Syllabus: ACM-372 Editing     FALL 2011

Class Meets: Thursday 1:30–4:15pm, Saund 637
Credit Hours: 3 / Prerequisites: ACM 310. Restricted to Majors

Instructor: George Chun Han Wang
Phone: 956-0753
Email: wangch@hawaii.edu
Course Website: http://www2.hawaii.edu/~wangch/acm372.html
Office: 2350 Dole St. #215 (KHET/PBS building)
Office Hours:
   Monday: 1:00 pm—2:15 pm
   Wednesday: 12:00 pm—2:15 pm
   Thursday: 4:30 pm—6:00pm

Course Description:

A comprehensive course examining the theory, procedures, and practices of motion picture editing. Students edit dramatic scenes to learn the tools and techniques of the editor’s craft. The language of cinematic montage and issues of continuity, movement, sound and effects are studied as they relate to the essentials of visual story telling.

Course Objectives:

• To appreciate editing as creative element for storytelling in motion pictures
• To understand procedures, techniques, and standard practices in motion picture editing
• To acquire practical knowledge and hands-on experience of motion picture editing and post production workflow

Academy For Creative Media Student Learning Objectives:

ACM stresses the interdisciplinary nature of media production and study within an Arts & Sciences foundation that reflects the development of academic, technical, creative and critical thinking skills. All ACM courses reflect a combination of our Student Learning Objectives across the curriculum. They include: Critical Thinking, Writing, History & Aesthetics, Professional Skills, Creativity, Responsibility and Student-Centered Learning.

This course will emphasize the skills of Critical Thinking, History & Aesthetics, Professional Skills, Creativity, Responsibility and Student-Centered Learning through lectures, discussions, in-class exercises, assigned projects, and tests.
Textbooks, required readings:

Although there are NO Required Texts for this class, these readings are recommended:

- *On Film Editing* by Edward Dmytryk
- *In The Blink of An Eye* by Walter Murch

Grading and Student Evaluation:

Students will earn up to 100 points throughout the course:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignment 1</th>
<th>Narrative Editing A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Assignment 2</td>
<td>Narrative Editing B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Film Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>Mid Term Exam or Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Professionalism</td>
<td>Participation, Peer Critiques and Attendance</td>
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Grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-96</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86-89</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-85</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76-79</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-75</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>66-69</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-59</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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Grade Updates:
Grades are posted on Laulima. You can also email the instructor at any time during the semester to inquire about your existing/available grades. Please specify your name, course/section, and student ID number for verification purposes.

Classroom Policies:

- ATTENDANCE is mandatory. Active class/group participation is expected.
  - Tardiness/Early Leave of more than \(\frac{1}{3}\) of daily class hours will result in
the deduction of 0.5 point from total points earned.

- **Tardiness/Early Leave** of more than 2/3 of daily class hours will result in a 1 point deduction.
- **Unexcused Absence** will result in the deduction of 2 points.
- **Acknowledged Absence** may be granted but requires convincing reasons and supporting evidences for pre-approval. Each acknowledged absence will result in a 1 point deduction.
- **Excused Absence** (medical emergency, jury-summoned or military duty, bereavement): to avoid any grade deductions, supporting evidence must be presented before or immediately following the absence. Medical situations please provide doctors note.

- Assignments submitted after due DEADLINES will have a grade penalty (-5 points per week) assessed and will be screened at the instructor’s discretion.
- Being on time is part of the craft of producing films and you are encouraged to work on your organization skills if you have trouble meeting deadlines.
- If you have not completed your project on the due date, it is still better in terms of grading, that you show up for class without your project and participate in your peer’s screenings and feedback, than to not show up at all.
- No make-up exams/quizzes will be given, except for excused absence situations.
- Personal entertainment and communication devices are to be turned off in class. Music listening, web-browsing, cell phone uses, text-messaging, tweeting, social-networking & e-mail activities are prohibited in class, unless authorized by instructor under special circumstances. Violations will result in deductions on your “professionalism” grades.

**Hardware Requirements**

This course is taught in a regular classroom, not a computer lab. You are required to provide your own Mac laptop & software according to the policy posted at http://acm.hawaii.edu/acadprog/computer.shtml

The ACM curriculum is based on Macintosh hardware and software. Technical support and instruction for other platforms will not be provided.

Since the laptop and software is required, you can ask the Financial Aid office to include it in your “cost of attendance.” Contact financial aid at http://www.hawaii.edu/fas/

You must supply your own External FireWire drive for media playback, storage and backup. USB Flash drives, thumb drives, iPods and many bus-powered “slim” portable drives, while okay for storage and backup purposes, are usually too slow for instant video playback and editing. Your FireWire drive should be 7200 rpm (or Solid State) with at least 200 gigabites of storage capability. Considering the demanding speed and storage requirement for High Definition media, if your budget allows, it is recommended that your hard drive is at least 500GB and has multiple interface including FireWire 800.
You are responsible to bring your own headphones, cables and power supplies. You’re also required to provide your own media and/or archive materials such as CD-R, DVD-R and flash thumb drives.

**Weekly Schedule:**

Due to the department’s non-linear editing software transitional period, this schedule is subject to revision and frequent updates. Please check the course website regularly.

**Week 01 (08/25)**
- Intro to course requirements and general overview

**Week 02 (09/01)**
- Video compressions and DSLR workflows

**Week 03 (09/08)**
- History of Motion Pictures Editing
- Narrative editing

**Week 04 (09/15)**
- Theory of Montage Part I
- Narrative editing II

**Week 05 (09/22)**
- Theory of Montage Part II
- Narrative editing III

**Week 06 (09/29)**
- Study: Sergei Eisenstein
- Color Correction

**Week 07 (10/06)**
- Midterm

**Week 08 (10/13)**
- HIFF screenings week – Class will not meet

**Week 09 (10/20)**
- **Assignment 1 Due** (Both Groups)

**Week 10 (10/27)**
- **Film Review Report Due**
- Motion Graphics & Compositing

**Week 11 (11/03)**
• DVD Authoring

Week 12 (11/10)
• Editorial Lab: Assignment clinic

Week 13 (11/17)
• **Group A Assignment 2 Due**
• Screening/critique of assignment

Week 14 (11/24) **Thanksgiving-Class Will Not Meet**
• Intro to course requirements and general overview

Week 15 (12/01)
• **Group B Assignment 2 Due**
• Screening/critique of assignment

Week 16 (12/08)
• Last Day of Instruction
• Course Review

**Copyright Guidelines:**
All assignment materials are provided and used only for the purpose of education and learning during this particular course. Do not use course materials and completed assignment for any other purposes, whether personal, for-profit or non-profit. None of the course materials/completed assignment may be included in any personal reels or competition/festival submissions. Absolutely no uploading, showcasing, podcasting, file exchange of any of the course materials via the internet, radio, broadcast or any form of public distribution. Sharing of the raw or edited course material to any person not enrolled in this course is prohibited. Any violation will result in severe grade reduction. For Copyright and Fair Use guidelines, visit: http://library.manoa.hawaii.edu/about/copyright/fairuse.htm . For ACM Copyright Policies, visit: www.hawaii.edu/acm/studres/releases.shtml

**Privacy Guidelines:**
To provide the class an opportunity to offer non-biased open critiques during the screenings of your works, and to provide anonymity for privacy protection, for certain assignments, exams and/or quizzes, you are required to use an alias (nickname) that will not easily suggest or reveal your real identity. The instructor may provide further guidelines in assigning your alias, but in principal, your alias must be appropriate and not offend anyone in the class. It is your responsibility not to discuss and/or reveal your alias to anybody in any way. If your alias is somehow revealed, you may contact the instructor any time during the semester to change your alias.

**KOKUA:**
If you have a documented disability that may require accommodation, please inform the instructor privately before the end of the 3rd class session, or the instructor may not have time to make adjustments in the course to accommodate. The instructor would be happy to work with you and the KOKUA Program (Office for Students with Disabilities) to ensure reasonable accommodations in the course. KOKUA can be reached at (808) 956-7511 or (808) 956-7612 (voice/text) in room 013 of the Queen Lili‘uokalani Center for Student Services.

**Policy on Incompletes:**
Under rare circumstances will the instructor assign an incomplete. You will have to meet ALL of the following conditions:
- You have completed the bulk (70% plus) of course assignments.
- You have completed the mid-term exam.
- You are passing the class.

The instructor can make no exceptions to this policy even if it affects your financial aid. Only if you have emergency and/or long term life altering situations will your request be considered.