

Cullman High School Television Production I



Syllabus

TEACHER: **Mr. John Drake**
TV Station: **CCTV 55 (Cullman Community TV)**
OFFICE: **B-Building, Room 30, TV Studio**
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Fees: There is a \$30.00 (Thirty Dollar) fee for this class, made payable to CHS.

Textbook:

Video Communication & Production by Jim Stinson (2002).

Internet TV Production Content Website:

CyberCollege.com by Dr. Jim Whittaker (2009)

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Television Production in which, through basic studio exercises and productions, the students become familiar with the tools of the medium and the processes involved in the creation of the completed television program. Emphasis is placed on understanding the role that software and hardware play in the structuring of visual, auditory, and motion elements to communicate through television.

Course Objectives:

Through assigned online and textbook readings, viewing numerous videos, and the completion of a series of video assignments, you are expected to acquire a thorough understanding of the basic elements of video production. This understanding should include the following ten areas:

1. General audio and sound microphone techniques, including the handling of common audio problems encountered in production.
2. Camera placement and operations, including color balancing, alignment, camera optics, light levels and the use of special filters.
3. The history of television, how television works, and television's social impact.
4. Lighting techniques, including existing light, bounced light and three-point lighting.
5. Handling Technical and production problems.
6. Elements of effective visual composition.
7. Editing techniques: assemble and insert, linear and non-linear, and the use of time-code.
8. Video reproduction problems, including time-base and generational loss.

9. A general understanding of postproduction, including associated audio and video equipment.
10. The ability to critique the strengths and weakness of video productions.

Production Assignments:

You will be responsible for completing three of the following assignments by the end of the trimester. Choices will be in correlation to each student's ability and experience. For example, beginning students will choose an assignment from 1, 2, 3, or 4, while returning students may want to choose from 5,6, 7, or 8.

1. Picture Essay. This 3-5 minute project will combine the directing/switching of your own pictures into a story that matches the music you select. You should plan on at least 30-40 pictures for a 3-4 minute song. You will pick your crew and assign jobs. You will be the technical director for the project.

2. Thirty Second Commercial. You will shoot, direct, and produce a 30 second commercial about a fictional product or service provided. It must be exactly 30 seconds for full credit.

3. Campus Story. Take any aspect of campus life here at Cullman High School that you want to tell a story about and develop a well-thought-out video piece.

4. Person at Work. Illustrate on video the relationship between a person and a job (*a real vocation or avocation, not a fantasy occupation*). Tell a complete story of the person/job interaction through the use of establishing shots, close-ups, sound, etc. After we finish seeing your piece, we should feel we know the person, know what they do (their complete job), and know how they relate to their job (including people they work with).

5. Mood Piece. Through subjective video techniques, establish a basic mood (tranquility, anxiety, reverence, anger, patriotism, or whatever) through your selection of subject matter and the use of camera angles and lighting techniques. Communicate this basically subjective feeling or concept. You may use ambient sound, prerecorded music, or a combination of both.

6. Mini Drama. Do a short (approximately two minute) dramatic scene with two or more actors. *This piece must include at least six, sequential, A-B dialogue sound edits.* Use a variety of shots keeping in mind the techniques of single-camera production described in the text. Particular emphasis will be placed on editing and smooth audio edits.

7. Public Service Announcement. Make an ethical, moral, spiritual or humanitarian statement. Time: EXACTLY 30-seconds. Assume a sophisticated audience.

8. Live or Tape-Delayed Television Show/Production. Be involved in a studio show, community or extracurricular event, or on-location event. This may include script production, sound editing, talent, video editing, etc.

Equipment Responsibility:

When you check out equipment you are legally responsible for that equipment until you turn it back in. Do not loan it to a fellow classmate or leave it in a place that has questionable security. You are responsible for the loss of the equipment or any damage to the equipment.

If you have any type of camcorder of your own, you are invited to use it. This will save you problems in checking out equipment.

Policy on Late Assignments:

Meeting deadlines is central to broadcasting and telecommunications. Deadlines on assignments will be absolute. ***Your grade will drop a full letter grade per day your paper is late, with a maximum of two days.***

Remember, spelling, punctuation and grammar all count in written work. If you miss a class you are responsible to find out what happened and for any

Being Late/Missing Classes

This TV course is very much Hands-on. You are expected to be in class, participate daily, and be on time. I will often give quizzes at the beginning of class that last about 90 seconds. **The quizzes cannot be made up.**

Examinations

There are subjective and objective tests that cover anything that may be covered in the textbook, on the quizzes, or in the TV studio/classroom. The tests provide a comprehensive check on what you have learned.

E-Mail and the Internet

A personal e-mail address is required for this course. If you do not already have an e-mail address, get one immediately. I will ask you for it in one week. Course information will be regularly sent by e-mail.

Grading:

Weekly reading, tests, quizzes and assignments	25%
Major projects	25%
Outside TV Shoots	25%
Class Attendance and Participation	25%
Total	100%

Credit to Mr. Miller at MHS, Cybercollege, and Prof. N. Metallinos for some of the material included in the design of this syllabus

Television Production I

By signing and returning this page to Coach Drake, it acknowledges the receipt and understanding of the information contained in the Television Production I class syllabus at Cullman High School.

Student's Name _____

Student's Signature _____

Date _____



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