

# Video Production 1: Script to Screen Syllabus

## (Semester A and B)

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Ms. Jessica Weiss

EMAIL: [Jessica.weiss@ileadonline.org](mailto:Jessica.weiss@ileadonline.org)

Live Hours: See course content or announcements

### CONTACT INFORMATION

I am available by email at any time. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding your assignments. Every effort will be made to reply to you immediately. I make a point to respond to emails within 24 hours on weekdays and 48 hours on weekends.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All learners must have computer and internet access. Participants in online classes must be comfortable with the basic functions of word-processing software, including Google Docs.

### COURSE GOALS

- Gain storytelling, designing, problem-solving, and filmmaking skills
- Use visual, media, and technology literacy skills
- Interpret, evaluate, and analyze images and film

### DRIVING QUESTION

How do you make a great video?

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Video Production 1 is a course designed to give students the opportunity to create video projects to gain skills in storytelling, designing compelling video sequences, and the ability to read images and videos to enhance their visual and media literacy. Narrative, documentary, Youtube/vlogging, and art film, and filmmaking techniques will be explored based on students' interests and skill levels. Students will also have the opportunity to study the history of film, appreciation, and critiquing literary elements and art. This course is a UC (A-G) G credit elective course. All learners interested in taking the Video Production pathway could benefit from taking this course particularly if they are in the 9th grade or have not taken a video production course previously.

### STANDARDS MET

This course meets the following California state standards: [CTE: Arts, Media, and Entertainment standards for the Design, Visual, and Media Arts Pathway.](#)

### REQUIRED TEXTS

All reading materials are available online, but will also be provided as links through the

course website.

Other selected readings for nonfiction available within the course.

## COURSE OUTLINE

### Semester A (Topics for each Block/Week)

1. Unit 1: Practice Sequence
  - a. Video basics
  - b. Finalizing a sequence
2. Unit 2: Video Project 1 Writing
  - a. Storyboarding
  - b. Camera Movement
  - c. Becoming a Better Editor
1. Unit 3: Video Project 2
  - a. Types of Scripts
  - b. Types of Shots
  - c. Filming, lighting, and sound techniques
  - d. Editing and sound mixing techniques
1. Unit 4: Video Production 3 (Project Three has been removed unless requested however the assignments and discussions from Unit 3 have been distributed to Unit 1 and 2 so all of the topics are still explored)
  - a. Analyzing Stories
  - b. Cinematography
  - c. Making Better Movies
  - d. Advanced Editing Techniques
2. Culminating Project: create a final video and reflect on progress

### Semester A Assignments and Discussions: (Each is labeled with the Block number)

- 1: Assignment 1: Sequence Analysis and Plan
- 1: Discussion: 1 Knows Need to Knows
- 2: Discussion 2: What Makes or Breaks a Sequence
- 2.5: Assignment 2.5: Film History Takeaways
- 2: Assignment 2: Three Shot Film Sequence
- 3: Assignment 3: Screenplay Draft
- 3: Discussion 3: Share a Character Person
- 4: Discussion 4: Share Ideas for Project #1
- 4: Assignment 4: Script Draft #2
- 5: Discussion 5: Sharing Ideas and Shot Types
- 5: Assignment 5: Storyboard
- 6: Discussion 6: Sharing Slides

- 6: Assignment 6: Plan for Filming
- 7: Discussion 7: Camera Movement
- 7: Assignment 7: Filming Journal #1
- 8: Discussion 8: Editing Techniques
- 8: Assignment 8: Video Project
- 9: Discussion 9: Share Ideas and Story Analysis
- 9: Assignment 9: Script Draft #3
- 10: Discussion 10: Better Cinematography
- 10: Assignment 10: Storyboard
- 11: Discussion 11: Lighting and Sound
- 11: Assignment 11: Filming Journal #2
- 12: Discussion 12: Better Filming
- 12: Assignment 12: Filming Journal #3
- 13: Discussion 13: The Future
- 13: Assignment 13: Filming Journal #4
- 14: Discussion 14: Favorite Techniques
- 14: Assignment 14: Video Project #2
- 14: Assignment 14: Video Project #3
- Culminating Project
- EXTRA CREDIT: Discussion 15: Help Each Other

## Semester B (Topics for each Block/Week)

1. Unit 1: Documentary Video
  - a. Intro to Documentary Video
  - b. Documentary Techniques
  - c. Composition
  - d. Advanced Filming
  - e. Editing for Documentary
  - f. Video Project #1 Due
2. Unit 2: Narrative Video
  - a. Intro to Narrative Video
  - b. All About Screenplays
  - c. Making Meaning
  - d. Filming
  - e. Making Meaning with Editing
  - f. Video Project #2 Due
3. Unit 3: Art Film
  - a. Intro to Art Film
  - b. Analyzing Art Films

#### 4. Culminating Project

#### Semester B Assignments and Discussions (Each is labeled with the Block number)

- 1: Assignment 1: Documentary Tips
- 1: Discussion 1: Advice
- 2: Assignment 2: Ideas
- 2: Discussion 2: Documentary Techniques
- 3: Assignment 3: Composition Tips
- 3: Discussion 3: Photo Composition
- 4: Assignment 4: Shot List
- 4: Discussion 4: Filming Techniques
- 5: Assignment 5: Editing Plan
- 5: Discussion 5: Editing Techniques
- 6: Assignment 6: Video Project #1
- 6: Discussion 6: Project Reflection
- 7: Assignment 7: Narrative Techniques
- 7: Discussion 7: A Great Story
- 8: Assignment 8: Screenplay Draft #1
- 8: Discussion 8: Writing a Screenplay
- 9: Assignment 9: Screenplay Draft #2
- 9: Discussion 9: Screenplay Critique
- 10: Assignment 10: Film Critique
- 10: Discussion 10: Analyze and Critique
- 11: Assignment 11: Shot List or Storyboard
- 11: Discussion 11: Writing Improvement
- 12: Assignment 12: Video Project #2
- 12: Discussion 12: Project Reflection #2
- 13: Assignment 13: Art Film Critique
- 13: Discussion 13: Surreal Art
- 14: Assignment 14: Art Film Plan
- 14: Discussion 14: Surreal Video
- Culminating Project
- EXTRA CREDIT: Discussion 15: Help Each Other

#### **RESOURCES/MATERIALS USED IN THIS COURSE**

##### **Semester A:**

##### **Unit 1: Blocks 1-2 Resources:**

- Youtube: Film History videos, Movie Terms, and film production review
- Facilitator created content: Video Basics Lesson and Video, Practice sample three shot film, filming and editing basics lesson, and how to export a video video
- Other Readings: Film History slides

**Unit 2: Blocks 4-8 Resources:**

- Youtube: short film ideas, how to write a screenplay, how to format a screenplay, Writerduet tutorial, Inside Out from script to screen, creating a two-column script, how to storyboard, composition in storytelling, filming basics, and lessons from 10 editors
- Facilitator created content: Formatting Screenplays with Writerduet, screenwriting basics lesson, lesson on the types of screenplays, storyboarding lesson, chart on shot types, lesson on types of shots, filming lesson, and lesson on editing
- Other reading resources: 10 copyright laws video producers should know

**Unit 3: Blocks 9-14 Resources:**

- Youtube: Film criticism, 5 Brilliant Moments of Camera Movement, easy cinematic techniques, the quality of light, film lighting 101, hooking your audience, 5 common problems with student films, sound production, and 9 cuts every editor should know
- Facilitator created content: Lesson on analyzing story, lesson on cinematography, lesson on filming: light and sound, lesson on streamlining production, lesson on sound mixing, and lesson on tips and tricks
- Other reading resources: sample scripts

**Semester B:****Unit 1: Blocks 1-6 Resources:**

- Youtube: Experimental and documentary films, the four ingredients in a documentary, top 10 documentaries of all time, how to write a documentary script, The Majestic Plastic Bag mockumentary, composition in art explained, 7 steps to filming a documentary, camera settings basics, video editing terms,
- Facilitator created content: lesson on documentary techniques, lesson on composition, composition principles handout, lesson on filming, lesson on advanced filming, lesson on editing,
- Other resources: documentary film slides, shooting to edit video, how to film interviews video, 10 tips for editing video, 10 copyright laws every video producer should know

**Unit 2: Blocks 7-12 Resources:**

- Youtube: The language of film, show don't tell in screenplays, how to write a short film, screenplays, creating complex and strong characters, how to write dialogue, advanced screenplay formatting, how to make a short film, the history of cutting, continuity editing, and video editing pacing tips
- Facilitator created content: chart on shot types
- Other resources: Screenplay slides lesson, what is a screenplay by Syd Field chapter, how to write a screenplay, composition and storytelling video, and editing for narrative films

**Unit 3: Blocks 13-14 Resources:**

- Youtube: avant-garde renegades, how to look at an artwork, a beginner's guide to experimental film, and sample videos
- Facilitator created content: Intro to avant garde or art film critique

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

This is an online course, and while there is flexibility in how and when you do assignments, it is best to log in and complete work each day according to the posted pacing schedule. Due dates will be clearly stated for each assignment in the course calendar and the weekly schedule. It is highly recommended that learners follow the pacing schedule posted, but work may be submitted late. This course uses project-based learning to encourage an authentic, developed appreciation of the topics covered. That means that while it may include quizzes and some traditional assessments, the bulk of the coursework focuses on projects that require learners to display their learning in a thorough and creative manner. If you are struggling to complete your work or you need some assistance with an alternate schedule or workload, please contact me as soon as possible. I am more than happy to help support your success in the class!

### LEARNER EXPECTATIONS

The learner is expected to participate in the course via e-mail, discussion boards (or other communication) with the facilitator, by reading the assigned readings, submitting assignments, and completing and submitting original work.

Learners are expected to check their course and email account every day and complete work on time as assigned with designated dates and time.

### GRADING

Each assignment is given a specific number of points. The number of points earned by the student is determined and a percentage is calculated. The raw score is recorded in the grade book.

An overall grade in the course will be determined according to your school's grading scale.

### SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments for the week are due Friday unless otherwise stated. The weekly schedule offers suggested pacing. Work may be turned in late and/or learners can work according to an alternate pacing schedule. Please contact your online facilitator as soon as possible if you need to work according to an alternate schedule

### NON-HARASSMENT

Learners are expected to treat fellow students, and their facilitators, with respect. No form of a "hostile environment" or "harassment" will be tolerated by any learner or facilitator. For more information on good netiquette, please review [THIS RESOURCE](#)

### HONESTY AND PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism of any sort is prohibited.

According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, to "plagiarize" means:

- to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own
- to use (another's production) without crediting the source
- to commit literary theft
- to present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source

Please review [THIS RESOURCE](#) for more information on plagiarism.

iLead Online has a zero-tolerance plagiarism policy. A conference between facilitator, learner, parent, and academic coach will occur for each instance of plagiarism to determine an appropriate course of action.

#### PRIVACY POLICY

All work submitted is the property of the author and is not available to anyone not in the class. If work is to be submitted or viewed outside of this website, I will obtain permission from the author. [FERPA Info](#)