

## **USC SCA CTPR 537 INTERMEDIATE CINEMATOGRAPHY**

**Spring 2016**

**2 units**

**Prerequisites: CTPR-508 or 547**

INSTRUCTOR: Gary Wagner

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PHONE: 310-339-9626 C

OFFICE: SCA 410, Adjuncts' Office

HOURS: Tuesday AM (by appoint.) & Thursday PM (by appoint.)

BLACKBOARD: <http://www.usc.edu/its/blackboard.html>

SA: Lym Choong Kim

EMAIL: lymchook@usc.edu

PHONE: 213-293-7911

DAY: Tuesday

TIME: 1:00-4:50 pm

LOCATION: SCC Stage 3

Please note our final class is Tuesday, May 10th. All students are required to attend class, screen their final assignment that day, and turn-in your self evaluation/critique.

### **OVERVIEW**

Welcome to CTPR 537. This class will introduce you to 16mm film stocks, the Sony F5 camera, professional light meters, and intermediate lighting principles. Classes will consist of lectures, demonstrations, and in-class exercises in which students will serve in a variety of crew positions.

Athletic shoes and long pants MUST be worn to all Cinematography classes and when picking up and returning equipment. No open toed, dress shoes, shorts, skirts or dresses will be permitted. If you come to class dressed inappropriately, you will be asked to leave. You may return when dressed for a work environment.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- To further the student's understanding and appreciation of the art and craft of cinematography
- To enhance the effectiveness of visual storytelling
- To develop the student's problem solving abilities

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES**

Required Reading: The class materials posted on Blackboard.

A) LECTURES - the class notes which outline the weekly lectures and allow you to actively listen instead of taking notes

B) ARTICLES pertinent to the class,

C) ASSIGNMENTS - information to explain and assist you with the semester assignments

D) GUIDELINES related to set protocol

E) CAMERA MECHANICS - information related to the use of film and digital cameras

F) CHARTS, LISTS & OTHER INFORMATION - various supplemental materials, i.e., depth of field charts, light meter information, etc.

G) EQUIPMENT MANUALS

## TEXT

The class text is Voice & Vision by Mick Hurbis-Cherrier, (Reading assignments based on 1st edition).

## GRADING

Grading is based on a combination of both objective and subjective criteria. However, the larger percentage of your final grade does come from the latter. Therefore, it is imperative that you understand what is expected from you in this class. If at any time you are wondering how you are progressing, please arrange a meeting with me to discuss your status.

10%	Still Assignment
20%	Midterm Exam (30-40 questions)
30%	Individual "in-class" exercise including your self-critique, and your crew performance during others "in class" exercises. Throughout the semester you will be assigned rotating crew positions on specific lighting and shooting exercises. Your performance will be evaluated on preparedness, (bring all necessary equipment & supplies), collaboration, efficiency, respect for crew and equipment, and problem solving ability. A self-critique of your individual exercise is due the week after screening your project.
30%	Final assignment, including a one page summary & self-critique, due the day of the screening. (This exercise must be proposed by you and approved by me.)
10%	Class participation. You need to "be there" mentally as well as physically.

Attendance is not optional. Absence or lateness will be categorized as excused or unexcused. An absence or lateness is considered excused if you discuss it with me and have a note from an authority. All medical absences require a visit and note from a doctor.

Unexcused absence will alter your final grade in the following way: (Examples assume you earn an A.)

One absence will result in your final grade dropping one portion of a grade, i.e., from A to A-.

Two absences will result in your final grade dropping two portions of a grade, i.e. from A to A- (one) to B+ (two portions of a grade).

Three absences will result in your final grade dropping three portions of a grade, i.e. from A to A- (one), to B+ (two), to B (three portions of a grade). And so on...

Unexcused lateness will alter your final grade in the following way: (Examples assume you earn an A.)

One lateness will not count against you, it's LA.

Two will result in your final grade dropping one letter portion of a grade, i.e. from A to A-.

Three will result in your final grade dropping by two portions of a grade, i.e., from A to A- (one), to B+ (two portions of a grade).

Four will result in your final grade dropping three portions of a grade, i.e. from A to A- (one) to B+ (two), to B (three portions of a grade). And so on...

If you arrive late, you MUST come to me during a break and let me know you are present. Please don't assume I saw you arrive. If you fail to do so, you may be marked absent.

## ASSIGNMENTS

There are two class assignments:

- 1) a still assignment (due mid-semester)
- 2) a final HD assignment (due at the end of the semester).

## REQUIRED COURSE EQUIPMENT

- A digital or analogue still camera (the quality does not matter, you can use the camera in your smart phone)
- A small flash light (the type that allows the flashlight globe to be exposed, i.e., freestanding candle mode of mag light). The led mini mag light works well. <http://maglite.com/shop/mini-maglite-led-2-cell-aaa-flashlight>

## OPTIONAL COURSE EQUIPMENT

A light meter- There are a few available from the equipment center BUT I highly recommend you purchase your own if you are serious about learning to use one.

## ACADEMIC CONDUCT

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standard* <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/departments/departments-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>.

This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage [sarc@usc.edu](mailto:sarc@usc.edu) describes reporting options and other resources. <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/>

## SUPPORT SYSTEMS

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students.

*The Office of Disability Services and Programs* provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html)

If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* <http://emergency.usc.edu/> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

## 537 WEEKLY BREAKDOWN

Class #1 Jan. 12

### LECTURES & DEMOS

Read & discuss syllabus

Assign weekly group/crew rotations

Discuss Still Assignment

Introduce/review - general stage safety, lighting board, battens, distro, lighting instruments, grip equipment (C-stands, flags, nets), dolly & track

SA: Copies of Syllabus  
dolly track (2x straight, 2 x curved),  
misc. grip equip., (platypus, cardellini, mafer clamp, gator grip)  
Intermediate lighting kit, mini-mole (complete)

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Class #2 Jan. 19 Quiz #1

### LECTURES & DEMOS

Properties of Light: Direction, Quality, Color, Quantity

Soft Light w/ diffusion, silks, bounce

Inverse Square Law & Lighting Ratios

Introduce LED lights

SA: Copies of Quiz #1  
LED light kits, misc. grip equip., Sony EX-1 camera

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Class #3 Jan. 26 Quiz #2

### LECTURES & DEMOS

Introduce Light Meters, incident vs reflected

Discuss exposure triangle, f/stop vs ISO, f/stop vs fc

Introduce Arri-SR2 - practice building & loading

SA: Copies of Quiz #2  
Copies of f/stop vs ISO worksheet  
Copies of FC vs. F/stop worksheet  
Light Meters (16 or as many as possible), 2 x Arri SR2 packages w/ tripods & changing bags

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Class #4 Feb. 2 Quiz #3

### LECTURES & DEMOS

Labeling mags, and film cans, camera reports

Introduce Sony F5

Continue Arri SR2 building & loading practice

Shoot demo scene - Gary as DP

SA: Copies of Quiz #3

USC-FotoKem camera reports  
2 x Arri SR2 packages w/ tripods & changing bags, Sony F5 package, AC kits  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/500T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #5      Feb. 9      Quiz #4

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen Group 1 Still Assignment  
Screen demo scene

Discuss Lenses - f/stops, focal lengths, field of view, position of lens

Shoot In-class Exercise #1

SA:    Copies of Quiz #4  
Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #6      Feb. 16      Quiz #5

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen Group 2 Still Assignment  
Screen In-class Exercise #1

Discuss Lenses – depth-of-field, using DoF charts/apps  
Discuss & practice pulling focus

Shoot In-class Exercise #2

SA:    Copies of Quiz #5  
Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #7      Feb. 23      Quiz #6

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen Group 3 Still Assignment  
Screen In-class Exercise #2

Discuss matching overs & reverses

Shoot In-class Exercise #3

SA:    Copies of Quiz #6  
Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #8      Mar. 1      Quiz #7

LECTURES & DEMOS

Screen In-class Exercise #3

Review & answer questions for Midterm

Shoot In-class Exercise #4

SA:    Copies of Quiz #7

Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #9      Mar. 8      **MIDTERM EXAM !!**

MIDTERM EXAM (30-40 questions)

LECTURES & DEMOS

Screen In-class Exercise #4

Knots, 12x12s, HMIs, filters for exteriors

Shoot In-class Exercise – Day Exteriors

SA:    Copies of Midterm Exam

Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #10      Mar. 22

LECTURES & DEMOS

Screen In-class Exercise

Compare film vs digital (terminology, tools, methodology)

Introduce waveform monitor/vector scope

Rating digital/video camera ISO

Shoot In-class Exercise #5

SA:    Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor

misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

2 x EX1 cameras, NX5 camera, waveform monitor

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Class #11      Mar. 29

LECTURES & DEMOS

Screen In-class Exercise #5

Kino Flo demo

Shoot In-class Exercise #6

SA: Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #12 Apr. 5

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen In-class Exercise #6

Discuss Final Assignment Project

Shoot In-class Exercise #7

SA: Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #13 Apr. 12

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen In-class Exercise #7

Discuss & answer Final Assignment questions

Shoot In-class Exercise #8

SA: Arri SR2 package, changing bag, Sony F5 package, laptop, monitor  
misc. grip equip., 100 ft. roll of 7219/50T (vault order from Vince)

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Class #14 Apr. 19

LECTURES & DEMOS  
Screen In-class Exercise #8

Screen clips/examples for future director/cinematographer reference

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Class #15 Apr. 26

FotoKem Tour

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Class #16 May 10 FINAL EXAM

Alternate/Make-up exam (45 min.)  
Final Assignment Project screenings