**ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE**

**Humanities Division**

**CMS 110 – Fundamentals of Television Production**

**Course Outline**

**Course Number & Name:**  CMS 110 Fundamentals of Television Production

**Credit Hours:**  3.0 **Contact Hours:**  3.0 **Lecture:** 2.0 **Lab:** 2.0 **Other:**  N/A

**Prerequisites**:  None

**Co-requisites:** None **Concurrent Courses:** None

**Course Outline Revision Date:**  Fall 2010

**Course Description**: This course is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of broadcasting operations.  Topics covered include basic production, audio systems equipment and operations, camera operation techniques, lighting and video switching, master control, and studio operations. Also covered are electronic news gathering, electronic field production, and videotape editing.

**Course Goals:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. plan, record and edit a variety of television productions;

2. operate effectively field and studio equipment to record high-quality images and sound;

3. explain the fundamental concepts and terms of lighting and image control;

4. perform effectively various crew roles in field and studio production and post-production; and

5. explain basic characteristics of the television medium.

**Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs)**: Upon successful completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the following:

1. Plan, record and edit a variety of television productions:

* 1. *plan, record and edit a field interview segment;*
  2. *write, record and edit a news package;* and
  3. *plan, record and edit a studio segment or program*

2. Operate effectively field and studio equipment to record high-quality images and sound:

2.1 *operate effectively field cameras to control image, including white balance, exposure, shutter speed and gain;*

2.2 *judge and execute proper framing and composition, including headroom, noseroom, the rule of thirds, shot proximity and angles;*

2.3 *judge and execute proper audio recording techniques for digital sound;* and

2.4 *operate effectively studio equipment, including switcher, cameras, audio mixer, graphics stations, lighting boards, monitors, teleprompter, etc., and explain their functions*

**Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs)** (continued):

3. Explain the fundamental concepts and terms of lighting and image control:

3.1 *assess the lighting needs of a particular shoot and execute a lighting plan;* and

3.2 *utilize proper lighting terms and concepts such as three-point lighting, high key lighting, back lighting, etc.*

4. Perform effectively various crew roles in field and studio production and post-production:

4.1 *explain the duties of various crew members in field and studio production, including but not limited to, director, technical director, camera operator, audio board operator, lighting director, floor manager, and graphics coordinator*; and

4.2 *perform these roles effectively*

5. Explain basic characteristics of the television medium:

5.1 *distinguish between different kinds of video signal, formats, resolutions, and codecs*;

5.2 *assess video recording equipment for their ability to record at different resolutions, light sensitivity, etc. on various forms of media, including HD and SD tape, tapeless formats, etc.*;

5.3 *distinguish between broadcast and non-broadcast formats, standards and codecs;* and

5.4 *identify and select different video output formats for their appropriate distribution channels*

**Methods of Instruction**: Instruction will consist of lectures, screenings, demonstrations, and individual production work.

**Outcomes Assessment:** Rubrics are used to assess the student productions and writing assignments for the presence of the measurable objectives. Exam and quiz questions are blueprinted to the MPOs. Data is collected and analyzed to determine the level of student performance on these assessment instruments in regards to meeting course objectives. The results of this data analysis are used to guide necessary pedagogical and/or curricular revisions.

**Course Requirements:** All students are required to:

1. Participate actively in class.

2. Complete all written assignments on time and take all quizzes and exams as scheduled.

3. Complete all assigned productions/projects and labs.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Final course grades will be computed as follows:

**% of**

**Grading Components final course grade**

* **Class Participation 15 – 30%**

Class participation includes attendance, completing class assignments, and involvement in class discussion. Assignments and discussion will provide evidence of student mastery of course objectives.

* **Video Productions/Projects 15 – 30%**

Students plan, record and edit a variety of productions, which are assessed to determine mastery of course objectives.

* **Quizzes and Exams 15 – 30%**

Quizzes and exams will provide evidence of student mastery of course objectives and synthesis of course material.

* **Labs 15 – 30%**

Labs will provide evidence of student ability to operate effectively field, studio and editing equipment and perform various field, studio and post-production roles, which are course objectives.

Note: The instructor will provide specific weights, which lie in the above-given ranges, for each of the grading components at the beginning of the semester.

**Academic Integrity:** Dishonesty disrupts the search for truth that is inherent in the learning process and so devalues the purpose and the mission of the College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

* plagiarism – the failure to acknowledge another writer’s words or ideas or to give proper credit to sources of information;
* cheating – knowingly obtaining or giving unauthorized information on any test/exam or any other academic assignment;
* interference – any interruption of the academic process that prevents others from the proper engagement in learning or teaching; and
* fraud – any act or instance of willful deceit or trickery.

Violations of academic integrity will be dealt with by imposing appropriate sanctions. Sanctions for acts of academic dishonesty could include the resubmission of an assignment, failure of the test/exam, failure in the course, probation, suspension from the College, and even expulsion from the College.

**Student Code of Conduct:** All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible and considerate adults who respect the rights of others. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. All students are also expected to attend and be on time for all class meetings. No cell phones or similar electronic devices are permitted in class. Please refer to the Essex County College student handbook, *Lifeline*, for more specific information about the College’s Code of Conduct and attendance requirements.

**Course Content Outline:** based on the text by Gerald Millerson and Jim Owens.  Television Production. 14th edition.  Focal Press.

**WeekContent/Topic**

1 Course introduction | Framing and Composition | Read Chapters 1 & 9

2 Storyboarding | Image Control | Read Chapter 10 | **QUIZ 1**

3 Audio | Field Interviews | Read Chapter 15 | **QUIZ 2**

4 Pre-production planning | Read Chapter 5 | **QUIZ 3**

5 Roles of the Crew | Read Chapter 21

6 Intro to Studio | Read Chapters 3 & 13 | **Field Lab due**

7 Lighting | Read Chapters 2 & 12 | **QUIZ 4**

8 Studio Audio | Teleprompter | Read Chapter 19 | **QUIZ 5**

9 Switching and Graphics | Read Chapters 3 & 11 | **QUIZ 6**

10 In-class studio production | **Studio Lab due**

11 Intro to Post-production | Read Chapter 17

12 NLE Edit | Read Chapter 1 | **FINAL EXAM due**

13 NLE Edit | Read Chapter 22 | **NLE Lab due**

14 **FINAL PROJECTS DUE**

15 Wrap up and Screening