

JYOTI NIVAS COLLEGE AUTONOMOUS

Programme: B.Voc VP.

Semester: III

Film Art

Course Code: 18BVV301

90 hours; 6 Credits

Objective

The paper seeks to provide a general understanding of being a filmmaker, well beyond one who just wants to make films. The paper seeks to help map out a comprehensive journey for the student begin a meaningful engagement as a filmmaker.

Learning Outcome

Students learn the history of cinema

Students learn the basics of cinematography

Students learn the basic editing techniques

Students learn to analyse and evaluate cinema

Unit 1: [20 hours]

Introduction to film; Introduction to film art; brief history of cinema; understanding cinema: narratives; Film in relation to other art forms like painting, novel and theatre.

Film history:

1. Silent era in Hollywood, Europe and Soviet Union.
2. Important schools like German expressionism, Italian neo realism, French new wave, Japanese cinema, Hong Kong cinema, Hollywood and the studio system.
3. History of Indian cinema – the silent era (Mumbai and Chennai), Bengali cinema (Satyajit Ray, Ritwik Ghatak and Mrinal Sen), Hindi new wave (Shyam Benegal, Govind Nihalani and others)

Unit 2: [5 hours]

Introduction to Cinematography; Observing lighting in cinema; Three point lighting; Camera shots, angles and movements.

Simple shooting exercises

Unit 3: [5 hours]

Editing theory: editing techniques in silent era.

Films from the silent era shall be analysed to understand the evolution of editing techniques.

Works of George Melies, Edwin Porter, D W Griffith, Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Dziga Vertov, Carl Dreyer.

Unit 4: [30 hours] (Practical)

Five shot exercise for screen direction – shoot, edit and analyse.

Each student shoot 5 shots to complete a simple narrative. The 5 shots have to be edited. The whole exercise will be analysed to understand the screen direction, exit and entry of characters.

Submission – the edited film

Unit 5: [30 hours] (Practical)

Editing exercise for simple exit & entry;

Rushes of a short film will be given and the student will review the rushes, sort, assemble and edit. The final edit will be reviewed.

Submission - the final approved edit

References:

Irwing K, David: Producing and Directing a Short Film and Video

Cleve, Bastian: Film Production Management

Whitlock, Cathy: Designs on Film

Khopkar, Arun: Guru Dutt

Dix, Andrew: Beginning Film Studies

Muller, Jurgen: Movies of the 20's

Muller, Jurgen: Movies of the 30's

Marcus, Daniel: Contemporary Documentary

Bernard, Sheila Curran: Documentary Storytelling