



Shanghai Jiao Tong University
FT222 Studies in Film Making

Instructor Information:	Aily Chiu Email: Ailymofilm@gmail.com Office Hours: Determined by Instructor		
Term:	December 16, 2019 - January 7, 2020	Credits:	4 units
Class Hours:	Monday through Friday, 160 mins per teaching day		
Discussion Sessions:	2 hours each week, conducted by teaching assistant(s)		
Total Contact Hours:	64 contact hours (1 contact hour = 45 mins, 2880 mins in total)		
Required Texts (with ISBN):	List of readings – selected		
Prerequisite:	None		



Course Overview

Studies in Film Making explores the creative and communicative possibilities of film, video and other audio-visual technologies. The course will develop your understanding of film as a technological medium by exploring some of its basic forms and features and by looking at different aspects of moving image production through a practical and formalist approach. Studies in Film Making prioritizes practice-based learning (both in terms of the ways that it can develop your understanding of key concepts in the discipline and because it can enhance your skills in creative thinking). For this reason many of the concepts that we will be examining in the course will be explored through practical exercises and through case studies of specific film and video practices—from classics of experimental film to the latest new media. Each of these practical exercises and case studies is designed to develop your understanding of the technical, aesthetic, and sensory workings and potential of audio-visual media and your knowledge of some of the ways that artists and mainstream producers have explored film and video. This knowledge can then be drawn on and developed in the creative work that you produce in the course.

In this course you will explore ways of preparing narrative outlines and storyboards, learn how to capture and generate images and sounds, experiment with existing images and sounds and the editing process. The course will explore the creative potential of audiovisual media and deal with a range of practical and conceptual problems in developing a larger group project.

Learning Outcomes

1. To introduce some of the creative and conceptual skills required to devise your own unique projects and to help you recognize the practical decisions faced in the production process.
2. To develop your visual and aural sensitivities and apply them to a diverse range of audiovisual exercises and projects.
3. To allow you to explore the creative potential of audio-visual media in order to enhance your analytical skills in your further study of film and media.



Grading Policy

Photo Essay	30%
Oral Presentation of unique research on the Chinese Film Industry	30%
Group Production of Short Film	30%
Participation	10%
Total	100%

Grading Scale is as follows

Number grade	Letter grade	GPA
90-100	A	4
85-89	A-	3.7
80-84	B+	3.3
75-79	B	3
70-74	B-	2.7
67-69	C+	2.3
65-66	C	2
62-64	C-	1.7
60-61	D	1
≤59	F (Failure)	0



Class Schedule

Date	Content	Readings
Day 1	Introduction to course, objectives and assessment Analyze the Film: The Five Obstruction	Tarkovsky, Rodriguez
Day 2	From Photography to Film Analysis. Photographic exercises.	Barthes, Cubit
Day 3	Film Grammar Storyboarding exercises	Katz, Rabiger, Gibbs
Day 4	Introduction to Sound Recording Sound	Recording sound
Day 5	Scriptwriting : Present Photo Essay Script writing	Egri, Cooper & Dancyger, Bergman, Sample Concept
Day 6	Cinematography : Live action storytelling	Katz, Dworkin, Eisner, Eisenstein
Day 7	Sound and Space Computer games and sound. Analyzing sound design	Holman, Donnelly, Sonnenschein
Day 8	Preparation of scripts for final project	Bordwell& Thompson ch. 4
Day 9	Adaptation from literature Oral Presentation on the Chinese Film Industry	Bortolli, Leach
Day 10	Site Visit	Field Trip
Day 11	Performance : Effective performance for different genres and various approaches	Marcello, Journal of Film and Video ^[1] Vol. 58, No.1/2 2006), pp. 59-70
Day 12	Directing : Complete Script Reviews and Edits	Ingmar Bergman
Day 13	Editing Post-production : Work on project final cut	Dancyger Walter Murch
Day 14	Student guided learning : Project Preparation	No reading
Day 15	Distribution & Exhibition : Presentation of Production Exercises	No reading