



1155 N. State Street Suite 410
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 738-1616
<http://www.nwfilmschool.com>

CINEMATOGRAPHY AND LIGHTING

Instructor: Dal Neitzel

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Course Description:

This workshop is designed to teach techniques of video production and lighting techniques for studio and field situations. This hands on workshop teaches video esthetics – the mood one creates and how to tell a story with the moving image. This workshop is offered with Location Sound Recording. Prerequisite: Fiction or Non-fiction Video Production.

Overall Course Goals and Objectives:

- Provide practical experience in the technique of camera operation, framing, lighting and the art of motion photography.
- Establish a practical appreciation for the history of cinematography in the USA.
- Encourage critical evaluation of the art of motion picture photography.
- Foster a collaborative working environment which is typically required in film production.

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Appreciate the role that cinematographers play in film creation.
- Select proper camera settings in typical cinema conditions.
- Understand the cinematographers language and responsibilities.
- Choose camera angles, placement and movement to best illustrate the story.
- Work collaboratively to complete a complex project.
- Utilize this knowledge to complete a final project.

Dates of Availability:

January 6th – March 10th.

Instructor Bio:



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Dal Neitzel has been creating various non-fiction programs on film and video for the past 40 years. Although the bulk of his work has been in the science and cultural documentary genre, he has also produced a wide variety of live and prerecorded television from sports to drama, corporate and instructional video, interactive multimedia for web applications and museum exhibits. Dal is an active cinematographer, scriptwriter and producer. He has worked as an independent producer and also as a staff producer, director and writer for various production companies throughout North America. His work has appeared on CNN, PBS, Turner Broadcasting Network, BBC, National Geographic Television, ABC, The Discovery Channel, CBS, TV Barcelona, NHK-TV Japan and others.

Required Text and Materials:

There is no required textbook for this course, readings will be selected articles available online or handed out in the classroom.

Course Format

10 weeks, 20 hours in class. Class meets on Tuesdays from 6-8pm.

Class Participation

Students will work in teams. Failure to attend or participate will be very detrimental to your team and the quality and/or completion of your final project. If you plan on missing more than two classes, you should not attend. Failure to attend more than 8 classes could result in an automatic failure.

Late projects and assignments - Failure to screen a project on Week 10 will result in a failing grade for all members of the group.

Grading:

A = 90-100 points

B = 80-89 points

C = 70-79 points

D = 60-69 points

F = 59 points or less

Assignment	Points
Participation	20 points
Assignments	40 points
Final Project	40 points
Total	100 points

Class Participation means attending each class session, asking questions in class, etc. For each class session missed without an approved absence 5 points will be deducted.



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1st CLASS - INTRODUCTION TO CINEMATOGRAPHY

Introductions
Background in US Cinematography
Visual Language
Assignment For Next Week:
Bring in one excellent and one poor photo

2nd CLASS – CAMERA BASICS

Camera Basics
Focus
 Deep Focus
 Selective Focus
 Manipulating Perspective
 Compression of Space
 Circle of Confusion
Aperture
 Determining Exposure
 ISO/Light Relationship
 Aperture/Depth of Field Relationship
 The Gray Scale
Choose Camera Teams
Assignment for next week:
Shoot script provided demonstrating your knowledge of the above.

3rd CLASS- CAMERA BASICS CONTINUED

Review class assignments
Camera Basics
 Color
 The Nature of Light
 Color Balance
 Skewing the Color Space
 Shutter
 How Shutter Speeds are used
Assignment For Next Week:
Shoot script provided demonstrating your knowledge of the above.

4th Class – COMPOSITION AND SCENE PLOTTING

Framing the Shot
Plotting Filmspace
Assignment For Next Week:
Using the script provided plot out camera positions for all set-ups

5th CLASS – CAMERA DYNAMICS

Movement Types
Camera Mounting
Cranes and Jibs



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Aerial Shots
Wheeled Shots
Assignment For Next Week:
Shoot a two minute scene using innovative movement techniques

6th CLASS - LIGHTING

Lighting Instruments
Practical Demonstration
Assignment For Next Week:
Using stage plan from earlier add lighting to your plot

7th CLASS - CONTINUITY

Types of Continuity
Content
Movement
Position
Time
The Line
Screen Direction
Reverse
Breaking the Rules
Cheating
Assignment For Next Week:
Shoot scene provided using everything you've learned so far

8th CLASS – THE GREEN SCREEN

Practical Demonstration at BTV10
Final Projects Begin

9th CLASS – YOUR TWO HOURS

Bring Your Questions and Problems or Solve Assigned Problems
Assignment For Next Week:
Final Projects

10th CLASS – FINAL PROJECTS VIEW

Peer Review & Critique of Final Projects

Academic Dishonesty Policy - Western Washington University students are responsible for reading, understanding, and following the policy and procedures regarding academic dishonesty as set forth in the *WWU Academic Dishonesty Policy and Procedure* (see Appendix D of the University Bulletin).



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Incomplete Course Work - Incomplete coursework will be judged on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the instructor.

Accessing Grade Reports - Grade Reports will be posted online at <http://www.nwfilmschool.com>.

Accessing Online Class Procedure - All class procedures and materials will be available at <http://www.nwfilmschool.com>.

Students with Disabilities - To request disability accommodation or assistance related to required course procedures please contact Disability Resources for Students, OM 110, 360-650-3083.