

COMMON COURSE OUTLINE
MCOM 201/THTR 201
Television Studio Production
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Prerequisites: Reading Skill 2; English Skill 2

Television Studio Production explores the environment of the television studio. It is designed to provide pragmatic “hands-on” experience with technical equipment and aesthetic design used in the pre-production, production, and post-production sequence of a video presentation—including but not limited to: Creation of concept and writing of scripts; Design, and execution of storyboards; Multi-camera, color camera setup and balancing; Switching and editing; Direction of talent; Camera operation; Direction of camera work and lay-ins.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Recognize, define, and describe the especial terminology of television studio equipment and its environment.
2. Distinguish the principles of a multi-camera and color camera balancing setup.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of and analyze the types of studio equipment used in television production.
4. Analyze, decide, and--technically and aesthetically—determine the conceptualization of switching and editing procedures.
5. Instruct and direct talent performing before the camera.
6. Operate cameras, in communication with booth direction, and in concert with other camera operators.
7. Assess booth and master board production direction techniques.
8. Assess production and direction requirements, whether in booth or on floor.
9. Amortize and perform television graphics and storyboarding techniques.
10. Determine and recommend the overall thematic concept of a video production.

Major Topics in Television Studio Production

- I. Basic concept structure.
- II. Basic thematic development.
- III. Scriptwriting techniques.
- IV. Storyboarding techniques.
- V. Development of a shooting script.
- VI. Auditioning, casting, and directing (acting or broadcast) talent.
- VII. Video camera technology, including parts and operation of the camera.
- VIII. Photographic optical phenomena, especially aperture settings, depth of field, focus from close-up to infinity.
- IX. Studio lighting equipment, especially: Portable lighting instruments; Studio lighting instruments; Lighting control equipment; Key and fill lighting techniques.
- X. Audio control, especially: Sound pickup; Recording and gain levels; Sound control and editing techniques.
- XI. Components of the television studio.
- XII. Operation of the control booth.
- XIII. Operation of the master board.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and participation in class and in outside assignments.
2. At least 2 written examinations.
3. Text reading assignments.
4. A production notebook/journal detailing process from pre- to post-production.
5. 2 hours per week in studio observation and “apprenticeship” at either a network affiliate, an educational station, or a cable station.
Log maintained (may be combined and integrated with notebook/journal) and signed off by official studio representative.
6. “Hands-on” experience in a technical production position.
7. Involvement in a professional shooting schedule and production.

Other Course Information

Credit may be received for either MCOM or THTR 201 but not for both. THTR 201 may satisfy partial completion of Suggested Pattern Electives required for Departmental certification.

To assist the development of a learning community in the learning centered environment, students in MCOM/THTR 135, Acting for Television and Motion Pictures, may appear in the production shoot(s) as acting or broadcast talent.

Students in MCOM/THTR 201 may establish concurrently an internship in their studio hours requirement.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in a growth of knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, as a career, and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending class, completing all homework, preparation of assignments, participation in class activities, preparing for tests, and accomplishing off-campus assignments. A learning centered environment challenges students to develop initiative in proceeding into their professional studio environment assignments and to accomplish these “apprenticeship” and possible internship assignments with awareness they represent the high standards established by the college.

