

T436 Week 3 Scene Fragment - Lighting Exercise

20 points - September 2012

Objective: To get to know the lighting gear and practice working in a group to create aesthetically pleasing lighting designs. You will also practice storyboarding shots, using the master scene method, and capturing audio.

Description: In this group exercise, you will design and build a simple set and produce at least 2 scenes, each with its own unique lighting look. Each scene should have at least two characters in it. You can use the same set, actors, and dialog for each scene- they just need to be lit differently. For each scene you will shoot a master shot and then get coverage. When you are finished, you will cut together a simple edit (this can be done as a group if desired) and individually critique your work.

Instructions: Consider the elements you have to work with in Studio 5. Individually sketch at least 4 storyboard frames and a simple, corresponding floor plan for the scene (5 points, individually graded). As a group, decide which storyboard you want to produce and then set the scene accordingly and produce the scene. Record audio with a shotgun mic and boom pole. Just for fun try to use the same dialog in each scene. The production component of this exercise is worth 10 points (group grade).

A sample script might be:

Person 1 waiting for something/someone
Person 2 appears: "Hi."
Person 1 (a little unsure/surprised): "I wasn't sure you'd come."
Person 2: "It's good to see you too." (slight smile)
Person 1: "Shall we?"
Person 2: Yes, lets"

Shoot the scene with at least two different lighting setups:

| Scene # | Description |
|---------|---|
| 1 | Low key / high contrast (Suspense, drama, noir, etc.) |
| 2 | High key / low contrast (Sitcom, family drama, etc.) |
| 3 | Intimate, soft & warm (Romance, soap opera, etc.) |

When you are finished, review your scenes, cut together a simple edit (this can be done as a group), and individually write a 1-2 page critique (5 points, individually graded).

How did the recorded scenes ultimately look?
Were your shots strong and did they cut together well?
Describe your success (or lack of it).
What other observations can you make?

Turn in an Apple ProRes 1080i HQ Quicktime Movie in the T436 dropbox (which should be working now). Be sure to slate the beginning with all of your group members' names and the lighting setup you're using. Have the video and your critique ready at the start of the next lab.