

FA 188 THE ART OF MAKING VIDEOS

Seminar Leader: Janina Schabig
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Office Hours: by appointment
Course Times: Wednesdays, 3.45pm - 7.00pm

Course Description

This beginners' introduction course teaches the foundations of video making. You will be introduced to professional video and audio equipment throughout the semester. In hands-on workshops you will learn all about your camera and how to use its manual settings, how to light a scene and record sound as well as the basic of editing in Adobe Premiere. We will explore different genres to examine a range of creative shooting styles and use what we examine as inspiration for assignments that we will work on individually as well as in small groups to create a body of work ranging from short video exercises to full productions. The goal of this course is to give you an understanding of the various creative choices within the art of making videos and the technical knowledge to help realize your visions.

Requirements

Academic Integrity

Bard College Berlin maintains the highest standards of academic integrity and expects students to adhere to these standards at all times. Instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section 14.3 (Academic Misconduct) in the Student Handbook.

Attendance

- Attendance of ALL classes is expected.
- More than one unexcused absence (that is, absence from one three-hour session) will significantly affect the participation grade for the course.
- Arriving late will be noted and after two late arrivals, the participation grade will be affected.

Please note that Bard College Berlin does not offer credit for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, regardless of the reasons for the absences, whether excused or unexcused. The full Bard College Berlin attendance policy can be found in the Student Handbook, Section 2.8.

Assessment

Your attendance and participation grade is a significant component of this class and goes beyond mere attendance. Being punctual, actively engaging with the material, and showing enthusiasm during theoretical discussions and practical exercises are crucial aspects that indicate your commitment to academic excellence and personal development. Embracing these qualities not only enhances your own learning experience but also fosters an inspiring and supportive environment for your fellow classmates, encouraging their growth as well. A stellar attendance and participation grade truly reflects these values.

Apart from attendance and participation, your overall grade will be influenced by the results of a short technical quiz, a presentation on a topic to be assigned in class, and three video assignments. Specific details regarding each assignment will be provided in class.

Tech Quiz: in class on Wednesday, April 03rd

Presentation: individual due dates will be assigned in class on Wednesday, January 31st

Video Assignment # 1: due Tuesday, February 20th

Video Assignment # 2: due Tuesday, March 19th

Video Assignment # 3: due Tuesday, April 23rd

All video assignments need to be exported in mp4 format with H.264 codec and shared via google drive on the days listed above by noon (12 pm daytime)!

Policy on Late Submission of Artworks / Presentations

Assignments that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (Example: B+ becomes C+). The instructor is not obliged to accept assignments that are more than 24 hours late. Where the instructor agrees to accept a late assignment, it should be submitted by the new deadline agreed upon by both parties. Thereafter, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. Students receive mid- and end-of-semester grades for their seminar work. Students are also entitled and encouraged to make an appointment with the instructor to receive individual feedback on seminar participation and work, or may be asked to meet with the instructor at any stage in the semester regarding class progress.

Grade Breakdown

10% Technical Quiz

10% Presentation

10% Video Assignment # 1

15% Video Assignment # 2 (or option to do two smaller exercises with lighting and sound)

15% Video Assignment # 3

40% Attendance & Participation (20% until midterm)

Schedule

<p>Week 1 Jan. 31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to class and topic ● Introduction to Assignment # 1 ● Assigning Presentation Dates
<p>Week 2 Feb. 07</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Camera <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ manual exposure with fps, shutter speed, aperture and ISO ○ camera exercise ● AV Room Orientation
<p>Week 3 Feb. 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Composition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ types of shots ○ framing ○ movement and stabilization ○ camera & composition exercise ● Basic Editing & Exporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ file management ○ assembling, editing, effects and titles ○ file formats and exporting <p>Assignment # 1: due next Tuesday by 12 pm daytime!</p>
<p>Week 4 Feb. 21</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Screening Assignment # 1 ● Introduction to Assignment # 2
<p>Week 5 Feb. 28</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation 1 & 2 ● Lighting Session 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ lighting styles ○ lighting equipment ○ lighting exercise ● Shortfilm Examples
<p>Week 6 Mar. 06</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation 3 & 4 ● Sound Session 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ types of sound (dialogue, narration, sfx/ foley, ambience, room tone, etc.) ○ sound equipment (zoom recorder and recording levels, different microphones) ○ sound exercise ○ sound editing ● Shortfilm Examples
<p>Week 7 Mar. 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation 5 & 6 ● Lighting Session 2 ● Sound Session 2 ● Shortfilm Examples <p>Assignment # 2: due next Tuesday by 12 pm daytime!</p>
<p>Week 8 Mar. 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Screening Assignment # 2 ● Introduction to Assignment # 3

Week 9 Mar. 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spring break, no classes
Week 10 Apr. 03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation 7 & 8 ● Tech Quiz ● Editing & Essential Cuts ● Short Film Examples
Week 11 Apr. 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Screening & Artist Talk with Maya Schweizer <p>Note: This session will take place in the evening from 7-9pm!</p>
Week 12 Apr. 17 Apr. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mandatory: Individual Meetings for Assignment # 3 ● Optional: Joint class on Harun Farocki and Arthur Jafa on Apr. 22nd from 6-9pm <p>Assignment # 3: due next Tuesday by 12 pm daytime!</p>
Week 13 Apr. 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation 9 & 10 ● Screening Assignment # 3 <p>Revisions for screening your films at Open Studios: due May 08th!</p>
Week 14 May 01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Federal Holiday, no classes
Week 15 May 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student Presentation Make Up Dates ● Feedback ● Final Screening & Preparing for Open Studios
Week 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Completion week

* The syllabus is subject to change. The most recent syllabus and assignments are available in our Google Classroom.

Facility Guidelines:

“The Factory” – Eichenstrasse 43

“The Factory” Policy Agreement

- 1) “The Factory” at BCB (Eichenstrasse 43) has space and facilities available to BCB students with an academic purpose for using the building. Mandatory in-class orientations are required to retain chip access to the Factory. Chip access to The Factory is from 7am to 10pm everyday during the semester. At 10pm students will be asked to leave the building by BCB security personnel.
- 2) Students agree to only use the common spaces that are available for their needs, and must respect private spaces that are off-limits. For requesting to reserve the dance / theater space and / or Seminar Room 6, please fill out the online [Factory Reservation Form](#). The Factory Staff will get back to you within two weekdays. (Monday - Friday).
- 3) No smoking is allowed anywhere inside the building. There are to be no projects using open flames (such as candles, torches, lanterns, fireworks, etc.) inside any part of the building.
- 4) Fire exits and lanes must be kept clear of any obstructions.
- 5) Spray painting and handling of any hazardous (chemical or combustible) material is not allowed inside the building. Contact the Studio Arts Manager concerning working with these materials. All work surfaces (indoor and outdoor) must be properly protected with a drop cloth or a packing paper provided by the workshop.
- 6) No sandals, flip-flops, or bare feet will be allowed inside the workshop and studio 6.
- 7) Students must make sure all lights are turned off and doors are closed when leaving the building. No windows or doors are to be left opened or cracked. All electrical items must be unplugged when not in use.
- 8) If BCB workshop tools must be borrowed for a purpose outside of the building, please contact The Studio Arts Manager (by appointment).
- 9) There are to be no architectural changes to studios or any areas inside or outside of the building without first speaking with the Studio Arts Manager.
- 10) During completion week, any space used by a student must be returned empty with clean walls and floors. All garbage must be bagged (or boxed) and properly disposed of. Final grades may be penalized and / or fines imposed if items are left (or renovations unfinished) by the inspection deadline.
- 11) Contact Studio Arts Manager directly with any questions: j.park@berlin.bard.edu

AV Room – Platanenstrasse 98 (downstairs)

AV Room Policy Agreement

- 1) BCB's AV (Audio-Visual) Room provides a limited quantity of AV equipment to support those students enrolled in arts classes that require specific items.
- 2) Opening times may change every semester to adapt to specific course times and needs. Access is granted only with booked appointment: <https://avroom.youcanbook.me>
- 3) Items to be reserved on a specific date should be requested at least one week in advance. Without reservation, availability is limited to a first-come, first-serve basis.
- 4) All items checked out are due back during AV hours the following day, unless other arrangements have been made in advance directly with AV Staff.
- 5) AV equipment will be given out only to those students responsible in organizing, picking up as well as returning their items IN PERSON and ON TIME. No exceptions.
- 6) The AV Staff may exclude students from borrowing items at any time, if the student:
 - failed to return items in time
 - failed to return items in person (pick up and/ or return by friends is not allowed)
 - returned items with missing pieces
 - returned items damaged or in poor shape
- 7) All items returned late will be subject to a 1 Euro fine, per av day.
- 8) Any items returned without accessories (such as cables, SD card, batteries, tripod head, lens cap, etc) will be subject to a 1 Euro fine, per av day (the same as late returns).
- 9) Any items damaged or lost will be subject to patron reimbursement for its value up to a maximum of 250 EURO per item (or under special circumstances, replacement, at the discretion of AV Staff). Damaged or malfunctioning items are expected to be reported to Staff upon check-in.
- 10) AV equipment is limited at BCB. Whenever possible students are encouraged to use their own devices (computers, cameras) for production purposes.
- 11) Contact AV Staff directly with any questions: av@berlin.bard.edu