Mission Statement:
Our mission is to serve as a leading center of Christian thought and action providing an excellent education from a biblical perspective and global context in pivotal professions to equip Christian leaders to change the world.

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION & THE ARTS**
**DEPARTMENT OF CINEMA TELEVISION**

CTVU 446—Cinematography
Spring 2011
On Campus
Section 1 Wednesdays 1:30 to 4:30 pm
Screening Room B and Com 125
Section 2 Thursdays 9 am to 11:55 am
Screening Room B and Television Studio
Section 3 Thursdays 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Screening Room B, and the Television Studio

All students are required to read and have a thorough understanding of the syllabus. Any questions or concerns need to be addressed to the instructor.
COURSE DESCRIPTION

CTVU 446/CTV 546 Cinematography Students explore the techniques used in photography for cinema, television and other media. Students focus on aesthetics and styles while gaining hands-on experience with cinematography equipment.

RATIONALE/COURSE OVERVIEW

As a working cinematographer I have a special interest in this class. It is the craft that I have practiced for the past 30 some years and continue to enjoy and pursue. I will come to the class as a professional and expect nothing less from you. Passion and integrity should be the marks of a Christian who is working in the film/production industry.

Cinematography is a craft; a craft that takes a lifetime to master. Cinematography is a craft that is in a constant state of change. Change is driven by new products, new technology, but more than all of those, the pressure on those practicing the craft to push out the “envelope”. Like all crafts there are facts and formulas; the “science” to learn. And there is the “art”, which is harder and takes longer to learn. This course is designed to explore the aesthetics, techniques, and technology of cinematography and how it is currently practiced in the television and motion picture industry. Some of the topics of study will include (1) the style and look of camera work present in today’s films and television (2) the style, aesthetics, and techniques of several genres and their distinguishing characteristics (3) composition, movement, and framing (4) cameras, film and video, their care and handling (5) film stock and the relationship of the lab/transfer house and the cinematographer. Class meetings will consist of lectures, group discussions, in-class demonstrations, review of student projects, and viewing of contemporary films.

Directing is a leadership role. As a cinematographer you have the responsibility to lead on artistic as well as practical levels. Scripture has several important things to say about leadership. Mark 10:43-45 “Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” We are going to learn skills relating to film and video production but just as importantly we will learn how to work as a team. The walking out of your faith in a very real way with your classmates is a vitally important part of the learning in this class.

PREREQUISITES

While there are no prerequisites for this class in order to complete class projects students will need to have access to equipment. Equipment can be obtained thru the Equipment office but students will need to have those privileges. Students can also use other equipment that they may have access to.
Department of Cinema Television Goals:

- **Christian Worldview:** Biblically-based exploration of the impact of cinema-TV on the audience and/or creators.
- **Academics:** To maintain a creative educational experience where students learn through scholarship and the creation of artistic projects that examine and reflect our ever-changing industry.
- **Christian Community:** To foster an environment in and out of the classroom that promotes the principles of a Christian community.
- **Global Competence:** To critically examine through scholarship and creative projects the aesthetics and techniques of artists and artifacts (in film, video, internet, etc.) from various cultures.
- **Stewardship:** To teach the biblical and professional principles of faithful stewardship through scholarship and practice.
  - Understanding of the techniques and practices of CTV production including preproduction, principle photography, post-production, distribution, and the use of relevant tools for each of these stages.
  - Proficiency in the production of Cinema-Television works.

BA in Cinema Television:

CINEMA-TELEVISION DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM OUTCOMES

BA IN CINEMA TELEVISION:
Students will demonstrate:

- Relevant knowledge of the ways in which Christian principles are evidenced in the practice of their art.
- Ability to conceptualize the way meaning is structured and perceived in both film and video.
- Understanding of the techniques and practices of CTV production including preproduction, principle photography, post-production, distribution, and the use of relevant tools for each of these stages.
- Proficiency in the production of Cinema-Television works.

CTVU 446 CINEMATOGRAPHY OUTCOMES

- Set up and operate a professional video camera, framing shots, performing pans, tilts and zooms smoothly and seamlessly
  - Individual Student Projects, Final Exam
- Know how to build a film camera from its individual parts, including loading the magazine with film.
  - Hands on experiences, Individual Student Projects
- Break down a script for coverage and plan out the shooting of that scene.
Individual Student Projects, Final Exam

- Go beyond the “science” of light and begin the understanding of painting with light
  - Hands on experiences, Individual Student Projects
- Be aware of the “envelope” in order to find your place and use the skills God gave you to push it out.
  - Individual Student Projects, Final Exam

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Materials:


COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Textbook readings

Readings are assigned based on topics discussed during that class period. The student needs to prepare for the class meeting by reading and developing their thinking on the material prior to the class.

Projects

All projects shall be based on the knowledge gained from Cinematography (CTVU 446). Students will be responsible for the photography, the handling of the camera equipment, and dubbing the tape where necessary. All productions will be done as a group of three. All three students will rotate through the following three positions:

One student will serve as the DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY. The student serving as DP will coordinate the camera team, interfacing with the director or production manager where appropriate. The DP will also be responsible for proper exposure, white balance/lighting, and use of filters, design of shots. For the execution of the shot/move. Working for the DP the Camera Op will carry out the DP’s instructions, will maintain good composition and perform in a professional manner.

The third position is Assistant Camera. The AC is responsible for the focus of the camera, the typical AC duties, for camera reports (a copy will be turned in with the tape), slating the shot, the mechanical integrity of the equipment.

Project #1

Tell a short story, 2 to 3 minutes. You must have a beginning, middle and end. No sound is required and no dialog should be used. The story must be entirely told by the camera.
Project #2
Is a short 2 to 4 minute instructional video. No voice over or script but the audience should learn how to do something. The camera needs to be the method by which the audience learns.

Project #3
Each group must work on a narrative project. They should not direct the project but work as camera crew. I will accept any project that is in conjunction with another class or group. The project can be on film or video as long as it is motion. Please get my approval on any project before you start shooting. The first student to act as DP will contact the directing team and set up the shoot. The other two students will check out the equipment and prepare it for the shoot. All three students will take the storyboards, scripts, shot lists, and divide them so that each will have a share at each position. The uncut footage will be dubbed and turned in for grading along with the camera reports.

Quizzes
From time to time unannounced quizzes will be given based on the reading.

Final Exam
A final exam will be given the last class that will test the student’s knowledge of equipment and professional procedures.

Regent Speaker Series Paper
All students will be required to attend and turn in a written report on the speaker at the next class meeting. This assignment will be a part of the class participation percentage of the grade.

Attendance and Class Participation
Due to the workshop nature of the course and the group work attendance is extremely important and expected. Unexcused absences will result in lowering the final grade by one half letter grade per absence. Repeated tardiness will also result in a lower final grade.

Exams
There are scheduled two exams during the semester. The first will cover Corp Video and Docu-trainig. The Final exam will cover the contents of the course and look at the specifics of Documentary production.

Evaluation and Grading
The following criteria will be used in assessing grades.
PROJECT 1 ........................................... 20 percent
PROJECT 2 ........................................... 15 percent
PROJECT 3 ........................................... 10 percent
QUIZZES .......................................... 10 percent
FINAL EXAM .................................... 30 percent
Class attendance and participation ...... 10 percent
COURSE SCHEDULE (WEEK-BY-WEEK)

Tentative Schedule of Assignments

Session# 1. Wednesday, January 5th or Thursday January 6th
Introduction of the class and the players. Assignment of teams.
What is Cinematography?
**Reading Assignment: Block chapters 1-4**

2. Wednesday, January 12th or Thursday, January 13th
The Video camera, operation, how it works, how to get the most out of it as a tool. Jobs on the set, job assignments and positions in the camera department.
**Reading Assignments: Block chapters 5-9**

3. Wednesday, January 19th or Thursday January 20th
What is style? How does genre impact camera work? Interaction of lighting and camera dept will be explored.
**Reading assignments: Block Chapter 10, Brown pages 1-99**

4. Wednesday, January 26th or Thursday, January 27th
Basic mechanics of cameras. Outline and practice on set procedures of the 1st. A.C., basic dos and don'ts.
**Reading assignments: Brown pages 100 - 140 Elkins chapter 1**

5. Wednesday, February 2nd or Thursday, February 3rd
Analyze story-telling technique. Note the differences between film stocks.
**Reading assignments: Brown pages 157 - 161**
**Project # 1 is Due**

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6. Wednesday, February 9th or Thursday, February 10th
   Lens and filters, how to choose them and care for them.
   **Reading Assignments: Brown 141-156 167-176**

7. Wednesday, February 16th or Thursday, February 17th
   Mastering the light meter.
   **Reading assignments: Brown 177-238**
   Project # 2

8. Wednesday, February 23rd or Thursday, February 24th
   Correctly mounting the camera, moving it during the shot.
   **Reading Assignments:**

   **Spring Break/ CTV Modular Week March 4th**

9. Wednesday, March 9th or Thursday, March 10th
   Functioning in the positions in the camera department. Breaking down a scene and shooting it.
   **Reading Assignment: Brown 241 – 254 Elkins chapters 2-4**

10. Wednesday, March 16th or Thursday, March 17th
    Hands on walk thru of blocking and coverage of a scene.
    **Reading Assignment: Brown 257-275**

11. Wednesday, March 23rd or Thursday March 24th
    Developing a working knowledge of coverage and axis.
    **Reading assignments:**

12. Wednesday, March 30th or Thursday, March 31st
    Professionalism; the Christian work ethic.
    **Reading Assignment: Elkins Chapter 7**

13. Wednesday, April 6th or Thursday, April 7th
    How does the camera tell the story? Develop a visual language for telling a story.

14. Wednesday, April 13th or Thursday, April 14th
    Telling your story visually. Finding your voice.
    **Reading Assignment:**
    **Project #4 is due**

15. Wednesday, April 20th or Thursday, April 21st
    Team work, film making is a group effort. Where do we go from here? The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

16. Wednesday, April 27th or Thursday, April 28th
    Review student projects, critic skill sets, and look at self-evaluations.
    **Final EXAM**

**EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTION AND CLASS EXERCISES.**
Formal on-line evaluations will be carried out by students at the end of the semester. Comments and suggestions for improvements are always welcome during the semester.
INCOMPLETE GRADES POLICY
Students desiring an incomplete must submit their request to the course instructor and academic dean prior to the end of the term. An incomplete grade will be given in a regular course only for legitimate deficiencies due to illness, emergencies or extraordinary reasons acceptable to the professor, including equipment breakdown or shortages, and not because of neglect on the student’s part. Incompletes require the final approval of the school dean or his/her authorized representative. A regular grade will be given by the instructor if all requirements for the course are submitted by the end of the following academic term. The instructor will submit the new grade to the Registrar’s Office no later than two weeks after the beginning of the subsequent term. If all work is not submitted by the end of the term following the granting of the incomplete, a grade of FX (NP for pass/fail courses) will be posted automatically unless a Request for Extension of Incomplete has been approved and submitted to the Registrar’s Office. The FX shall be counted as an F in the computation of the GPA. Any student desiring reinstatement to the course after an FX or NP has been posted must register for the course in a subsequent term and pay the full current tuition for the course.

IN PROGRESS GRADES
In Progress grades shall be given when work is not completed by the end of the term for the following academic work: independent studies, internships, practica, portfolios, theses and dissertations. An IP is also an appropriate grade for courses in which the completion of course requirements for ALL students extends beyond the academic term in which the course is offered. An IP may be continued to a maximum of two terms when the student requests extension and the approved form is submitted to the Registrar’s Office prior to the end of the first term. If the requirements for removal of the IP grade are not completed by the end of these two terms. A grade of FX (NP for pass/fail courses) will be posted automatically. Exceptions may be made for dissertations, which may continue without penalty. Any student desiring reinstatement to the course after an FX or NP has been posted must register for the course in a subsequent term and pay the full current tuition for the course.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
As should be expected particularly at a Christian University, students will adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. This includes avoidance of plagiarism, defined as the uses of written and oral words of another person, including another student, without the express acknowledgment of the speaker or writer's indebtedness to that person. This also applies to the use of papers or other material previously submitted for grading purposes to instructors of other classes.

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC HONOR CODE
Students are on their honor to complete assignments with honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty involves intentionally or unintentionally stealing the intellectual property of others. Students are expected to be familiar with the university’s policy on academic integrity found in both the University Student Handbook and School of Undergraduate Studies Catalog (http://www.regent.edu/general/catalog/) and to follow it. As an academic and Christian community, Regent University takes seriously the call for integrity and penalizes breaches of academic integrity.
Students should be aware that submitted papers may be checked using Safeassign (Blackboard’s plagiarism detection feature). This feature will determine the percentage of the submitted paper that matches other sources and will generate a report. Scores below 15% include quotes and few common phrases or blocks of text that match other documents, these papers indicate no evidence of the possibility of plagiarism. Scores between 15% and 40% include extensive quoted or paraphrased material or may include plagiarism and will require further review. Scores over 40% indicate a high probability the text in the paper was copied from other sources and should be reviewed for plagiarism. The professor or instructor will contact the student if plagiarism is a concern.

DISABILITY STATEMENT
The student is responsible for contacting Director of Student Life at 757.352.4867 to request accommodations, provide necessary documentation, and make arrangements with each instructor.
The following website is designed to help our disabled students learn of their rights and responsibilities with regards to disability services. The site also has resources for faculty to become better informed of their responsibilities towards the disabled students in their classes. [http://www.regent.edu/disabilities](http://www.regent.edu/disabilities)

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATION
Becoming Christian leaders includes learning how to evaluate others by providing honest evaluations that include positive affirmation and constructive feedback, as appropriate. Consequently, university policy requires that all students submit a formal student evaluation of teaching form at the end of the academic term. This mandatory requirement must be completed before students will be able to access their final course grade. This form is only available in an online format. Prior to the end of the course, students will receive an e-mail indicating that the form is available. Instructions on accessing the evaluation will be included. Since these evaluations are only available for a limited time, students should complete the evaluation as soon as they receive the e-mail notification that the evaluation form is available. Instructors will not have access to course evaluations until after grades have been submitted and will only have access to anonymous summary data. Students are also encouraged at any point during the term to offer comments that may be helpful to the improvement or refinement of the course. Students can access the online evaluation system at: [http://eval.regent.edu/regentsurvey/students.cfm](http://eval.regent.edu/regentsurvey/students.cfm). If you have questions about the online evaluation please contact [evaluation@regent.edu](mailto:evaluation@regent.edu).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES
Please review the following links for important information on University policies:

- [Academic Calendar/Registrar Information](#)
- [Bookstore](#)
- [Honor/Plagiarism Policy](#)
- [Regent Library](#)
• **Student Services** (includes links to student handbook, disability services, University calendar, University Writing Center, etc.)

• **Technical Support – University Helpdesk**

Last Updated: 11/19/2010

*At times, due to unforeseen circumstances, course content may be subject to change. Please check with your professor to insure you have the most recently updated Syllabus for this course.*

Regent University
1000 Regent University Drive, Virginia Beach, VA, 23464
Phone (888) 718-1222
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