

PELLISSIPPI STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER SYLLABUS

**TECHNICAL VIDEO PRODUCTION  
VPT 1045**

**Class Hours: 3.0**

**Credit Hours: 3.0**

**Laboratory Hours: 0.0**

**Date Revised: Spring 2011**

**Catalog Course Description:**

Introduction to the basic technologies and processes used in video: the system and the equipment, the basic procedures, techniques and the process of design and production. Students shoot, edit in camera, analyze short projects, learn the basic principles of audio and visual communication; and employ the concepts and vocabulary of motion picture aesthetics. The production process and the job roles are examined throughout, from idea through shooting, through postproduction.

**Entry Level Standards:**

Students must be able to read at the college level and should be familiar with the basic operation of a desktop computer.

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Co-requisites:**

None

**Textbook(s) and Other Course Materials:**

*Television Production Handbook*, most recent edition, Zettl, Herbert, Wadsworth Publishing  
Other Reference Material(s):

Also, student must supply own, Sony min DV tape, Sony DV tape and a Jump drive.  
Internet and trade journal research will provide other resource material for the class.

**I. Week/Unit/Topic Basis:**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Discussion: What is VPT? Who are the instructors? What are VPT graduates doing? What can I expect when I complete my degree? Equipment checkout and lab use procedures. Introduction to the industry: broadcast and non-broadcast, entertainment, other industry aspects... Do you want to become a VPT lab assistant?
2	View: Film and video examples of shots, framing, and sequence structures. Discussion: The television production process. How television cameras work. Operating the camera and framing effective shots. Shot sequences and cinematic structure. Exercise: Camera operation. Production Assignment #1 -: Camera shoots
3	Reading Assignment: Chapter 5; Discussion: The Television Camera. Critique assignment #1. Exercise: The instructor will use the videos shots by the students to help you review the sections on Camera Composition, Screen Forces, Screen Motion and Picture Depth.

Production Assignment #2: Apply the principles of good composition in this assignment (described by instructor).

- 4 Reading Assignment: Chapter 6 Lenses; Discussion: The lens is one of the three major parts of the camera. Their primary function is to project a clear image of the viewed scene on the film or, in case of digital photography and television, on the electronic imaging device.
- 5 Reading Assignment: Chapter 7; Camera Operation and Picture Composition Discussion: Working with the camera, discusses the basic camera movements, the standard mounting equipment, and the do's and don't of camera operation. Framing, effective shots, focuses on some of the aesthetic aspects of picture composition in various aspect ratios  
Assignment #3: Storyboard and shoot (edit in camera) a short script provided by the instructor applying what you are learning about composition, screen action, continuity, lighting, shot sequence, story structure, etc.
- 6 Reading Assignment: Chapter 8 Audio: Sound Pickup and Chapter 9 Audio : Sound Control; Discussion: Basic effects in-camera,.
- 7 Reading Assignment: Chapter 10 - Lighting- Discussion: Graphics, scene and property design. Critique and review in-camera-edit projects. Lessons learned from projects.  
Exercise: In Camera Editing exercise
- 8 Reading Assignment: Chapter 11; Discussion: what production people do. Exercise: Review
- 9 Midterm Exam; Discussion: Grade and review midterm in class. Production Assignment #4: Student concept (must be submitted and approved by instructor), script and storyboard. Edit-in-camera. Employ what you have learned about composition, screen action, lighting and electronic camera characteristics, and shot sequence structure. Instructor will provide details. Exercise: Work on Assignment #4 concepts and storyboards (after concept approval)
- 10 Reading Assignment: Chapter 16; Discussion:. The director in preproduction. Exercise: Work on assignment #4
- 11 Reading Assignment: Chapter 17 The Director in Production: Directing; Discussion: Production planning and process.
- 12 Reading Assignment: Chapter 18 Field Production and Big Remotes ; Discussion: The director in production and postproduction. Exercise: Work on Assignment #4
- 13 Reading Assignment: Chapter 15 – Television Talent; Discussion: Begin viewing and critiquing Exercise: Work on Assignment #4
- 14 Discussion: Finish critiques of Assignment #4 and review for final exam.
- 15 Final Exam

Note: The schedule and contents of lectures, demonstrations, guests, field trips, screenings and assignments are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor with minimum notice.

## **II. Course Goals\*:**

The course will:

- A. Guide students toward basic understanding of the various technologies used in the production of video programming. I, IV
- B. Guide students toward identifying various career possibilities within this umbrella occupation and skills and experience necessary to pursue them. II
- C. Guide students towards differentiating between skills necessary to utilize the technology and those necessary to create compelling programming. I, III
- D. Guide students towards developing basic knowledge of working professionals, their educational and professional backgrounds, work related responsibilities and specific skills required in their particular vocations. II, V
- E. Enhance effective use by producing several in class video projects. I, III

\*Roman numerals after course objectives reference goals of the Video Production Technology program. (Career Program Goals and General Education Goals are listed [http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/curriculum\\_and\\_instruction/syllabi/](http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/curriculum_and_instruction/syllabi/))

### **III. Expected Student Learning Outcomes\*:**

Students will be able to:

- 1. Identify various technologies used in the video production process. A
- 2. Describe the function of each production technology and how it contributes to the final product. A,C
- 3. Differentiate the fundamental production approaches involved in ENG/EFP and studio production. A
- 4. Select five distinct career choices within the field of video production and the most important skills required for each. B
- 5. Differentiate between skills necessary to operate equipment and skills necessary to creatively solve communications problems. C
- 6. Define basic aspects of good visual composition. A
- 7. Employ correct departmental equipment checkout procedures. A
- 8. Employ appropriate care when using equipment. B,C
- 9. Operate a PC to perform basic functions. A,C

\* Capital letters after Expected Student Learning Outcomes reference the course goals listed above.

### **IV. Evaluation:**

A. Testing Procedures: 30% of grade

The Midterm examination and or project will represent 10% of the grade. The Final examination and project will represent 20% of the grade.

B. Laboratory Expectations:

N/A

C. Field Work: 50% of grade

The Production Assignments will represent 30% of the grade.

D. Other Evaluation Methods: 20% of grade

10% of the grade will be determined by attendance, participation, effort, growth, dedication and perseverance.

E. Grading Scale:

**V. Policies:**

A. Attendance Policy:

Pellissippi State expects students to attend all scheduled instructional activities. As a minimum, students in all courses (excluding distance learning courses) must be present for at least 75 percent of their scheduled class and laboratory meetings in order to receive credit for the course. Individual departments/programs/disciplines, with the approval of the vice president of the Learning Division, may have requirements that are more stringent. In very specific circumstances, an appeal of the policy may be addressed to the head of the department in which the course was taken. If further action is warranted, the appeal may be addressed to the vice president of Academic Affairs.

B. Academic Dishonesty:

Academic misconduct committed either directly or indirectly by an individual or group is subject to disciplinary action. Prohibited activities include but are not limited to the following practices:

- Cheating, including but not limited to unauthorized assistance from material, people, or devices when taking a test, quiz, or examination; writing papers or reports; solving problems; or completing academic assignments.
- Plagiarism, including but not limited to paraphrasing, summarizing, or directly quoting published or unpublished work of another person, including online or computerized services, without proper documentation of the original source.
- Purchasing or otherwise obtaining prewritten essays, research papers, or materials prepared by another person or agency that sells term papers or other academic materials to be presented as one's own work.
- Taking an exam for another student.
- Providing others with information and/or answers regarding exams, quizzes, homework or other classroom assignments unless explicitly authorized by the instructor.
- Any of the above occurring within the Web or distance learning environment.

C. Accommodations for disabilities:

Students who need accommodations because of a disability, have emergency medical information to share, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated should inform the instructor immediately, privately after class or in her or his office. Students must present a current accommodation plan from a staff member in Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD) in order to receive accommodations in this course. Services for Students with Disabilities may be contacted by going to Goins 127, 132, 134, 135, 131 or by phone: 539-7153 or TTY 694-6429. More information is available at <http://www.pstcc.edu/departments/swd/>.

D. Other Policies:

Any act of misuse, vandalism, malicious or unwarranted damage or destruction, defacing, disfiguring, or unauthorized use of property/equipment belonging to Pellissippi State is subject to disciplinary sanction.