

Students will complete three 1–3-minute, non-sync sound films with an emphasis on visual storytelling

⚠ IMPORTANT

Films that do not adhere to these guidelines will carry consequences that may result in sanctions including, but not limited to, a grade reduction, failure of the course, loss of use of SFTV equipment and facilities, loss of screening privileges, and/or review by the LMU Academic Honesty Review Committee and/or Student Conduct.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Direct three 1–3-minute short films: 1 avant-garde, 1 nonfiction, 1 fiction.
- Follow the guidelines of distributed film prompts (*e.g. Project 1 and 3: NO DIALOG on or off camera but creative V.O. allowed; Project 2: DIALOG & V.O. are permitted, but NO on-camera interviews*).
- A minimum of one film must be shot on the Westchester campus and must follow SFTV permitting processes.
- Attend the Prod 200 final screening during finals week.

FILMING REQUIREMENTS

- Earn all safety badges PRIOR to starting production
- Adhere to current Production Administration Team (PAT) and LMU Risk Management safety guidelines, including releases and permits.
- Submit faculty-approved proposals and pre-prod materials to TAP for PAT review **BEFORE** meeting with PAT staff.
- PAT approval may take 5-10 business days— plan carefully.
- Review the SFTV Production Handbook for full safety and production requirements.
- On-campus locations are unavailable during campus blackout dates.
- No minors or animals; no prop firearms, stunts, drone use, or filming in moving cars. Other prop weapons reviewed on case-by-case basis.
- No filming in open bodies of water (ocean, lake, pool). Bathtub/shower scenes reviewed case-by-case.
- Do not shoot scenes outside the faculty/PAT-approved script using class equipment or insurance — this is an LMU Academic Honesty violation.
- Correctly export and upload films on time for final graded screenings. Films longer than 3 minutes will not be screened.
- Students must receive a B- or higher in PROD 200 to advance. Students who earn less than a B- may repeat the course.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- Shoot on the designated SFTV Intro Sony camera, a personal cell phone, or a non-SFTV camera available to the student.
- Use any editing platform — SFTV officially supports Adobe Premiere and Media Composer.
- Favor stories that use available/practical light.
- Shoot at a resolution your editing system can handle (1080p or 2K recommended). UHD resolutions may add workflow issues, including increased transcode/render/export times. If shooting UHD, editing with proxy files is advised.

BUDGET-IMPACT ELEMENTS

These require additional budgetary resources — plan early:

- Mechanical effects
- Various off-campus locations

Review the Production Handbook for all requirements.

DON'T FORGET

“Keep a Try Mind.”

— Zen Master

