RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

FILM 279: SOUND TECHNIQUES FOR FILM AND VIDEO

I. Basic Course Information

    A. Course Number and Title: FILM 279: Sound Techniques for Film and Video

    B. New or Modified Course: New

    C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall   Year: 2018

    D. Effective Term: Fall 2019

    E. Sponsoring Department: Communication & Languages

    F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

    G. Weekly Contact Hours: 4   Lecture: 2
                                       Laboratory: 2
                                       Out of class student work per week: 5

    H. Prerequisites: FILM 267: Digital Video Production—Narrative and Documentary or FILM 266 Introduction to Video Production--Aesthetics

    I. Laboratory Fees: Yes

    J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: **Sara Banfield, ext. 8967, Sara.Banfield@raritanval.edu; Dean Patrice Marks, ext. 8002, Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu**

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites: FILM 267: Digital Video Production—Narrative and Documentary or FILM 266 Introduction to Video Production—Aesthetics. In this course, students will gain basic understanding of the techniques and aesthetics of producing and designing sound for film and video. Through lectures, readings, hands-on exercises and projects, students will learn the fundamentals of audio recording on location, sound editing and sound design.

III. Statement of Course Need

    A. Understanding techniques and aesthetics of sound in motion pictures and digital video.

This course provides an introduction to sound production and post-production. Starting with the study of theoretical principles of sound as an art form, students are introduced to fundamentals of on-location sound recording and of sound editing and design. Skills to be learned include good-quality sound recording for interviews and documentary as well as dialogue scenes. Sound production skills to be learned include proper rigging of mics, handling audio cables, use of mixing panels, multitrack recording, slating and identification of shotgun microphones. The second half of the course will focus on post-production practices such as Foley and ADR recording, sound editing and track mixing.

    B. The laboratory component provides the opportunity to record Foley and ADR sessions under the supervision of the instructor. It also includes learning sound editing skills.

    C. This course generally transfers as a Digital Media/Film Studies program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

    A. Free Elective
    B. This course serves as a program requirement for the Digital Video Production certificate.
    C. This course serves as a specialization elective for the Digital Media/Film Studies AS and Communication Studies AA programs.
    D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

    A. Function of sound in film
           1. Sound as an art form
           2. Sound as Narrator
    B. Elements of Sound
           1. Sound Structures
           2. Sound/Picture combinations
    C. Sound Production
           1. Sound equipment basics
           2. ENG style audio interview
           3. Digital recording specs
           4. Audio track formats
           5. Set Etiquette
    D. Sound Post-Production
           1. Sound editing software
           2. Dialogue editing

3. Recording and editing ADR
4. Sound Effects and Foley Art
5. Normalize, Equalize and Spotting
6. Music scoring and editing
7. Mixing and Exporting

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes
A. <u>General Education Learning Outcomes:</u>

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Communicate the importance of film sound as an art form, both orally and in writing (GE-6)
2. Study and analyze sound techniques and aesthetics of film soundtracks (GE-6)
3. Develop the skills to use basic sound equipment for production and post-production of narrative and documentary films (GE-4)
4. Observe principles of set etiquette and professional ethical practices (GE-ER)

B. <u>Course Learning Outcomes:</u>

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Understand and communicate concepts on functions of sound
2. Understand how sound is structured
3. Understand and critique the techniques of sound design in motion pictures
4. Operate basic sound equipment for recording on location
5. Record and edit sound effects and additional dialogue
6. Edit and mix sound tracks for moving image projects
7. Work collaboratively and imitate professional practices

C. <u>Assessment Instruments</u>

1. Lecture/discussion
2. Practical demonstrations
3. Hands-on class activities
4. Quizzes
5. Screenings
6. Class projects
7. Guess speakers/field trips

VII. Grade Determinants
A. Class participation
B. Quizzes
C. Exercises
D. Final Project
E. Lab work

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

A. lecture/discussion
B. Readings and handouts
C. Film analysis
D. Exercises
E. Class participation
F. laboratory
G. student oral presentations
H. simulation/role playing
I. student collaboration
J. other (fieldtrips)

VIII. Texts and Materials

A. Textbook, to be determined
B. Handouts and other readings
C. Films and Broadcast news
D. Web sources
E. Audio sources

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

Basic sound equipment
Editing lab

Additional resources

Additional audio equipment
Sound editing software
Sound proof recording space
Funds for field trips
Funds for guest speakers

X. Honors Option

Not Applicable.