

Cinematography Course Syllabus - IRIS Academy

Module 1: Introduction to Cinematography

History & evolution of cinematography
Role of cinematographer vs. director
Understanding visual storytelling
Basics of shot composition & framing

Module 2: Camera Fundamentals

Camera types (DSLR, Mirrorless, Cinema Cameras)
Lens types & focal lengths
Exposure triangle: ISO, Shutter Speed, Aperture
Depth of field & focus techniques

Module 3: Lighting for Cinematography

Properties of light: intensity, quality, color temperature
Natural vs. artificial lighting
Three-point lighting setup
Advanced lighting setups (mood, dramatic, low-key, high-key)
Practical lighting (on-set, location)

Module 4: Composition & Visual Design

Rule of thirds, golden ratio, leading lines
Camera angles & movements (pan, tilt, dolly, crane, handheld, gimbal, drone)
Blocking & staging actors
Creating cinematic mood with color palettes

Module 5: Sound & Cinematography

Basics of sync sound recording
Use of boom, lapel, shotgun mics
Ambient sound & sound design considerations

Module 6: Cinematic Techniques

Storyboarding & shot lists
Scene coverage & continuity
Montage theory & shot transitions
Use of slow motion, time-lapse, rack focus

Module 7: Advanced Cinematography

Working with different genres (fiction, documentary, commercial, music video)

Low light cinematography

Green screen cinematography

Drone cinematography basics

Module 8: Color & Post-Production

Introduction to color theory

Color correction vs. color grading

LUTs & cinematic looks

Collaboration with editors & VFX artists

Module 9: Production Workflow

Pre-production planning

On-set etiquette & team collaboration

Working with directors, gaffers & camera assistants

Data management & backup

Module 10: Final Project

Concept development & script breakdown

Shooting a short film / ad film / music video / documentary (minimum 2 minutes)

Post-production & screening

Feedback & critique session

✓ Duration includes field trips, studio sessions, guest lectures, and exhibitions.