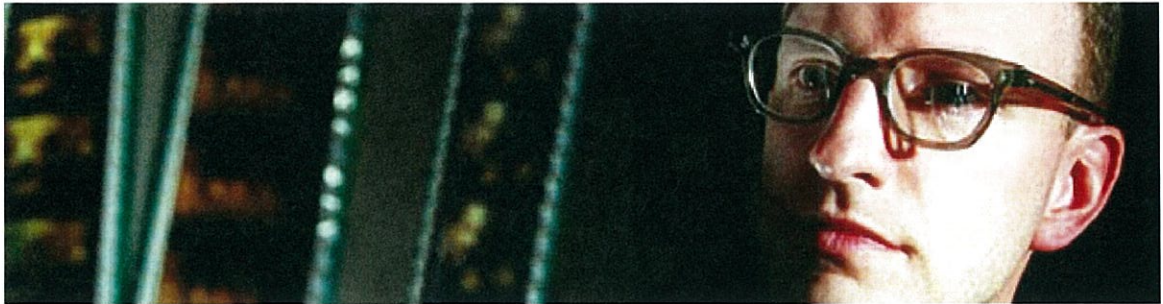


FILM PROGRAMME
2/2009 (13 July to 15 November 2009)
COURSE OUTLINE



FILM 222
INTRODUCTION TO FILM PRODUCTION
CRN 15540
(22 points)

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October
Study week: 19 to 23 October
Examination/Assessment period: 26 October to 15 November

STAFF

Course coordinator:

Lee-Jane Bennion-Nixon, Room 103, 85 Fairlie Terrace, 04 463 5641,
Email : Lee-Jane.Bennion-Nixon@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: These will be posted

AV Technical Officer:

Paul Wolfram, Room 105, 85 Fairlie Terrace, 04 463 6823
Email: Paul.Wolfram@vuw.ac.nz

AV Technician:

Bernard Blackburn, Room 104/105, 85 Fairlie Terrace, 04 463 9498
Email: Bernard.Blackburn@vuw.ac.nz

CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

Workshops

Tuesday & Thursday, 2-4pm, Film Room 205, 77FT.

COURSE DELIVERY

This course will consist of 2 two hour workshops per week. The workshop will normally involve discussions on key production areas which will feed into the students understanding of the film production process. There will be some guest speakers and some training sessions with technical staff.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information, or changes to the course, will be announced in class and posted on the course notice board in 85FT.

COURSE CONTENT

The aim of FILM 222 is to introduce students to creative and technical aspects of film production. Areas covered will include cinematography, directing, sound design and editing. Students will undertake a number of short exercises in areas such as camera, directing, editing and sound design and, as well as undertaking a variety of training using the media of digital video, audio recording and mixing, and digital editing. Those passing the course will have demonstrated creative ability at an introductory level in the field of audiovisual production and a basic mastery of relevant technical skills. They should also have enhanced their analytical skills and gained an understanding of filmmaking as a craft and industrial process.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To develop students' creativity.
- To introduce student to the key creative areas that make up a film production.
- To give students an overview of the filmmaking process.
- To give students the space to develop their technical skills.
- To give students the space to develop their creative abilities in writing, directing, post-production and producing.
- To enhance students' oral communication skills.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

This is a 22-point paper with a mostly practical workload. The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 15 hours per week to it. Therefore you should probably expect to spend, on average, about 8 hours per week (apart from class time) in reading and viewing, becoming familiar with equipment, and on course assignments.

GROUP WORK

Students will undertake a range of informal group work activities during the course. There is an assignment in which students will team up in pairs in order to produce an Autobiographical film, however marks will be given to individual work.

READINGS

There is no required reading for FILM 222. However it is expected that you engage with, and research, the areas of production intellectually as well as technically. You need to read the books available on production and the filmmaking process in the library.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Students will be required to purchase audio and video materials for their own use. Advice on purchases will be given in class, and some items will be available from the School. Digital video cameras, digital recorders and audio equipment will be issued on loan. Sound recording/mixing and editing facilities will be made available on a reservation basis. School equipment must be treated with the utmost care, and any malfunction or damage reported immediately to the AV Technician on 04 463 6823. *Due to differences between DV tape and DVD disc formats only approved Mini Digital Video tapes and DVD-Rs may be used with School audio and video equipment.* Bookings must be strictly adhered to and equipment returned on time, or other students will be inconvenienced and possibly disadvantaged.

You are required to read the *FAT Book* that is on Blackboard and posted on the noticeboard in 85FT. This will help you to understand our rules and regulations about the use of AV resources. It will also let you know what services and facilities are available within the Film programme.

ASSESSMENT

All assessment will be internal. There will be 3 assignments:

	Due Date	Weighting
Autobiographical Film	18 th Aug, 2pm (in class)	40%
Sound & Editing Exercise	6 th Oct, 2pm (in class)	40%

FILM 222 FILM PRODUCTION

Reflective Interview
(Approx. 15 minutes)

13th & 15th Oct (these
will take place individually
over 2 afternoons)

20%

Assignment 1: Autobiographical film

Description:

This assignment will involve making a short video self-portrait, 3-5 minutes in length. Students will work in pairs. Each person will write, direct, and/or perform in front of the camera, and they will take the role of camera person in their partner's video. Students will present their film in class in week 6, and articulate the creative processes involved in making it.

Assessment Criteria:

1. Fulfilling the task in a direct, relevant and complete manner.
2. Demonstration of engagement with ideas and materials discussed and analysed in FILM 222.
3. Evidence, quality and originality of creativity and artistry, including the treatment of autobiographical details and materials in a cinematic way.
4. Evidence and quality of technical ability, including shot composition, and editing-in-camera.
5. The ability to work in a team.
6. The ability to explain one's creative vision and processes.

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will enable students to explore their creativity through the presentation of an aspect of their own lives in cinematic form. It will facilitate their knowledge of film directing, visual storytelling, cinematography and in-camera editing. It will improve their technical skills. It will enhance their ability to communicate with one other person in a working environment as well as with a group of people through their class presentation.
manner.

Assignment 2: Sound & Editing Exercise

Description:

This assignment is designed to show how post-production work can alter and enhance material shot in the production stage of a film. The assignment has two complementary components. The first involves using Final Cut Pro digital editing software to edit rushes provided by the course coordinator. This provides students with the opportunity to "cut" a scene in a way that facilitates dramatic action. The second involves using Final Cut Pro to create a soundtrack to accompany a found footage sequence in a manner that "comments" on the story or enhances its mood. The results will be presented and discussed in class.

Assessment Criteria:

1. Fulfilling the task in a direct, relevant and complete manner.
2. Demonstration of engagement with ideas and materials discussed in FILM 222.
3. Evidence, quality and originality of creativity and artistry, including the capacity to edit visual material for dramatic purposes and the ability to develop a soundtrack for aesthetic and/or emotional purposes.
4. Evidence and quality of technical ability, especially with Final Cut Pro.
5. The ability to explain one's creative vision and processes.

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will help students explore their creativity by reshaping existing material in their own way. It will improve their knowledge of the functions of editing and sound design in filmmaking. It will develop their technical skills. It will enhance their communications skills.

Assignment 3: Reflective Interview

Description:

This assignment will involve a fifteen-minute interview with the course coordinator at the end of the subject. The interview will encourage students to assess their level of knowledge and understanding of film production, as well as their own learning processes. It will be structured around a series of questions that will be provided in advance. Students are strongly encouraged to keep a record of their experiences during the course to help them prepare for this assignment.

Assessment Criteria:

1. Fulfilling the task in a direct, relevant and complete manner.

FILM 222 FILM PRODUCTION

2. Demonstration of engagement with ideas and materials discussed in FILM 222.
3. Quality and originality of responses to the assigned questions, including evidence of preparation.
4. The ability to reflect on the course in an intelligent, considered and insightful manner.
5. Ability to express yourself in an articulate manner.

Relationship to Learning Objectives:

This assignment will allow students to demonstrate their knowledge and critical understanding of their own creativity, the key creative roles in film production, and the technical dimensions of filmmaking. It will also improve their communication skills.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

Work submitted late without an extension will be penalised two percent per working day. Except under exceptional circumstances, no work will be accepted more than two weeks after the due date unless specific prior arrangements have been made.

Extensions

If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Extension requests must be submitted to the Course Co-ordinator. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to pass the course you must have a high standard of attendance at workshops (normally at least 75%) and complete all assignments and achieve a 'C' grade overall.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately.

This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

GENERAL ADVICE

Please note that a professional attitude towards the care and borrowing of equipment is essential. This will constitute an assessment component in all relevant assignments, and penalties will apply for misuse of gear or failure to return it on time.

School Facilities

FILM 222 students are encouraged to make full use of the video viewing facilities (housed in 83FT) and the Library at 77FT. However, please note that videos and library materials do not leave the building. There is a coin-operated photocopy machine on Level 3 of 77FT. The Green Room in 77FT is also available to students working in the building. You are expected to clean up after yourself, including returning to the Green Room any mugs removed from there. The same rules apply for the kitchen area at 85FT.

Award

The Prize for Film Studies, arising from a fund established by the Wai-te-Ata Press, will be awarded to the best student of film history, criticism or production.

Important Notice

Safety in the premises occupied by the School of English, Film Theatre and Media Studies at 77 and 85 Fairlie Terrace is the responsibility of everyone who uses the facilities. While we make every effort to ensure that our premises are safe and hazard free, we need the cooperation of all students and visitors and hence request the following:

1. Any student or visitor who discovers an actual or potential hazard should report it without delay to a member of staff. Where possible written reports are appreciated.

2. All university equipment must be handled in a careful and appropriate manner in accordance with the specifications and with due regard to safety. Any breakages must be reported as soon as possible.

3. It is the individual responsibility of all students to read the safety notices relating to fire, earthquake etc. and to carry out the provisions as indicated in the notices.

In addition there are certain ground rules regarding conduct within the premises at 77 Fairlie Terrace and 85 Fairlie Terrace.

- Smoking is not permitted.

- Alcoholic drinks are not to be brought onto the premises unless authorised.

- All students are expected to assist with security by making sure that doors are locked, windows closed and heaters switched off before the buildings are vacated.

More details are in The Fat Book. We greatly appreciate your help with these matters.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

COURSE PROGRAMME

This course programme is subject to change depending the availability of guest speakers.

Week	Tues 2-4	Thursday 2-4	Tasks/Assignment
1	<i>14th July</i> Intro to Film Production	<i>16th</i> Storytelling through Film	Ass 1: Autobiographical Film Due Date: 18 th Aug Ass 3: Reflective Interview Due Dates: 13 th & 15 th Oct Set Task: Choose favorite film clip to discuss in class on 4 th & 6 th Aug
2	<i>21st</i> Film As Creative Process and Industrial Machine FESTIVAL GUEST SPEAKER: Mark Peranson (Director of <i>Waiting for Sancho</i>)	<i>23rd</i> 'Didn't Orson Welles Write Citizen Kane?: What A Writer Does' GUEST SPEAKER: Ken Duncum (Writer & Scriptwriting Lecturer @ Vic)	FESTIVAL SCREENING: Monday 20th July 6.30pm <i>Bird Song</i> & 9.15pm <i>Waiting for Sancho</i> Paramount Cinema Set Task: Choose a production role to talk about for 5 minutes in class on 13 th Aug
3	<i>28th</i> Cinematography GUEST SPEAKER: Aline Trans (DoP)	<i>30th</i> Producing: Script to Screen GUEST SPEAKER: Catherine Fitzgerald (Producer)	
4	<i>4th Aug</i> Directorial Vision Exhibition/discussion of film clip	<i>6th</i> Directorial Vision Exhibition/discussion of film clip	
5	<i>11th</i> Film Production: Management and logistics	<i>13th</i> Production Role Research You will present a 5 minute talk on a production role	
6	<i>18th</i> Ass 1: Autobiographical Films Exhibition/discussion	<i>20th</i> Ass 1: Autobiographical Films Exhibition/discussion	

-----Mid-Term Break-----

FILM 222 FILM PRODUCTION

Week	Tues 2-4	Thurs 2-4	Tasks/Assignment
7	8 th Sept Final Cut Pro Workshop (Paul)	10 th Final Cut Pro Workshop (Paul)	Ass 2: Editing & Sound Exercise Due Date: 6 th Oct
8	15 th The Editor's Job GUEST SPEAKER: Lala Rolls (Editor/Director)	17 th Sound Recording Workshop (Bernard)	
9	22 th Music & Sound: How Important?	24 th Special presentation Gary Rydstrom, Sound Designer	
10	29 th Finishing a film: What's Involved? Visit to <i>Park Road Post</i>	1 st Oct Working on Ass. 2	
11	6 th Ass 2: Editing & Sound Exercise Exhibition/discussion	8 th Ass 2: Editing & Sound Exercise Exhibition/discussion	
12	13 th Ass 3: Reflective Interview Individual Appointments	15 th Ass 3: Reflective Interview Individual Appointments	