HU334 - TELEVISION PRODUCTION I (VIDEO)
2nd FALL 1999
CLASSROOM: 504 EERC (T & R 2:05-2:55)
STUDIO: B045 EERC (T & R 3:05-4:55)

INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. Mehdi Semati
Walker 331
487-3251 (office)
msemati@mtu.edu
office hours: 10:00-12:00 T and by appointment

Course Description & Objectives: The purpose of this course is to provide a basic
working knowledge of the complete television production process. You are expected to
acquire knowledge in the following areas: principles underlying the basic audio and video
production process; operation of basic production equipment; performing various tasks as
Production Assistant; and effective visual composition. This is a HANDS-ON production
class which emphasizes the CREATIVE aspects of effective AUDIO-VISUAL
COMMUNICATION.

Techniques. IA: Brown and & Benchmark.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 2</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project 3</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>Points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total........600 points

A...................570-600
AB..................540-569
B....................510-539
BC..................480-509
C...................450-479
CD..................420-449
D...................390-419
DF..................360-389
F.................below 360

Exams: Students will take two multi-format exams (short essay, fill in the blank, multiple
choice, true-false, etc.) covering the lecture materials.

Note: You are responsible for bringing to the class a new VHS tape on the day of
production to record your project.
**Projects:**

- **Project 1** is an interview. This project is designed to familiarize you with various crew positions in a studio production.

- **Project 2** is a music visualization. You will select graphics (photos, paintings, etc.) and an accompanying audio (music, sound-effects, etc.) to convey a message, tell a story, express an emotion...

- **Project 3** is chosen by you. You will have the following choices: a dramatic production; a PSA (public service announcement); a commercial; fine arts productions (i.e., a string quartet performance). In addition to these choices, I am open to suggestions.

**Course Guidelines:**

- No absences are allowed in this class, especially on a production date. After the class size has stabilized, you will be given a schedule of production for the term. The events on this schedule cannot be rescheduled. Video Production is essentially a team activity. Your presence is crucial for the operation of your team. In the case of unavoidable circumstances, you must notify me and the director of the project in advance of the production date so that arrangements can be made for your replacement. Your first unexcused absence will lower your grade for the class by 5%. Each subsequent unexcused absence will lower your grade for the class by 10%.

- No smoking, drinking, eating, chewing is allowed in the studio (B045 EERC).

- The equipment you work with is very expensive; treat it with respect and be very ATTENTIVE while operating it. DO NOT point the cameras at the light. Watch what you are shooting.

- Television production is a team activity; if you are late for a production, your team will lose valuable studio time because of you. You must be present in good condition, with good attitudes towards your classmates. Your contribution will affect the quality and therefore the grades for their projects. The quality of your participation is thus graded. In the case of group projects, your contribution will be graded by your teammates, which will be counted as part of your participation grade.

- After the class enrollment has stabilized, I will determine the specifics of each project. You will receive instructions and guidelines (hand-outs for each project) which you must follow in order to successfully complete each project.

- I encourage you to BE as CREATIVE as you can be in this class; it is my opinion that students are rarely given the chance to be creative. This is your chance; take full advantage of it. Once again, it must be stressed that the emphasis in this class is the CREATIVE aspects of video production.

**NOTE:**

*** I may have to introduce changes to the schedule, the specifics of projects, and other matters for the benefit of the class. Feel free to stop by my office to express concern should you find any aspects of the class, particularly with respect to the projects, problematic - we can resolve difficulties only when we communicate.

*** "MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education and services at MTU, please call Associate Dean of Students Gloria Melton at 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head/chair, or the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310."
TENTATIVE Schedule

SEPTEMBER
T  7  orientation
R  9  project 1 prep; ch 1 & 13 (intro & directing)
T 14  K-DAY/Project 1 production
R 16  Alternate K-DAY/SCREENING
T 21  project 1 production; ch 5 (cam structure and lens design)
R 23  project 1 production; ch 6 (cam operation and production techniques)
T 28  project 1 production; ch 4 (lighting)
R 30  project 2 prep

OCTOBER
T  5  EXAM 1; project 2 prep
R  7  SCREENING
T 12  project 2 production; ch 2 & 3 (audio)
R 14  project 2 production; ch 8 (videotape recorder)
T 19  project 2 production
R 21  critique; project 3 prep (meetings);
T 26  project 3 prep (meetings); ch 9 (editing)
R 28  EXAM 2; project 3 production

NOVEMBER
T  2  project 3 production
R  4  project 3 production
T  9  project 3 production
R 11  critique

Final Exams 15-18.

NOTE: While we will try to honor this schedule, the highly collaborative nature of television production, subject to classroom requirements and dynamics, renders all schedules TENTATIVE.