**COMM 4824/6824 Cinematography**

**Course Information**

**Course Description**

This course is designed to expand your knowledge so that you will have a better understanding of the tools and procedures necessary for solving the multitude of problems, aesthetic and technical, that confront the image-maker. While I have incorporated a number of exercises and a final project to allow you the opportunity to apply these concepts, there is no provision made for the kind of day-to-day production work that is required in order to become truly skilled. Rather, the course attempts to lay a foundation upon which you can later build.

**Hybrid Nature of Course:**

This course will be taught with a combination of synchronous virtual classes; in class demonstrations; and small group production projects.

**Course Goals**

By the end of the course you should be able to demonstrate:

1- Knowledge of principles and aesthetics of motion picture image making including a working technical vocabulary.

2- Proficiency in basic motion picture production techniques, lighting and image acquisition.

3- A working knowledge of both digital and analog film

   production.

**Prerequisites and Corequisites**

Motion Picture Production I and II

**Course Topics**

Module 1: Quartz lighting instruments and lighting principles

Module 2: Exposure

Module 3: Film latitude and the zone system

Module 4: Color and filters

Module 5: Shooting Night for Night

Module 6: Lenses

Module 7: Digital capture

Module 8: Coverage and camera movement

**Specific Course Requirements**

Must meet the prerequisite course requirements

**Textbooks, Supplementary Materials, Hardware and Software Requirements**

**Required Textbook**

Brown, Blain. *Cinematography*, 3rd Edition. (Available as an eText)

**Recommended Reading:**

Hoser, Tania. *Introduction to Cinematography*; Brown, Blain. *Motion Picture and Video Lighting*; *American Cinematographer Manual; American Cinematographer Magazine; International Cinematographers Guild Magazine; The Independent; Filmmaker Magazine, Student Filmmakers Magazine.*

**Podcasts**

There are some great podcasts with cinematographers that you ought to listen to because you will begin to get a sense of how they think as well as how they talk about what they do.

[Roger Deakens' Podcast](https://teamdeakins.libsyn.com/)

[Protecting the Frame](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/protecting-the-frame/id1454759350?fbclid=IwAR12D3ASlZQLGX3nIBFVH5uavpRXojROKJZO_swqIYv3fQ2YI-7-WrpJu6Q#episodeGuid=049e4da5-983a-4e55-81ca-a370afae7ee2)

**View on Kanopy**

[**Keepers of the Magic**](https://memphis.kanopy.com/video/keepers-magic)

[**Side by Side**](https://memphis.kanopy.com/video/side-side-0)

**Hardware and Software Requirements**

None required as you should be able to check out university equipment as needed. But given the uncertainty around the COVID 19 pandemic, any access you have to a digital camera of any kind could prove helpful.

**Assessment and Grading**

**Testing Procedures**

Tests will be given online and must be completed in the amount of time indicated.

**Grading Procedure**

Grades on assignments will be based on technical quality as well as how well you demonstrated your understanding of the topic at hand.

**Grading Scale**

93-100---A

90-93---A-  
87-89---B+

83-86---B

80-82---B-

77-79---C+  
73-76---C

70-72---C-

67-69---D+  
60-66---D

**Assignments and Participation**

**Assignments and Projects**

Exam 1   15%

Exam 2   20%

Exam 3   25%

Portraits   5%

Zone System 5%

Night for Night stills  5%

Final Project   25%

Total: 100 Points

**Class Participation**

You must participate in all interactive aspects of the course such as discussions and are expected to communicate with the instructor as a learning resource. You should check the course bulletin board and your email frequently for announcements.

**Punctuality**

You need to keep up with assignments and readings as indicated in the Course Schedule.

**Course Ground Rules**

Participation in this class is required; while group assignments may be curtailed due to Covid restrictions, you are expected to communicate with other students in any team projects, and keep abreast of course announcements; you must use the assigned university e-mail address rather than a personal e-mail address; you should address technical problems immediately; and you must observe course netiquette at all times.

**Equipment Checkout**

Completed equipment reservation forms must be sent to the instructor for approval. Use specific names for equipment. Requests for such items as "a microphone" will not be approved. Do not give forms to equipment room personnel unless they have been signed (We will amend this for fall 2020). Grade penalties will occur as the result of failure to inform equipment room personnel well in advance when you will not be using equipment you have reserved. Penalties will also occur when equipment is not returned on time. Repeated violations may result in the suspension of all equipment room privileges, which may well make it impossible for you to complete the course. YOU ARE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE DONE TO EQUIPMENT THAT IS SIGNED OUT IN YOUR NAME. You can contact the equipment room at 678-3180.

**COVID-19 Health and Safety Policy - Masks and Social Distancing**

All students, faculty and staff will wear masks in all public spaces, including our classroom (lab) per the COVID-19 policy. The first time a student enters a classroom without wearing a face covering, the student will be asked to leave the class until they return a covering. Further violations will be referred to the Office of Student Accountability. Students who repeatedly or flagrantly violate these community expectations may be referred for discipline under the Student Code and, if appropriate, immediately removed from campus by the Dean of Students.

**Student Health**

Students who are experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing or a higher than normal temperature should inform me by email so they can be excused from class and should stay home. Students should contact their health care provider or the Student Health Center at [https://www.memphis.edu/health/.](https://www.memphis.edu/health/)

Students who have a positive COVID-19 test should contact the Dean of Students at deanofstudents@memphis.edu.

**Student Accommodations**

If and when we return to class, students seeking to remain remote for health or other serious reasons should discuss their options with me.

**Guidelines for Communication**

**Email**

<!Always include a subject line.

<!Remember without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails. Use of emoticons might be helpful in some cases.

<!Use standard fonts.

<!Do not send large attachments without permission.

<!Special formatting such as centering, audio messages, tables, html, etc. should be avoided unless necessary to complete an assignment or other communication.

Respect the privacy of other class members

**Discussion Groups**

Review the discussion threads thoroughly before entering the discussion. Be a lurker then a discussant.

Try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather starting a new topic.

Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the discussion group. Be respectful of others' ideas.

Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.

Be cooperative with group leaders in completing assigned tasks.

<!Be positive and constructive in group discussions.

<Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.

**Chat**

<Introduce yourself to the other learners in the chat session.

Be polite. Choose your words carefully. Do not use derogatory statements.

Be concise in responding to others in the chat session.

<Be prepared to open the chat session at the scheduled time.

Be constructive in your comments and suggestion

**Plagiarism and Integrity**

Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly, through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class in addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed through the regular institutional disciplinary procedures. Expectations for academic integrity and student conduct are described in detail on the website of the Office of Student Accountability. Please read in particular, the section about "Academic Misconduct".

**Library, Tutoring, and Other Resources**

<The myMemphis Portal system, eCampus Student tab provides access to University library.

<The tutoring link in the course navigation bar provides access to free online tutoring through UpSwing tutoring.

**Students With Disabilities**

Qualified students with disabilities will be provided reasonable and necessary academic accommodations if determined eligible by disability services staff at the University of Memphis. Prior to granting disability accommodations in this course, the instructor must receive written verification of a student's eligibility for specific accommodations from the disability services staff. It is the student's responsibility to initiate contact with Disability Resources for Students (DRS) and to follow the established procedures for having the accommodation notice sent to the instructor.

**Sexual Misconduct and Domestic Violence Policy**

This policy specifically addresses sexual misconduct which includes dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The policy establishes procedures for responding to Title IX-related allegations of sexual misconduct. Complaints can be reported to the Office for Institutional Equity (OIE). You may contact OIE by phone at 901.678.2713 or by email at [oie@memphis.edu](mailto:oie@memphis.edu). Complaints can be submitted online at [File a Complaint](https://www.memphis.edu/oie/complaint.php). OIE's office is located at 156 Administration Building.

**Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy**

University policy prohibiting discrimination and harassment based on protected characteristics and classes. Complaints of discrimination and harassment can be reported to the Office for Institutional Equity (OIE). You may contact OIE by phone at 901.678.2713 or by email at oie@memphis.edu. The full text of the policy can be found at [GE2030 - Non-Discrimination and Antiharassment](https://memphis.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=430&public=true).

**Technology Requirements**

The following is a list of the minimum requirements to use our learning management system. Some courses will have more advanced requirements.

<Access to a reliable, high-speed Internet connection (DSL or Cable).

<Test your device to ensure it is compatible with our LMS (Learning Management System) using the[System Check Wizard.](file:///C:\d2l\systemCheck)

<!Open PDF files using the free downloadable PDF software.

Access Flash-based content with [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (free).

Use Microsoft Office for document creation (available for students via <http://umapps.memphis.edu/>)

**Play media content with**[**Real Player**](https://www.real.com/)**(free),**[**QuickTime**](https://support.apple.com/kb/DL837?locale=en_US)**(free), or**[**Windows Media Player**](https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/18612/windows-media-player)**(free).**

**Syllabus Changes**

The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes both by individual email communication and posting both notification and nature of change(s) on the course bulletin board.

**Technical Support**

Call the Helpdesk: 901-678-8888

[Online Helpdesk](https://www.memphis.edu/umtech/service_desk/contact.php)