Diran Lyons, Instructor

Office Art 155, ART-44-52146 Video Lab.

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\*\*The instructor reserves the right to revise this contract should the need arise.

**DIGITAL VIDEO EDITING**

Tuesday/Thursday, 1:00-4:00

Course description/outline: This course is an introduction to the use of Final Cut Pro HD, a digital video editing program. Topics such as modern film theory, film treatments, story boarding, framing shots, and other pre- and post-production skills are also included. Students will work in “film crews” to produce film projects. Class time will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and computer exercises. Lab time for assignments will also be scheduled. Homework will be assigned as required.

Academic Accommodation: If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e. Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ASA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible. In addition, it is your responsibility to contact the Disable Student Services Office at extension 3332 to request Academic Accommodation.

Attendance Policy: Class attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to arrive on time and leave only when the class is dismissed. Any unexcused absences in excess of four (the equivalent of two weeks of class) for the entire semester will result in a lowered final grade. Two late arrivals to class will equal one unexcused absence. Two early departures from class will equal one unexcused absence. High school students taking this class are not excused from attendance even if their high school is not in session. It is the student’s responsibility to get assignments and class materials after an absence. Absences are only excused and valid if supporting documentation is presented. It is Board Policy that students who miss two or more weeks of class meetings before the 9th week of class can be dropped. Breaks occur from 1:50-2:00 pm and once again from 2:50 pm to 3:00 pm. You may NOT leave class twenty minutes early if you decline to take breaks at the designated times.

Personal Electronics Policy: Cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, MP3 players, headphones, and other similar electronic devices will be turned off and stored out of sight during class. If personal electronic devices are used during class without the instructor’s explicit consent, they will be confiscated and available for retrieval in the college president’s office. Laptop computers with the sound turned off may be used for taking notes.

Conduct Policy: Students are expected to behave like adults and demonstrate respect for the instructor, other students, the classroom environment, and themselves. Students who are unable or unwilling to conduct themselves appropriately will be required to leave the class until such time they can function maturely. Any lessons or projects due during such a suspension will NOT be accepted and the student will forfeit those points.

Grading Policy: You will be graded on how successfully you work in class, complete assignments according to lectures on film aesthetics, and contribute to the group discussions/critiques/projects. Regular attendance, completion of all assignments, and other course requirements does not guarantee a passing grade. Late assignments will not be accepted. Incomplete assignments will reduce your grade.

•Class Participation (Attendance, how successfully you work in class, complete assignments, and contribute to the group discussions/critiques/projects) = 30% of overall course grade.

•Class assignments (3 short videos) = 30% of overall course grade.

•Participation and performance toward final class film project\* = 40% of overall course grade.

\*The film project for the upcoming semester is a documentary about the Kaweah River in collaboration with the Sequoia Riverlands Trust (all the short video assignments will deal with this larger ambitious project and help toward its completion). Kaweah River is a river in Tulare County, California, located in the foothills of the southern Sierra Nevada. The river's headwaters are in Sequoia National Park. There are several hiking trails near the headwaters.

Requirements:

• Class attendance. Your video editing skills will only improve with practice.

• Timely completion of assignments and in-class exercises.

• Become familiar with computer terms since they will be used in class.

• Bring required materials to each class.

• Attendance at critiques is mandatory.

• Active participation in critiques and discussions.

• Enthusiasm and effort.

• Completion of a series of short films and participation in the 20-minute documentary in collaboration with Sequoia Riverlands Trust.

Required Reading:

• Final Cut Pro HD Hands on Training (H.O.T.), Larry Jordan, Peachpit Press, ISBN 0321293991.

Materials List:

• Materials as assigned.

BRING YOUR TEXTBOOK & SUPPLIES TO EVERY CLASS MEETING UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE! YOU WILL BE MARKED AS ABSENT IF YOU ARE NOT PREPARED FOR CLASS.

Drop Deadline Date: Students may withdraw from this course without a letter grade until the conclusion of the ninth week of the semester. After that time, everyone in the class will receive a letter grade. Students who miss more than four class sessions prior to this date may be dropped from the course. FINAL CRITIQUE: Tuesday, May 18, 1:00-2:50 pm. We will review the final video project at that time.