJw</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISPbo5sD6UE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISPbo5sD6UE</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEikJNjpWJA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEikJNjpWJA</a></p>			
9	<p>Practical Camera Operations: OVERHEARD (STAGING) AND STORY BOARD: Field Production (Script attached) Due Week 10 Blocking and staging <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-4rk3T8PbQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o-4rk3T8PbQ</a> Story Boarding <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPrkxj2MyZI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPrkxj2MyZI</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-578C3gFepU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-578C3gFepU</a> Blocking/ Overhead <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FBnSmbafC8&amp;t=815s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FBnSmbafC8&amp;t=815s</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TMhVqBrR9A">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4TMhVqBrR9A</a> <a href="https://design.tutsplus.com/tutorials/storyboarding-part-2-lingo-camera-shots-techniques--cms-31171">https://design.tutsplus.com/tutorials/storyboarding-part-2-lingo-camera-shots-techniques--cms-31171</a></p>	<p>Pre-visualization elements assignment Discussion Design Overhead and Story Board.</p>	<p><b>Create and use preproduction documents such as storyboards, shooting scripts,</b></p> <p><b>Present and illustrate good examples of Overhead and Story Boards</b></p> <p><b>PROJECT ONE DUE (SHOT LIST AND SHOOTING SCRIPT)</b></p>	<p>Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360) Group and Individual consultation</p>
10	<p>Practical: Guided Production of Final Project 1. (Script attached) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s</a></p>	<p>Pre-visualization elements assignment Discussion Design Shot List and Shooting script</p>	<p><b>Create and use preproduction documents such as storyboards, shooting scripts,</b></p> <p><b>Present and illustrate good examples of Script breakdown Sheet</b></p> <p><b>PROJECT TWO DUE (Overhead And Story Board)</b></p>	<p>Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360) Group and Individual consultation</p>

11	<b>Practical: Guided Production of Final Project 2. (Script attached)</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s</a>	To engage students in production Processes and procedures	FINAL PROJECT PRODUCTION Students will produce a Short Dramatic Film	Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360) Group and Individual consultation
12	<b>Practical: Guided Production of Final Project 3. (Script attached)</b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8NCLf9rF6IQ</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkZvM1Kq-0s</a>	To engage students in Production Processes and procedures	FINAL PRODUCTION AND POST PRODUCTION Students will produce a Short Dramatic Film	Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360) Group and Individual consultation
13	<b>Practical: Guided Production of Final Project 4. (Script attached) PREVIEW</b>	To engage students in review and criticism	FINAL PRODUCTION AND POST PRODUCTION Students will present their final project for Review <b>FINAL PROJECT REVIEW AND SCREENING</b>	Film makers Handbook (Pg 355-360) Group and Individual consultation
14	<b>EXAM WEEK: FINAL PROJECT SUBMISSION</b>			

#### TEACHING METHODS

The course will be conducted through lectures and class discussions, illustrations using PDs/ DSLR Cameras and practical Workshop exercises. The emphasis will be a 'hands-on' approach and at least 50% of instruction will practical. The student is expected to spend 9 hrs every week outside class to complete assignments and study for the course.

#### COURSE TEXT & OTHER READINGS

**NOTE: (The following online textbooks are available through VPN)**

- de, Valk, Mark, et al. *The Film Handbook*, Taylor & Francis Group, 2013. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uskenya-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1186455>.
- Ward, Peter. *Picture Composition*, Taylor & Francis Group, 2002. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uskenya-ebooks/detail.action?docID=297073>.
- Andersson, Barry, and Janie L. Geyen. *The DSLR Filmmaker's Handbook : Real-World Production Techniques*, John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2015. ProQuest Ebook Central, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uskenya-ebooks/detail.action?docID=1895186>.

#### RECOMMENDED REFERENCE MATERIAL:

- Myers, M (Cinematography: A Visual Guide: the art and craft of creating the image.
- Millerson, G and Owens J (2012) Video Production Handbook

- Mamer B, Film Production Technique: Creating the Accomplished Image Jan 3, 2013
- Hall, B Understanding Cinematography.
- Stump, D (2013) Capturing the Shot: Fundamentals, Tool, Techniques, and Workflows for Digital Cinematography.
- Hoser, T (2018) Introduction to Cinematography: Learning Through Practice.
- Anderson, B (2015) The DSLR Filmmakers Handbook: Real-World Production Techniques.
- Brown, B (2016) Cinematography: Theory and Practice: Image making for Cinematographers and Directors (Vol 3)

#### **OTHER LIBRARY RESOURCES:**

You can access Web Based Databases such as EBSCOhost, Ebrary, Keesings, Online, PsycARTICLES, JSTOR, Gale to locating articles in journals, electronic books, magazines and newspapers through the library catalog, which is available on-line from within and outside the campus via the USIU website (<http://www.usiu.ac.ke>). There are 24 workstations within the library, and Wired access points, available throughout the building, provide high speed network connections. There are also other workstations in the computer labs. Accessibility of e- resources off campus is through Virtual Private Network (VPN).

#### **COURSE EVALUATION**

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION	10%
MID SEMESTER EXAM	20%
SHOT LIST AND SHOOTING SCRIPT	20%
OVERHEAD AND STORY BOARD	20%
<u>FINAL END SEMESTER PRACTICAL FILM PROJECT</u>	<u>30%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

1. Mobile phones should be switched OFF during class session.
2. Computers should be turned OFF during the theory session and used to complete LAB exercises only during practical session.
3. Students who come 10min after class has started will not be allowed into the classroom.

#### **KEY INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC POLICIES**

Students should note the following are key policies as outlined in the University Catalogue and Students Handbook

Academic dishonesty

1. Any intentional giving or use of external assistance during an examination without the express permission of the faculty member giving the examination.
2. **Fabrication:** any falsification or invention of data, citation or other authority in an academic exercise;
3. **Plagiarism:** any passing off of another's ideas, words, or work as one's own;
4. **Previously Submitted Work:** presenting work prepared for and submitted to another course;

**Class Attendance**

A mark of 10 will be awarded to students who will attend all classes; fully engaged and actively involved during every class discussion.

**Disability Access Services**

Students with a disability who require academic considerations are encouraged to contact the University Disability Services soon as possible and update course lecturer.

**LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSIGNMENTS AND MISSED TESTS**

All assignments and projects must be submitted before or on the due date indicated on the course outline. It is part of professional practice to submit assignments on time. Any requests for extensions must be in writing three (3) working days prior to the due date. Any assignments received after any due date without at least 3 working days prior negotiation will have marks deducted at a rate of 2% per day. No negotiations will be made the day the assignment is due. Instructor has the right to deny extensions.

**10. USIU GRADING**

A	90 - 100
A-	87 - 89
B+	84 - 86
B	80 - 83
B-	77 - 79
C+	74 - 76
C	70 - 73
C-	67 - 69
D+	64 - 66
D	62 - 63
D-	60 - 61
F	0 - 59