EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION

INTERDISC. FINE ARTS
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Cinema and Media Arts

FA / PANF 4145 3.0 SECTION A
SHOOTING THE SET
FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

Last Modified Date: 09/01/2020

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Shooting the Set trains students (drawn from diverse AMPD specializations) in the arts of collectively and collaboratively developing, writing, shooting and editing four original short hybrid/fiction films that are shot on a specially-designed studio film set. Pre-requisites: All 3rd and 4th year AMPD students are eligible to apply for the specialized roles available. Previous experience is mandatory. Application: Students submit a current creative CV and a succinct (1-page) letter, which includes a brief outline of their previous arts experiences, the name/contact info of an AMPD faculty reference, and a listing in order of preference of the on-set roles they are applying for/qualified for (minimum of 3): director, cinematographer, sound, art director, editor, actor, PM/Producer. Faculty will shortlist applicants.

Shooting the Set is a summer intensive course (4 weeks in June) offered by CMA Media Arts, which trains students (drawn from diverse AMPD specializations) in the arts of developing, writing, shooting and editing original short hybrid/fiction films that are shot on an original studio film set. Designed as a collaborative summer course for writers, directors, cinematographers, editors, actors, sound artists, pm/producers and production designers, Shooting the Set concludes with the collective creation of four short films, shot on a uniquely designed studio film set at Cinespace in the summer term. Shooting the Set celebrates and explores the many possible idioms of on-set cinematic creation that are current and urgent: from the surrealism of Jean Cocteau and Guy Maddin, to the realism of Andrea Arnold and Chantal Ackerman, to the magic realism of Peter Greenaway and Ulrike Ottinger, to the new fiction hybrids of Shu Lea Cheang, Deanna Bowen, Ryan Trecartin and Omer Fast. This summer course will challenge all students (from scriptwriters and production designers to actors and DOPs) to think outside the box, even as they explore the joys of filming inside the box. Students apply and are interviewed for the following specific 32 spots: writers (4), directors (4), cinematographers (4), sound (4), art directors (4), editors (4), actors (4), PM/Producers (4). They will be chosen by the instructor based on their application, expertise and past work. The 32 students are divided into four production teams, with each student working on two out of four shoots (2 crews of 16). Each student will perform a key role on one shoot and a supporting role on the second -- for instance, Director #1 will direct on one shoot, 1st AD on the 2nd; DOP #1 will shoot on one shoot, grip on a 2nd. Actors will be guaranteed one lead role and one supporting role, with additional roles cast through York’s ACTRA student agreement. Pre-requisite: 3rd or 4th-year standing

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Veninger, Ingrid</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

This course offers students an immersion in the art of collaborative filmmaking by participating in an omnibus film project. Students will work remotely, embracing limitations, while being challenged to innovate new pathways for collaboration. Group projects will take inspiration from the surrealist drawing game, “exquisite cadaver”, as well as today’s isolation film movements and global film manifestos.

LIST OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AND EXAMPLES OF
COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of participating in this course – that is, successfully completing all readings, group activities, course assignments, participating regularly in class discussions, and reflecting actively on the subject matter at hand – students will be able to:

1. Identify core practices of a “manifesto film”.
2. Apply these practices towards a collaborative film project.
3. Describe the unique challenges and rewards of co-creation through the lens of limitation, imposed by isolation and COVID-19 obstructions.
4. Refine capabilities for storytelling, directing, image making, performance, sound design, editing, feedback, follow through, deep listening and dialogue, marketing and promotion.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COURSE:

This is a pan-faculty course in AMPD open to senior students in dance, theatre, music, visual art, design, computational arts, cinema and media arts, as well as MFA graduate students. There is an expectation (regardless of your major) that you will have familiarity with the core elements of filmmaking, as well as direct experience in one (or more) of the following areas: screenwriting, directing, producing, cinematography, performance, art direction, sound design, editing.

This is an online course that occurs synchronously. Students will be divided into 3 working groups. There will be 5-6 students in each group, facilitated by a graduate student. By the end of the course, each group will be responsible for delivering a 25-30 minute collective film. This collective film might consist of 5-6 short films, or could follow a different route, as determined by the group.

Classes 1-5 will focus on research, development and pre-production related directly to the creation of each group’s collaborative film project. Production will occur during Reading Week (Oct. 10-18). Classes 6-10 will focus on the post-production and completion of the project. Classes 11-12 will focus on presentation, marketing and distribution.

Attendance and participation in online class activities and group assignments will be essential for the successful completion of this course. More detailed information will be posted and updated weekly on the Moodle site.

COURSE REQUIRED READING:

Please secure a copy of the required reading textbook. This EBook is free to read online. Most chapters are downloadable as PDFs.

- Film Manifestos and Global Cinema Cultures: A Critical Anthology Edited by Scott MacKenzie

To access: Students need to login with Passport York and accept the terms for Electronic Resources. LINK: https://ocul-yor.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?context=L&vid=01OCUL_YOR:YOR_DEFAULT&docid=alma991035655289705164

Additional readings may be assigned and/or recommended during the course and distributed online. Please check Moodle regularly for updates.

GRADED ASSESSMENT

Note: Prior to deadlines, the Course Instructor will present detailed assignment sheets and evaluation rubrics. Course Instructor reserves the right to make changes, however, any changes to syllabus, schedule and/or assignments will be communicated to students in a timely manner.

The final grade for the course will be based on the following items weighted as indicated:

Assignment #1 (10%): Due Sept. 23 – Class 3
Manifesto readings and group presentations from Required Reading Text.

Assignment #2 (20%): Due Oct. 7 – Class 5
Delivery of Group Manifesto, along with individual 5-Page Journal outlining creative approach to collective project, experience of the development process, direct inspirations and references, shoot-plan/schedule, and post-plan/schedule.

READING WEEK OCT. 12-18 (PROJECTS SHOOT)

Assignment #3 (10%): Due Oct. 28 - Class 7
Rough cuts and presentations.

Assignment #4 (10%): Due Nov. 11 - Class 9
Picture Locks and presentations.

Assignment #5 (20%): Due Nov. 25 - Class 11
Final and full delivery with presentations and individual testimonials.

Attendance & Participation (20%)
Classes will happen via Zoom and will start on time. Success in this course requires active engagement. Students are expected to be punctual, prepared, and attentive.

Lateness: At the start of each class, there will be a 10-minute participatory exercise worth 1% of the participation mark. Students arriving late, forfeit the mark.

Absence: Being absent for valid reasons such as illness, or family emergencies, may be considered by the Course Instructor but will require advance notification and/or supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter). Otherwise, each absence will result in 2% reduction of the final participation mark.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION:
Unless otherwise indicated, assignments should be formatted as follows: 1.5 spacing, 12 pt. font, and ragged right margin.
Label delivery file: StudentName_AssignmentTitle_Date.
Be sure to number pages and include a title page.

Title page should include:
1. Student Name and Number:
2. Course Name: Shooting the Set: Isolation Edition
3. Course Number:
4. Course Instructor: Ingrid Veninger
5. Assignment Title:
6. Delivery Date:

Marks will be deducted for poor presentation, spelling, grammatical errors, and lateness.

Unless otherwise indicated, assignments are to be submitted via Moodle, before the start of class, on the due date.

LATENESS PENALTY:
Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized 5%/day (up to 5 days late). Following 5 late days, overdue Assignments will receive 0%.
Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, or family emergencies, may be considered by the Course Instructor but will require advance notification and/or supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Drop Dates:
Term Fall (F)  Term Winter (W)  Full Year (Y)

Last date to drop courses without receiving a grade  Nov. 6, 2020  Mar. 12, 2021  Feb. 5, 2021

For other important information refer to Registrar`s Office website:
https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/cdm

York University COVID-19 Protocols and resources:
https://yubettertogether.info.yorku.ca/important-links-resources/

Anti-Black Racism Action Plan:

Academic Policies / Information:

The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
- Access/Disability
- Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants
- Religious Observance Accommodation
- Student Code of Conduct

Additional information:

- Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
- Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy

The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

- Important University Sessional Dates (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more.
http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm

- Manage my Academic record
http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/

- “20% Rule”

No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

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Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University