

Hand Catching Lead, Richard Serra, 1968

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to give you a foundational introduction to, and practice with, the aesthetics and histories of video art and its correlations to other digital media. You will explore the technical, theoretical, and conceptual facets of the digital video medium as a means of informing your own art-making process. Photoshop and Adobe Premiere Pro will be used as software to compose along with digital SLR cameras. Student projects, notebooks, reading and writing will be required to complete the class.

The twice-weekly lab meeting is a time for students to have a hands-on learning experience in smaller groups and within a computer lab environment. Primarily this is a time for technical (software) learning, applying knowledge and ideas into an electronic format, and to have in-depth discussions and critiques surrounding student work and selected readings. You are asked to use the software tools and skills developed in this course as part of your creative expression, not become masters at them. Experimentation is highly encouraged and a critical part of creative expression.

#### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

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

- 1. Create videos with attention to issues of audience and interactivity as well as issues of race, gender, and identity.
- 2. Write critically about art video in the context of both its origins and contemporary practices and have this critical foundation provide a framework for your own video work.
- 3. Exploit the medium of video in combination with other media.
- 4. Have a working verbal and visual vocabulary of art video as a springboard to further exploration of art video beyond this course.

Instructor : Stephen Nachtigall

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Email: nachtis@linnbenton.edu
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00AM - 10:00AM
Tuesstays Status stays 120:00AM/- 122;50FM/

#### **GRADING**

Each project will be graded on technical skill, experimentation, follow through, in class participation, organization, completion of in-class exercises and overall follow through from idea to completion of each project. Grades are not entitlement, they are evaluations of growth and development. It is the expectation in this course that you will work hard; hard work alone does not merit a mark for excellence. Late work may be accepted on a case by case basis. Reworked assignments will not be accepted.

**A = 90 - 100%**: Conceptual: Complete assignments with originality and thoughtfullness; Satisfies and exceeds aims of the assignment. Writing: Good writing and grammar skills. Writing is clear and ideas are organized. Engagement and Participation: Participates fully in discussion. Attends class on time and turns in work on time. Participates in class, comments and engages with others ideas.

**B = 80% - 89%**: Conceptual: Common sense thinking with a tendency towards unoriginal or cliche ideas; doing only what is required; Writing: Unclear writing, grammatical errors, lack of thoroughness, does not meet goals of exercise, structural and technical problems.

Engagement and Participation: Inconsistencies in presentation of work and participation, or does not frequently participate. Attends class but minimally engages with others work.

**C = 70% - 79%:** Falls below expectations in most areas. Inconsistencies, sloppiness, inaccuracies, errors, lack of effort.

**D = 60% - 69%**: Fails to meet requirements of Assignment/Not turned in on time.

F = 50% and below.

### **Grading Breakdown**

Attendance & Participation = 10%
Writing Assignment 1 = 10%
Title Sequence Assignment = 10%
Contrast Assignment = 10%
Project 1 = 20%
Project 2 = 20%
Project 3 = 20%

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

Not being present will adversely affect the amount and quality of work you will be able to do for your assignments. Being prepared to work on your assignments is part of being "present" for this class. If you fail to bring materials or are otherwise not ready to participate during class time you may be considered absent. You will be allowed 4 absences. At 5 Absences, excused or otherwise, you are in danger of failing the course. Being tardy will also affect your grade: 3 Tardies = 1 Absence. Please note: missing a Critique will count as 2 Absences.

If at any time you encounter or foresee an issue, please e-mail me or schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

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## **REQUIREMENTS & MATERIALS**

A subscription to an online professional tutorial service such as Lynda.com is highly encouraged. You may subscribe on a monthly basis. I will not accept "I don't know how to…" as an excuse. You are capable of figuring it out. The nature of digital media is intrinsically one of troubleshooting and figuring out, often in a solitary manner.

You may also choose to subscribe to Adobe Creative Cloud for access to all Adobe products. I highly recommend this option as it will allow you the freedom to work from wherever, providing time in which you can more comfortably work on your projects.

\*You may pair up and share these subscriptions if you can ensure everyone has equal access as necessary. Bring a sketchbook/notebook to class for processing ideas.

#### **DATA STORAGE**

You must keep a steady supply of hard external storage media (i.e. flash drives, external hard drives, etc.). Do not depend on the machines in the labs or other cloud storage alone to save your work. Lost files or technical disasters are not viable excuses for late or incomplete work. Those issues are part of the intrinsic nature of working with digital media and should be anticipated in your work practices. Store your data in more than one place and save often.

#### **PROJECTS**

Class will consist of 3 back-to-back projects. Each project will be overviewed in class and further explained in handouts. Each project is expected to be complete on time. Expect to spend at least 4-6 hours a week outside of class working on projects, homework, and in sketchbooks. Projects culminate in group critiques. All students will be required to take part and contribute throughout each critique.

#### **EXPECTATIONS**

Develop awareness of formal and technical methodologies and how these affect various qualities of your work; become proficient with course skills and software; attend lab and complete assignments on time. Projects must be complete before class on critique day. It is not acceptable to work on projects while critiques are in progress. Technical difficulties and other project problems must be anticipated before due dates so that they can be worked out ahead of time. I expect all of us to share attention with each other, this means staying present and respectful.

Giving and recieving constructive feedback and criticism is an incredibly useful skill. Part of learning how to create compelling and successful work is learning how to discuss it and how to share it with your community. Your participation and feedback in group critiques and class discussion is a very important part of your development as an artist. Project grades will always have a component that evaluates your participation in critiques and use of lab time.

Plan ahead for any technical difficulties that may/probably will occur. Leave lots of time for exporting and uploading! Practice proper file etiquette!

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## **Accessibility**

You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

- 1. You have a documented disability and need accommodations,
- 2. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you, or
- 3. You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to http://linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

### **Waitlist Policy**

If our class is full, registered students not attending class during the first week will be withdrawn, and waitlisted students who are attending class will be admitted to the class on a space available basis.

## Incomplete or 'Y' Grades

You may qualify for an Instructor's withdrawal or 'Y' grade IF you have completed less than 25% of class work. You may be eligible for an 'Incomplete' grade IF you have finished 75% of class work. If you have an 'Incomplete,' all courseowrk must be finished by the end of the next term, and your instructor can only award an 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' or 'F' grade. In other words, you cannot have an 'IN' grade changed to a 'Y' grade. Please contact your instructor before the end of the term if you need either of these options.

#### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is an indispensable value as students acquire knowledge and develop skills in college. Students are expected to practice academic honesty by not cheating, plagiarizing, or misrepresenting their coursework in any way. Students are ultimately responsible for understanding and avoiding academic dishonesty, whether such incidences are intentional or unintentional. Violations will result in failure of an assignment, and possibly the course. All incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to both the Associate Dean of Student Development and the Dean of Arts, Social Science & Humanities.

As a creator of cultural content, you have immense responsibility. Racism, sexism, homophobia and other forms of discrimination are unacceptable and examples of such in class work will not be tolerated. This is qualitatively different than a critical and thoughtful engagement of racism, sexism, etc. If you are uncertain about how your work may effect others, you MUST speak with me. Academic freedom, freedom of speech and freedom of discourse DO NOT protect acts of harassment and discrimination within this educational environment.

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#### What do I need to do to be successful in this class?

**Attend class and do the work.** 10% of your course grade is for attendance and participation, these are yours to lose. Contact the instructor for any missed content or assignments.

**Communicate regularly.** Communicate with the instructor as needed, in class or by email. Check your LBCC email frequently. I will most likely get back to you within 24 hours on week days. Please title your emails with the course number and sign your email with your first and last names. This will get you the fastest and most accurate response. When working in a group, be available to your peers, share your emails with each other.

When in class, focus on class. Class time is valuable. I expect all students to apply themselves to the learning atmosphere of the entire class. Distracting or negative behavior effects the whole class, and I will call you out on this. Put your phone away while in class. Being on your phone or computer or being otherwise disengaged during critiques or discussions is disrespectful and not acceptable.

**Actively participate.** You will NOT be successful in this class if you show up but then 'tune out.' Students who do not participate on a regular basis (by actively listening and engaging in discussions and activities) are unlikely to earn a passing grade. Participating does not mean winning arguments and speaking your mind on every issue, active participation means considering how your thoughts and ideas contribute to the class discussion, how your knowledge and perspective can add to others, and how you are responsible for your own learning by participating. Everyone has something unique to contribute in this way.

**Be a good class citizen.** Be ready and accommodating in order to work with others, be respectful, and try new things. Jump in and help someone if you can. It's okay to be unsure or frustrated about a new process or idea, but it is not okay to give up on it without trying. Sometimes failing at something new is a very important learning process.

**Be accountable.** You are the person who has the greatest impact on your learning and your grade. As your instructor I will do my best to be accommodating and transparent in all aspects of the learning environment of the class, it is up to you to contribute to it and make the most out of it. Be accountable for your own motivation, attitude, willingness to learn and openness to experimentation and new ideas.

**Experiment and have fun.** Push yourself to create new and unexpected things. Try to create something exciting that you didn't expect. Experimentation and novel thinking will be rewarded!

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### **CLASS TIMELINE**

WEEK	LAB	DATE	TASK	DUE
1	1	04/04/17	Introductions. Title Sequence Assignment introduced.	
	2	04/06/17	Premiere Pro tutorial. Work day.	Title Sequence Homework
2	1	04/11/17	Project 1 Introduction. Work day. Camera Basics, Light & Sound.	
	2	04/13/17	Title Sequence Assignment Critique. Premiere Pro tutorial. Work day.	Title Sequence Assignment
3	1	04/18/17	Work day. Audacity tutorial.	Stop motion homework
	2	04/20/17	Proposal for Project 1 due. Stop Motion workshop. Work day.	Project 1 Proposal
4	1	04/25/17	Writing Assignment introduced. Work day.	Project 1 visuals check
	2	04/27/17	Project 1 Critique. Project 2 introduced.	Project 1 Due
5	1	05/02/17	Introduction to Performance. Premiere Pro tutorial.	Writing Assignment Due
	2	05/04/17	Spectatorship, Viewership, & The Camera's Presence.Work day.	Project 2 Proposal
6	1	05/09/17	Project 2 visuals check. Work day.	Project 2 visuals
	2	05/11/17	Optional Work day.	
7	1	05/23/17	Project 2 Critique. Contrast Assignment introduced.	Project 2 Due
	2	05/25/17	Contrast homework due. Work day. Premiere Pro tutorial.	Contrast homework
8	1	05/30/17	Project 3 introduced. Remix workshop. Contrast visuals check.	Contrast visuals
	2	06/01/17	Copyright & Artists license workshop. Work day.	
9	1	06/06/17	Contrast Assignment critique. Work day.	Contrast Assignment
	2	06/08/17	Project 3 Proposal due.	Project 3 Proposal
10	1	06/13/17	Optional Work day. Project 3 visuals check.	Project 3 visuals
	2	06/15/17	Work day.	
FINALS		06/20/17	Project 3 Critique	Project 3 Due

## SUBJECT TO REVISION. CHECK CLASS CANVAS SITE AND ASSIGNMENT HANDOUTS FOR DUE DATES.

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