

Syllabus for  
**TVF 455—Advanced Filmmaking**  
3 Credit Hours  
Spring 2024

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course concentrates on mastering single-camera, dramatic-production techniques, integrating all elements of cinematography plus perfecting the art of directing actors, and editing the dramatic work into a powerful story-based entertainment piece.

Students write a short film script that is produced, lead the production of a short film as the Producer and as Assistant Director, lead a film crew to accomplish the vision of a short film script as the Director and direct actors to achieve a consistent performance in a film style production, apply the duties of the Art Director in a short film and execute the role of an Editor in the post production process of a short film.

Prerequisite: TVF 287

Course fee: \$40

II. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Write an engaging short film with production needs that are within the resources available to execute it into a produced short film.
- B. Communicate the dramatic vision of a film to actors and crew members, and successfully direct actors to draw the performance that portrays the content written in the dramatic script.
- C. Describe, explain, and demonstrate creating a powerful short film that connects with the audience and makes an impact.
- D. Describe, explain, and demonstrate putting together all the logistics to execute a short film and manage its budget, including preparing expense reports.
- E. Lead a cast and crew that creates an environment conducive for the director to accomplish the vision of the film
- F. Lead a production day as the Assistant Director of a short film.
- G. Design, build, and accomplish all the responsibilities of a Production Designer/Art Director in a short film.
- H. Work in a large production setting where several crew members accomplish their own tasks while the director focuses on the task of directing the vision of the script.

III. ASSOCIATED PROGRAMS

This course meets degree completion requirements for the following program: Cinema/Television/Digital Media and Media Production.

- A. Cinema/Television/Digital Media and Media Production major
  - a. Outcome 1. Students will demonstrate basic competency in the aspects and processes of storyline development and cinematic storytelling.

- b. Outcome 2. Students will demonstrate leadership abilities while creating, organizing, and executing every stage of the production process for a dramatic visual media product.

IV. UNIVERSITY OUTCOMES

This course aligns with the following University Outcomes as indicated on the last page.

- A. Spiritual Integrity
- B. Personal Resilience
- C. Intellectual Pursuit
- D. Global Engagement
- E. Bold Vision

III. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials:

- Directing Actors: Creating Memorable Performances for Film & Television by Judith Weston, Michael Wiese Productions, 1996. ISBN 0-941188-24-8

- Directing, Film Techniques and Aesthetics by Michael Rabiger & Mick Hurbis-Cherrier, Fifth Edition, Focal Press, 2013. ISBN 978-0-240-81845-0

- Two three-ring binders, two sets of tab dividers, cash to print and make copies, subscription to Adobe CC or access to editing software.

B. Optional Materials:

-External hard drive.

IV. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. School or Department Policies and Procedures – not specified.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

D.

1. <b>Evaluation Procedures:</b>	Quizzes	20%
	Homework and Labs	12%
	MMI Film – Screenwriter	8%
	MMI Film – Producer	15%
	MMI Film – Director	15%
	MMI Film – Art Director	10%
	MMI Film – Assistant Director	10%
	MMI Film – Editor	10%

Grading Scale:	A	=	90 – 100 %
	B	=	80 – 89 %
	C	=	70 – 79 %
	D	=	60 – 69 %
	F	=	59 % and below

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements: none.

3. **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes and projects. Approved absences must be granted by the professor beforehand except for, of course, in the case of an emergency. If you are sick, email the professor. For **Administrative Excuses** you must present the corresponding form. All assignments due during absences are still due according to the schedule unless PREVIOUSLY arranged with the professor. Understanding that there are sometimes unavoidable circumstances that prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is for illness, personal business, and personal emergency. If a student has absences in excess of this number, the earned grade for the course will be reduced one letter grade for every two absences above those allowed.
4. **Tardiness:** Being late is disruptive and in a way disrespectful to those in class. If you are late, slip into class as inconspicuously as possible and join in as fast as you can. I understand that occasionally people are late, so don't feel you need to explain. Two 'tardies' are equivalent to an absence. Begin living by the industry standard: "If you are right on time, you are 10 minutes late." It is to the student's advantage to remind the professor immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to stop the class to mark the student late; the student is the one responsible to convey that information at the end of class. Students should not expect to be credible the following class session concerning a late arrival on a previous day.
5. **Participation:** This is a hands-on-workshop type of class, therefore participation during class is a must, and can be defined as a mix of listening and speaking, cooperation, respect, effort, enthusiasm, engaging... you know, being fully present (see #6 below.) **While the atmosphere is casual, I am very serious about the work. You are here to learn, which is directly dependent on the effort you put into the class, its assignments, and working with others.**
6. **Electronics:** The use of laptops, iPads, cellphones, smart watches, etc., are limited to class assignments ONLY. Work on the #1 hiring skill of the 21<sup>st</sup> century (the ability to fully focus on a task,) and silence your device for messages, updates, etc. Students who check their electronic device during class will be awarded a 'tardy.' If you are expecting a message from a job opportunity or such that cannot wait till a break or the end of class, talk to me beforehand and we can work something out. Otherwise, impress your friends and family by letting them know that you are not reachable during class time.
7. **Late Work:** The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments for the class following the absence. In the rare case of late work being accepted, a substantial penalty will be assessed.
8. **Computers, Procrastination & Murphy's Law:** It is unacceptable to come to class without the assignment due to printing problems or other *technical difficulties*. Don't wait until the last minute to write, print, edit, render, export or carry out your work. If you do, your computer will most likely malfunction. ALWAYS make a redundant copy of anything you do. The minimum industry standard is "3 deep." It is your responsibility to have the materials needed when required.

9. **Content material:** In order to be respectful to the various standards of other people in the class, students will write content that will not be found offensive by others.
10. **Copyright, Credits & Posting Online:** All class work is copyright of Oral Roberts University, as it is accustomed in the industry. Every class project will have credits in this order: you and your role, actors, crew, Executive Producer Rafael Barreiro, ©20??[year] Oral Roberts University. Online posting happens ONLY after the project has been approved by the Executive Producer. (Be aware that some film festivals don't accept submissions that have been previously posted online.)
11. **Safety:** Proper procedures need to be followed for shooting scripts that call for guns or any sort of weapon, stunts, and/or shooting near water or with fire. Special permission from the professor is required in advanced.
12. **Production:** No production is allowed to begin principal photography until the Director's coverage has been approved by the Executive Director.

<b>Film DEADLINES to achieve 100% completion grade:</b>	
<b>Director's</b> prep & coverage, <b>Producer's</b> prep, <b>Art Director's</b> prep (on D2L), <b>DP's</b> equipment form, color map (on D2L) DUE as schedule (Monday before start principal photography)	Meeting w/Exec.Prod.
<b>DP</b> must submit equipment reservation/check out form on the Monday prep meeting.	To Proj. Coord.
<b>Assistant Director</b> Shooting Order & Shooting List DUE by 10 PM day before shooting.	On D2L, each day
<b>Producer</b> sends Call Sheet by 10 PM the night before at the latest. (includes Exec. Prod.)	Via email
<b>Producer</b> announces when film wraps principal photography (includes Exec. Prod.)	Group Me
<b>EVERYONE</b> , each film self evaluation DUE within 5 days of wrap.	On D2L
<b>Art Director's</b> production stills and behind the scene stills due within 10 days of wrap.	On D2L
<b>Editor</b> works on editing from the moment the film is shot (dailies) and throughout other shoots.	
<b>Editor's</b> film for Gala competition DUE as scheduled. Email link and pssw to Exec. Prod.	On Vimeo w/pssw
<b>Editor's</b> MASTERS (one complete, one without music) DUE by noon as scheduled.	On hard drive

All communication is sent via email with copy to the Executive Producer.

**For each day late, the grade goes down 10%, except after it is needed, then grade is 0%.**

**NO ONE SHOOTS UNLESS DIRECTOR'S COVERAGE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY EXEC. PROD.**

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Please, see D2L.

**Cinema/Television/Digital Media and Media Production**  
**TVF 455—Advanced Film Directing**  
**Spring 2024**

This course contributes to the University and program outcomes as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

Program Outcome alignment with University Outcomes	Significant	Moderate	Minimal
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<b>Spiritual Integrity</b>			
TVF 355 - Write an engaging short film with production needs that are within the resources available to execute it into a produced short film.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 1. Students will demonstrate basic competency in the aspects and processes of storyline development and cinematic storytelling.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 5. Students will demonstrate business acumen reflecting Christian worldview, emphasizing honest and ethical behavior at professional industry venues.		X	

<b>Personal Resilience</b>			
TVF 355 - Work in a large production setting where several crew members accomplish their own tasks while the director focuses on the task of directing the vision of the script.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 2. Students will demonstrate leadership abilities while creating, organizing, and executing every stage of the production process for a dramatic visual media product.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 4. Students will use and apply industry tools and technology in the creation, production and distribution of digital media products.		X	

<b>Intellectual Pursuit</b>			
TVF 355 - Communicate the dramatic vision of a film to actors and crew members, and successfully direct actors to draw the performance that portrays the content written in the dramatic script. - Describe, explain, and demonstrate putting together all the logistics to execute a short film and manage its budget, including preparing expense reports. - Lead a production day as the Assistant Director of a short film. - Design, build, and accomplish all the responsibilities of a Production Designer/Art Director in a short film.	X		

CTD/MP Program Outcome 1. Students will demonstrate basic competency in the aspects and processes of storyline development and cinematic storytelling.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 2. Students will demonstrate leadership abilities while creating, organizing, and executing every stage of the production process for a dramatic visual media product.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 3. The student will demonstrate competency with industry standard video editing software, including concepts of importing, organizing, assembling footage (both video and audio) on a timeline, and exporting.		X	
CTD/MP Program Outcome 4. Students will use and apply industry tools and technology in the creation, production and distribution of digital media products.		X	

**Global Engagement**

TVF 355 - Describe, explain, and demonstrate creating a powerful short film that connects with the audience and makes an impact.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 1. Students will demonstrate basic competency in the aspects and processes of storyline development and cinematic storytelling.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 4. Students will use and apply industry tools and technology in the creation, production and distribution of digital media products.		X	

**Bold Vision**

TVF 355 - Lead a cast and crew that creates an environment conducive for the director to accomplish the vision of the film	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 2. Students will demonstrate leadership abilities while creating, organizing, and executing every stage of the production process for a dramatic visual media product.	X		
CTD/MP Program Outcome 5. Students will demonstrate business acumen reflecting Christian worldview, emphasizing honest and ethical behavior at professional industry venues.		X	