



**MERCER**  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
CMN141	Introduction to Studio Production	3
Hours:	Co- or Pre-requisite	Implementation Semester & Year
Lecture/Lab/Other 2 Lecture/ 2 Lab		Fall 2022

**Catalog description:** Basic theory and operation of TV production equipment including camera, switcher, character generator, prompter, audio console, and lighting. Following study of studio procedure, students plan, produce, write, and direct several short video productions.

**General Education Category:** Not GenEd | **Course coordinator:** Barry Levy, 609-570-3465, levyb@mccc.edu

**Required texts & Other materials:**  
No Required Textbook

### Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

*Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:*

1. Define and describe basic theory, techniques and procedures of television production. [Supports ILG #1, 10, 11 ; PLO #3 ]
2. Demonstrate practical working knowledge of the studio and control room equipment. [Supports ILG #4, 10, 11 ; PLO #1, 4 ]
3. List current practices and problems within the television industry. [Supports ILG #1, 6, 10, 11 ; PLO # 6 ]
4. Summarize the importance of teamwork in the television industry. [Supports ILG #1, 8; PLO #1, 4, 5 ]
5. Identify employment opportunities in the television industry. [Supports ILG #1, 10, 11 ; PLO #6 ]

### Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

**Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English.** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

**Institutional Learning Goal 4. Technology.** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

**Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities.** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

**Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

**Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy:** Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

**Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking:** Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

## **Program Learning Outcomes for Digital Film & Television (PLO)**

1. Write, produce, direct, and edit a variety of digital films and video productions.
2. Utilize digital and audio editing software to express their creative visions through vision and sound.
3. Analyze Films representing a wide range of historical and cultural perspectives.
4. Demonstrate technical proficiency in all aspects of a broadcast studio.
5. Manage the collaborative creative process, working within all aspects of the production process.
6. Create a professional portfolio to serve in the pursuit of further education or employment.

## **Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:**

### **Unit I Introduction to Television [Supports Course SLO # 1, 3]**

#### **Learning Objectives**

##### ***The student will be able to:***

- Summarize the history of television
- Define and explain in their own words common terms associated with the television industry.
- Explain the relationship between target audience and advertising revenue.
- Describe job opportunities in the television/video production industry.
- List the differences between a studio production and field production.
- Describe the roles and responsibilities of individuals during a studio production.
- List the evolution of technology utilized in studio productions.
- Describe the production process.
- Describe the function of the program department of a TV station and cable system, and the organization of industrial or private TV facilities.

### **Unit II The Camera [Supports Course SLOs # 2, 4, 5]**

#### **Learning Objectives**

##### ***The student will be able to:***

- Explain in their words the basic devices of the studio camera (Camera, Lens, Viewfinder)
- Describe the concepts of proper image composition.
- Demonstrate how to properly use the studio pedestal.
- Demonstrate how to pan the camera.
- Demonstrate how to zoom the camera.
- Demonstrate how to dolly the camera.
- Demonstrate how to tilt the camera.
- Demonstrate how to truck/track the camera.
- Demonstrate how to focus the camera.
- Demonstrate how to properly frame a shot.
- List and describe the five basic field of view shots (Extreme Long shot, Long Shot, Medium Shot, Close Up, Extreme Close UP)
- Identify and describe how to use a BNC cable.
- Illustrate the importance of white balancing.

### **Unit III Studio Lighting [Supports Course SLOs #2, 4, 5]**

#### **Learning Objectives**

##### ***The student will be able to:***

- Recall safety procedures for studio lighting.
- List and describe the photographic principle.
- Demonstrate how to properly hang a studio light.

- Demonstrate how to properly utilize the horizon computer lighting system.
- Differentiate between a floodlight and a spotlight.
- Describe the components of a basic studio light.
- Differentiate between a well lit shot and a poorly lit shot.
- Draw and describe a lighting plot.
- Describe the role of the Lighting Director.
- Demonstrate how to properly light a basic studio production.

**Unit IV      Audio** [Supports Course SLOs #2, 4, 5]

**Learning Objectives**

***The student will be able to:***

- Define and describe in their own words terms associated with audio production.
- Demonstrate how to use the studio snake.
- Demonstrate how to use the audio mixer board.
- Describe and demonstrate how and when to use a lavalier microphone.
- Describe and demonstrate how and when to use a shotgun microphone.
- Describe and demonstrate how and when to use a handheld microphone.
- Differentiate between good quality and poor quality audio production.
- Identify and describe how to use an XLR cable.
- Demonstrate and describe the importance of “laying down” bars and tone.
- Demonstrate how to read a VU meter.
- Demonstrate how to record audio for a basic studio production.

**Unit V      Pre-Production** [Supports Course SLOs # 1, 3]

**Learning Objectives**

***The student will be able to:***

- Identify the value of quality pre-production.
- Demonstrate how to create and read a storyboard.
- Demonstrate how to write/read a production script.
- Describe the roles of a writer, producer, and director in the pre-production process.
- Compare and contrast high quality pre-production vs. low quality pre-production.
- Write a basic television production.

**Unit VI      Technical Director (Switcher)** [Supports Course SLOs # 2, 4, 5]

**Learning Objectives**

***The student will be able to:***

- Demonstrate how to use the studio Video switcher.
- Identify and comprehend key words associated with the role of technical director VTR, MLE 1, MLE 2, Downstream Keyer, Fade, Wipe, etc...
- Describe the importance of the relationship between the director and technical director.
- Technically direct a basic television production.

**Unit VII      Director** [Supports Course SLOs #2, 4, 5]

**Learning Objectives**

***The student will be able to:***

- Demonstrate how to direct a live studio production.
- Identify and comprehend key words associated with the role of director.
- List the lingo associated with directing take, standby, preview, etc.

- Describe the importance of the relationship between the director and the technical director.
- Describe the importance of the relationship between the director and the rest of the production crew.

**Unit VIII**     **Graphics** [Supports Course SLOs #2, 4, 5]

**Learning Objectives**

***The student will be able to:***

- Demonstrate how to use the Character Generator graphics machine.
- List and define key concepts associated with broadcast graphics including Lower third, over the shoulder and Chroma Key.
- Describe the importance of the relationship between the director and the CG operator.
- Create broadcast ready images utilizing current graphic programs.

**Evaluation of student learning:**

All course student learning outcomes will be assessed by the following activities. Quizzes and Assignments are designed to evaluate the student's knowledge and comprehension of the lecture materials. Students will be evaluated based on their ability to demonstrate practical working knowledge of the various pieces of studio and control room equipment in productions and the practicum.

Grades will be assigned as detailed below:

Assignments/Quizzes	15%
Technical Practicum	15%
Productions	60%
Participation/Attendance	10%