

**RTV 1241C Television Production 1**  
**Syllabus**  
**Spring 2008-2**

**Instructor: Mr. Billy M. Oliver, Assistant Professor**  
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**Office Hours: See door schedule.**  
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**Description**

The practices and procedures used in the operation of broadcast equipment in the television studio and the control room, emphasizing practical rather than theoretical operation elements of the TV program.

**Text**

Zettl, H.(2009). Television Production Handbook. (10th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.

**Skills Component**

Instruction and hands-on experience with the operation of various video production components.

**Learning Outcomes and Specific Competencies**

At the completion of the course, students will know the following:

1. How televisions and cameras work.
2. The function and operation of the video switcher.
3. The basics of video and audio editing.
4. Basic principles of audio.
5. Three point studio lighting.
6. How to anticipate problems with on-camera talent.
7. The positions and duties of the production crew.
8. Pictorial elements as determined by camera position.
9. Fundamentals of television directing.
10. Video camera operation.
11. The operation of various audio and video support equipment.
12. Live program production.
13. Program production via post production techniques.

**Topics**

1. Fundamentals of audio production.
2. Signal flow and technical control.
3. Camera structure and lens design.
4. Camera function and operation.
5. Operation of the switcher.
6. The function and operation of the video recorder.
7. Video editing.
8. Producing.
9. Directing duties.
10. Directing techniques.

**Learning Methods**

Outcomes and competencies will be achieved through lectures, readings, viewing others' productions,

demonstrations of equipment and hands-on experience.

## Course Requirements

### Personal Statement

This will consist of an unedited 60 second videotape of yourself.

### SKILLS TEST

Within the class you will rotate so that each one of you has a chance to perform at each TV production position (e.g. camera operator, audio, floor director, technical director, director, talent etc.).

**Note:** All projects (except the personal statement which must begin with 10 seconds of black) must begin with 30 seconds of color bars, 5 seconds of slate and 10 seconds of black and must end with a cut or fade to black. **All projects must be done with MDCC equipment.**

### School of Entertainment Technology Policy

All work must be accomplished by the student without the assistance of anyone outside the class. All work must be original. Only equipment of MDCC, School of Entertainment Technology, North Campus may be used to accomplish course objectives. No dubbing during courses for personal objectives is permitted. Upon student request, instructors may arrange a time and place after the course conclusion to dub portfolio copies as a group with appointed representatives. Students must supply personal tape stock.

Only authorized duplicating facilities will be used under the supervision of the faculty or operations manager, and only upon approval of the instructor.

### Attendance

A total of 6 class hours of absence will result in an automatic F. It is the student's responsibility to initiate the withdrawal during the designated withdrawal period. Otherwise, an F will be issued at the end of the term. Two tardies (any time after the roll is called) constitutes one absence.

### Grading/Evaluation

Your final grade will consist of the following components:

Personal Statement.....	50
Skills Test.....	250
Quizzes.....	300
Final Exam.....	200
Participation.....	200

1000-900 = A

899-800 = B

799-700 = C

699-600 = D

599-0 = F

Judging, like judging video in the industry is not an exact science. This class is unlike typical general education courses that might use multiple-choice exams to measure your knowledge objectively. Although there is objective scoring in the class, most video assignments get grades that are subjective.

That means that you or someone else might have a different opinion of the merit of your video. But as in the industry, the person in charge sets the standard, whether that person is called producer, Director, News Director or in this case, Instructor. You can rely on your instructor to know what are the standards in the industry and to apply them here. Please note that subjective does not mean unfair. Within the class the same standards are applied to everyone.

- 100-90 A Professional: (Could air as shot.)
- 89-80 B Good: (Needs minor corrections.)
- 79-70 C Fair: (Adequate student work.)
- 69-60 D Poor: (Needs major revisions.)
- 59- 0 F Failing: (Late not as assigned.)

### **Readings, Assignments, Exams and Dates**

Week 1: January 6, 8

Introduction

Readings: Chapters 4, 5, 6

How televisions and cameras work.

Week 2: January 13, 14

Readings: Chapters 4, 5, 6

How televisions and cameras work.

Week 3: January 20, 22

Readings: Chapter 13

The video switcher and the disciplines of the technical director.

**Quiz**

Week 4: January 27, 29

The video switcher and the disciplines of the technical director. Continued.

**Quiz**

Week 5: February 3, 5

Readings: Chapters 8, 9

Basic audio principles and production techniques.

**Quiz**

Week 6: February 10, 12

Basic audio principles and production. (continued)

**Quiz**

Week 7: February 17, 19

Readings: Chapter 1

The system and the crew.

**Quiz**

**(Personal Statement due October 10)**

Week 8: February 23, 25

Readings: Chapter 7

Pictorial Elements

**Quiz**

Week 9: March 2, 4

Readings: Chapter 10, 11  
The principles of lighting.

**Quiz**

Week 10: March 9, 11

Readings: Chapter 12  
Video recording and storage Readings:

**Quiz**

Week 11: March 16, 18

Practice for skills test

**Quiz**

Week 12: March 23, 25

Practice for skills test.

Week 13: March 30, April 1

Practice for skills test.

Week 14: April 6, 8

Practice for skills test.

Week 15: April 13, 15

Practice for skills test.

Week 16: April 20, 22

Skills Test

**Important Dates**

01/12 Last day to drop without record

03/18 Last day to drop with W.

03/27-05/01 Final Exam

**Disability Statement**

Students with documented special learning needs may want to inform the instructor so that accommodations may be made, or contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities.

**Ethics Policy**

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated and violators will be dealt with in accordance with policies stated in the Student Handbook.

**Lab Time**

Lab time will be made available so that you may practice and complete assignments.

It may be necessary for the class to meet as a group with the instructor during the semester for a lab.

**PSAV students are required to attend lab.**

