

DP300 Class Syllabus Part 1

PLATT DP300 Syllabus AFv4

Instructor	Alex Farnsley alex@filmalex.com
Course dates	Thursday, January 14th through Tuesday, March 2nd, 2010
Schedule	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday nights
Time	6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Prerequisite	A basic working knowledge of Final Cut Studio
Software	Apple Final Cut Pro, Motion, Color, Compressor, DVD Studio Pro

Textbooks and Course Materials

Final Cut Pro 6, Professional Editing in Final Cut Studio, Diana Weynand, Peachpit Press 2007, ISBN: 0-321-50265-5. (This will be your reference book for looking up “how to” information. I am always happy to answer questions, but we need to learn to rely on reference materials as well.)

The Bare Bones Camera Course for Film and Video, Tom Schroeppel, 2007, ISBN: 0-9603718-1-8

A small spiral notebook and a pen that you will always bring to class and to production meetings.

WEEKLY LECTURE, DISCUSSION, PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

SEE DP300 Class Syllabus Part 2 for weekly subject focus, topics and schedule.

PROJECTS

Each project will have an individual specification sheet that will be handed out and discussed at the Monday production meeting.

Home Work

There will be one individual project each week. There will be time allotted during class to work on these, but we expect that you will work outside of class as well. There will be readings from the course books and handouts.

Class Structure

The class will be run as if it was a production company. The projects will be considered to be those of clients who have contracted for our services. We will estimate pricing for each project and keep timesheets to develop our skills in estimating the time necessary for a specific type of work. The instructor will be the executive producer and each student will be the producer of the projects they undertake.

Course Description:

The course is designed to further develop specific sets of skills that are necessary to launch a career in film, television, or video production.

Craft skills such as: camera work, sound acquisition, editing, color correction, compression and dvd authoring.

Creative skills such as: story telling; art direction; development of themes and visual and audio vocabularies; composition; editing techniques including rhythm, tempo, montage and continuity styles; and appropriate use of music.

Business skills such as: budgeting, development and funding of a project, pre-production, production, post production, and distribution.

Course Objectives

In addition to further development of valuable skill sets you should finish the course with some short personal films of which you are the sole author. These should make a good addition to your portfolio.

Attendance:

Since we will consider ourselves a professional production company, we will all act as any employee would with respect to attendance at work – we will keep our executive producer/instructor posted on any possible late arrivals or absences. Both late arrivals and early departures will be treated the same for grading purposes.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of presenting work – either written or spoken – that is not your own. This includes, but is not limited to, not properly citing others' work, or using someone else's writing. Platt College and this instructor will not tolerate plagiarism of any sort and the penalty will be automatic failure of this course and potential dismissal from the college.

Class Expectations

All students will be treated fairly and with respect. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. If these expectations are violated, the violator will be appropriately disciplined. This may include: a verbal warning, class suspension, expulsion from the class, and possible expulsion from the college.

Concerns and Disagreements

Any concerns regarding the policies or procedures for this course, as outlined in this syllabus, or which may occur in class, should be discussed with me either after class or by making an appointment.

Class Protocol

Absolutely all cell phones are off during class. (However, If you have a babysitter who may need to reach you, please ask me for the procedures to follow.)

Because of insurance requirements, children are not allowed in the classroom at any time.

If you need to leave class please ask for permission.

Never at any time are weapons, drugs, or animals allowed in the classroom. If I suspect you are under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug, you will be asked to leave class.

Our production meetings will be run in a professional manner. You will stay focused on the subject under discussion and not distract other producers with "off-topic" chatter.

You will always have your notebook and a pen at production meetings.

Grading

Attendance: late arrivals or early departures result in a 1% deduction from the final grade.

Each absence results in a 2.5% deduction from the final grade. An email notification prior to a late arrival or absence may reduce deductions subject to the instructor's discretion.

Projects: your film projects will constitute 80% of your grade.

Project grading will be based on meeting all requirements and technical and artistic quality. All projects will be due at the time clearly stated by the instructor. A late project will be dropped a full grade for each day it is late. If all requirements are met and the artistic element is good, then you will receive a "C" grade. If you go well above and beyond for the project you can earn a "B" grade. An "A" grade will only be given for outstanding and superior work

Class participation: participation in class discussions and activities and discussions will count for 10% of your grade.

Presentations: Each student will be asked to make two class presentations on a subject of interest. These will count for 10% of your grade.

Extra credit: extra projects, assignments, papers, websites, presentations, etc., will always be considered for extra credit. All extra credit must be approved by the instructor before it is undertaken. Projects from other classes will not be considered.

Class Presentations

Each week you will be asked to make a short (five to 10 minute) presentation on a selected subject. This presentation should include either film clips or illustrations that will help illuminate the subject.

Class Participation

Every student is expected to participate in a variety of ways including: class discussions, critiques of projects, listening and staying engaged during each class period, speaking at scheduled times.

Class Structure

Production meetings will be held at the start of each class session and begin promptly at 6 pm.

Lecture and demonstration on a specific topic.

Clips from various films will be shown to illustrate the week's subject focus.

Screening and class critique of student's weekly projects each Thursday at 8:30 pm

Student presentations on the subject of the week each Wednesday.