



CTPR 537, Practicum in Cinematography
2 Units SCC Stage 3, Spring 2025, Tuesday, 9 AM-12:50 PM

IMPORTANT This class may not be audited.

Course Description

Welcome to CTPR 537. This course is required for serving as a cinematographer on an advanced project. Whether you want to be a cinematographer, director, producer, editor, production designer, writer, or sound person, this program will help you improve your visual storytelling skills. You will be asked to think like a cinematographer to communicate better with the rest of the crew. There will be an emphasis on both the technical and aesthetic components of cinematography. Expect to draw on basic mathematical concepts, such as fractions and ratios, to understand F/stops, lighting ratios, and the exposure triangle.

Through lectures and demonstrations, you will learn how lighting, lenses, and movement shape character and evoke emotion. Serving in a range of crew positions during in-class exercises will improve your capacity to address problems on a set. You will have an understanding of the art and craft of cinematography after completing this course.

Learning Objectives

Prerequisite(s) CTPR 508

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- **Build** and **shoot** with an Arriflex SR3 Super 16 film camera during lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Measure** lighting exposure with a professional incident light meter.
- **Calculate** depth of field using a depth of field simulator.
- **Use** the depth of field simulator to pull focus during lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Use** lighting and grip equipment professionally and safely during lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Apply** the skills required to serve as a member of the camera, grip, and electric crew during lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Identify** different types of film lights and demonstrate their appropriate use in a shot.
- **Match** a shot's lighting, composition, and camera movement from a film, TV show, or music video in the lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Make use of** a basic lighting diagram when serving as a crew member during the lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Create** a basic lighting diagram when serving as the cinematographer during the lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Apply** the language of a cinematographer to communicate with their crew during the lighting and shooting exercises.
- **Design** and **execute** a cinematography test employing the scientific method in the final assignment.