

Welcome to Cinematography

The background of the slide is a collage of film-related imagery. It features a film strip running horizontally across the middle, a clapperboard in the bottom right corner, and a film reel in the top right corner. The entire image is rendered in a high-contrast, blue-toned style with white highlights and black shadows, giving it a graphic, almost stencil-like appearance.

WITH JIM SOTO



Cinematography

Every school in Puerto Rico has to offer elective courses. Many offer courses such as health, sex-ed, and/or domestic economy. Our school is unique in that we are the only private school in the island that offers a course in cinematography or visual literacy.



Why?

Why not? Would you rather take French or Italian or sewing classes? We've been there before and that didn't work out very well.

By the way, cinematography is way cooler; but more on that tomorrow!



Humans have always had a passion for the story telling, and filmmaking is the most popular form of this nowadays. If you complete this course and decide that it's not what you like, you will still have developed an important set of skills here. You'll gain experience on how to develop a creative idea and see it through to the end – a valuable trait in any field.



In this class you will...

- Learn to watch movies.
- Learn about movies and other visual media.
 - Learn how movies are made.
- You. Will. Make. Ads.
Music Videos. PSAs.
And. Movies.



The Gear

You will be using a variety of pieces of equipment (gear) that are part of the filmmaking process. You will be expected to take the best possible care of these tools since they are expensive. If you break anything you will be expected to replace or pay for it.



Today...

Now we will deal with things such as:

- Evaluation criteria for this course
 - Class rules
- Course resources
- And other stuff

Take out your notebooks!



Resources

This course does not have a text book.

Rather, the course is informed from a variety of resources that have been streamlined and condensed into PPT presentations and other tool available online in my website. The Mr. Soto Resource Center can be found at the following URL: <http://jimsoto.weebly.com/>

Evaluation Criteria*

1st SEMESTER

- 1 - portfolio (200 pts.)
- 2 - online tests (200 pts.)
- 1- project A. (100 pts.)
- 1 - project B. (100 pts.)
- 1 - daily work (100 pts.)
- Semestral Total - 700 pts.

2nd SEMESTER

- 1 - portfolio (200 pts.)
- 2 - online tests (200 pts.)
- 1- project C. (100 pts.)
- 1 - project D. (100 pts.)
- 1 - daily work (100 pts.)
- Semestral Total - 700 pts.

* This criteria is subject to change without previous notice.





Portfolio

The portfolio you'll build is the **biggest chunk** of your semestral grade. It's not something that can be left unattended. Throughout the semester you will be building it with reflexive essays, photos, diagrams, etc. It's in your best interest not to mess up with it or you will fail this course, even if your name is Steven Spielberg.



Projects

PROJECTS give opportunities for practical applications of lessons that will mostly involve the collaboration of small teams. There will also be smaller **projects** you'll do by yourself.

The last project will involve collaboration by the entire group.



A total of four (4) projects will be implemented throughout the school year. Two (2) will be turned in each semester, one for each quarter. A schedule will be provided with the exact dates. Absences on assessment days should be avoided at all costs due to the complications they usually generate.



Testing

A total of four (4) online tests will be administered throughout the school year. Two (2) for each semester, one for each quarter. Although, available online, as per school rules, they are taken on-site. The links are available in the College One LMS. The only authorized devices to take tests are tablets or laptops, not cellphones.

The Law of the Land

1. Follow MY directions immediately. Keep me happy and I'll do a better job for you!

2. Eating or drinking during class time is not allowed.

3. Using cellphones during class time is not allowed.





4. Dispose of waste properly. Never throw trash on the floor. NEVER. EVER. There's a basket for trash. Use it!

5. Don't vandalize. Vandalism is retarded. It's a breach of school rules. Nothing looks better when it's scribbled, dented, stained, or broken. Would you look better if those things were done to you?

6. This is not the bathroom class. Be aware that its not believable when the same student asks to go everyday at the same time.



7. Bring your student materials every day unless you are otherwise directed.

8. Talk only when permitted. Be aware of the situation since quiet talking is allowed in some situations and speaking to the entire group without raising your hand may be allowed in others. And remember...don't ever talk over me. Ever.



9. Do not cheat. In my class, testing is a sacred moment. If you are caught cheating, expect a ZERO, a referral to the office, and a phone call home. Students that show their test AND whoever copies it will suffer the same fate.

10. Use polite speech and body language. Unkind teasing and impolite behavior towards ANYONE is unacceptable.



11. Assignments & projects are due immediately at the beginning of class on the due day. If not, your work will not be received without a WRITTEN EXCUSE. An excuse must be sent the day after the work was due. That will be your ONLY chance to make-up. I will not ask for it. If you were absent the day of the assignment, you are as completely responsible for turning it in as you weren't absent at all.



12. Respect the equipment. The tools you'll be using are expensive. Experience tells us you don't care; after all it didn't cost you anything. However, it has cost the school a LOT. You will only use equipment you have been explicitly authorized to handle with the greatest care. If you haven't and can't, don't. You break it, your dad will have to pay. FYI, our new camera alone cost around \$2,400.⁰⁰.



13. Manners matter. I believe that gratitude, respect, and kindness should be the engines that guide our interactions with those around us. "Good morning", "Thank you", and "Bless you" are words that should be in people's mouths all the time. Manners demonstrate, among other things, the kind of person you are.



First Portfolio Entry

Read *A Movie Theatre Is No Place For Texting!!*, then write a *one page reflexive essay reacting to it. You can either agree or disagree. Make sure to make sense, because nothing beats common sense. Tomorrow, turn in no less than 500 words, for 15 pts.

*Notice: Avoid wasting space by writing that you will write an essay about blah, blah ...just react!



A Final Word

This course can do a lot for you. Not everybody has to be a doctor or a lawyer. Our society also needs directors, actors, cinematographers, writers and a bunch of other jobs that make up the film industry. Who knows what this course will actually do for you? I, for one, can't wait to see. I wish you a great year at Froebel!



Next:

WHY STUDY CINEMATOGRAPHY?

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