TFM 314 Film and Video Production  
Fall 2016  
DRAFT v2/8-22-16

Friday 10:00 am to 2:40 pm
Prerequisites: Admission to the TFM production major.

INSTRUCTOR: Alex Farnsley
Office: COMM 103
Office Hours: Before and after class or by appointment
Email: afarnsley@mail.sdsu.edu  I try to answer all emails within 24 hours.

Course Description
TFM314 is designed to develop a solid craft and creative foundation for students pursuing a degree in television and film. Group projects, lectures, film screenings, and discussions, will address craft, technical and creative components of moving image production. The primary emphasis will be on developing and executing well-structured and well-crafted narrative and documentary projects.

Objectives
After completing this course students should possess:
1. a basic understanding of the formal elements of moving image art;
2. a grounding in the fundamentals of producing and directing;
3. a level of competency in the primary creative and craft components of the production cycle.

Evaluation  
Final grades will include A-F with +/- (SDSU policy = no A+ grade)
Project 1 3%
Project 2 Documentary 20%
Project 3 3%
Project 4 Narrative Short 20%
Production Books for Projects 2 and 4 10%
Peer and Project Evaluation for Projects 2 and 4 10%
Crew and Production Assistant Requirement 15% (see Crew Logs below)
Class Participation 10%
Quizes 10% (five at 2% each)

Crew Logs
Each student is required to volunteer for a minimum of 20 hours as a production assistant or crew member on TFM 360, 560, or graduate film projects. Five hours must be on graduate student projects.

Production Companies
The class will be divided into groups. Each group will form a production company that will be responsible for developing and producing a documentary film, a narrative film, and two class exercises.

Filmmaking by necessity and tradition is based on teamwork and collaboration. Consider the production cycle: development, preproduction, production, post production, and distribution. Also, take into account the key creative tasks: producing, writing, directing, production design, cinematography, production sound, editing, sound design and color correction. There will be overlapping responsibilities. Taken together these elements of the production provide multiple opportunities for creative differences of opinion. If conflict among team members develops that cannot be resolved within the group, contact me for advice or intervention.
Contracts
Each Production Company is required to submit a contract, signed by all member of the group, specifying how much each member is required to contribute to the project budgets, how it is to be paid, by when, and a contingency plan for any over-budget expenses. A contract is required for projects 2 and 4. *The form is available on Blackboard in Course Documents.*

Documentary and Narrative Production Producer’s Notebooks
The required content of these notebooks will be described in the Brief for each project.

Shooting in SDSU Classrooms
[http://theatre.sdsu.edu/html/TFMforms.html](http://theatre.sdsu.edu/html/TFMforms.html) for **full directions** (the link: Directions for reserving a room on campus for film shoots and auditions.)

Note About Stunts, Safety and Liability
Anyone planning any effects or stunts, no matter how "safe," must have them approved in writing before attempting them. Releases must be signed by each cast member, and liability forms and property release forms must be signed for all shooting locations. *These forms are available on Blackboard in Course Documents*

Students Disability Services
If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact Student Disability Services at (619) 594-6473. To avoid any delay in the receipt of your accommodations, you should contact Student Disability Services as soon as possible. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive, and that accommodations based upon disability cannot be provided until you have presented your instructor with an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Field Production
This course may require students to participate in fieldtrips, research or studies that include coursework that will be performed off-campus. Participation in such activities may result in accidents or personal injuries. Students participating in the event are aware of these risks, and agree to hold harmless San Diego State University, the State of California, the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges and its officers, employees and agents against all claims, demands suits, judgments, expenses and costs of any kind on account of their participation in the activities. Students using their own vehicles to transport other students to such activities should have current automobile insurance.