RTV2246C Electronic Field Production 2  
Syllabus  
Spring 2007-2

Instructor: Mr. Billy M. Oliver  
Office: 2235.14  
Office Hours: See door for schedule.  
Phone: 305-237-1177

Description  
Students learn single-camera field production and electronic news gathering. Location productions are done in teams.

Text  

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 the single camera system works.  
2. How to get, evaluate and organize ideas for productions.  
3. How to turn ideas for productions into words.  
4. Video and audio editing for single camera productions.  
5. Principles of audio.  
6. Lighting on location.  
7. Budgeting basics.  
8. How to select locations.  
9. What equipment is needed for field production.  
10. Directing single camera productions.  
12. The operation of various audio and video support equipment.  
14. How to get permission to use field locations and talent.  
15. Evoking viewer emotion through camera angle, location, and editing.  
16. How to log tapes.

Topics  
1. A beginning perspective.  
2. Getting, evaluating, and organizing ideas.  
3. Putting ideas into words.  
4. Budgeting and production management.  
5. Locations and personnel.  
6. Selecting and obtaining field production equipment.  
7. Set preparation and lighting.
8. Rehearsing the production.
9. Understanding the single-camera system.
12. Planning and recording audio for post-production.
13. Organizing for editing.
14. Orientation to editing.
15. Creative options in editing.
16. Completing the show.

Learning Methods
Outcomes and competencies will be achieved through lectures, readings, viewing others' productions, demonstrations of equipment and hands-on experience.

Course Requirements

Project 1
Gather Stock shots of tourist attraction in the Miami area. (You must get permission before you video tape) This reel should be 15-30 minutes long.

Project 2
Write and create a PSA about the wonders of tourism in the Miami area.

Project 3
You will be assigned to a group. Each group will work with a “real” client (to be chosen by the instructor) to produce their video.

Project 4
Each student will produce a 15 minute documentary (subject of your choice with approval of the instructor) (exactly 15 minutes). At least 90% of the documentary must be filmed on location (by you) and consist of at least 25 edits. You may not be talent in your own Documentary. You must have written permission from the instructor to use non-MDCC equipment.

Projects 2, 3, and 4 must be preceded by thirty seconds of color bars, 5 seconds of slate and 10 seconds of black. These elements do not count as part of the final time of your project.

The following must be submitted with projects 2, 3, and 4. (See your text book for format guidelines.)

1. Treatment: General narrative of the content; the audience; general objectives and justifications - What are you planning to do? Why do it this way? What will the program content accomplish? What is the best means of accomplishing the objectives?
2. Script: Typewritten, fully written, with appropriate segment lengths, details about audio and video, etc.

3. Storyboard: Simple sketches indicating main action, transitions, and suitable script information to allow for matching with script.

4. Audio requirements: What audio equipment will you use? Any pre-recorded material? Which microphones and how many? What control room equipment will be needed?

5. Talent and location release forms.

6. Budget (as if you were paying for equipment use, 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. Color bars, slate and black do not count as part of the video's total time.

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
Project 1 50
Project 2 150
Project 3 200
Project 4 250
Weekly Assignments 150
Final Exam 100
Participation 100

1000-900 A
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 7
   Introduction

Week 2: January 12,14
   Assign Group Projects
   Submit Documentary Topic
   Review Cameras

Week 3: January 19
   Holiday
   January 21
   Group Contact Report
   Documentary Contact Report
   Review Lighting

Week 4: January 26,28
   Group Research Notes
   Documentary Research Notes
   Project 1 Due

Week 5: February 2,4
Group Treatment
Documentary Treatment
Review Editing

Week 6: February 9,11
Review Editing

Week 7: February 16,18
1st Draft of Group Script
1st Draft of Documentary Script
Project 2 Due
Review Audio

Week 8: February 23,25
2nd Draft of Group Script
2nd Draft of Documentary Script
Review Audio

Week 9: March 2,4
Group shoot Schedule
Documentary Shoot Schedule
Review Graphics

Week 10: March 9,11
Shoot Group Project
Shoot Documentary Project
Review Graphics

Week 11: March 16,18
Shoot Group Project
Shoot Documentary Project

Week 12: March 23,25
Group Edit Decision List & Edit
Documentary Edit Decision List & Edit

Week 13: March 30, April 1
Group Edit
Documentary Edit

Week 14: April 6,8
Group Graphics and Effects
Documentary Graphics and Effects

Week 15: April 13,15
View Group Projects and Documentaries

Week 16: April 20,22
View Group Projects and Documentaries
NOTE: VIDEOS MAY BE SHOWN IN CLASS AS TIME PERMITS, SO THAT YOU MAY GAIN INSIGHTS INTO OTHERS' WORK THROUGH VIEWING AND DISCUSSION.

Important Dates
01/12 Last day to drop without record
03/18 Last day to drop with W.
4/27-May 1 Final Exam

Disability Statement
Students with documented special learning needs may want to inform the instructor so that accommodations may be made.

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.