



ESCUELA UNIVERSITARIA  
DE ARTES@taiarts.com  
RECOLETOS-22 MADRID



Universidad  
Rey Juan Carlos

# *Fundamentals of photography*

## COURSE GUIDE

BACHELOR'S IN FILMMAKING  
Course 2025/2026

## Course data

<i>Duration</i>	Annual
<i>Credits</i>	6 ECTS
<i>Modality</i>	In-person
<i>Language</i>	English
<i>Faculty</i>	Filmmaking
<i>Teacher</i>	Marcos del Villar

## Course presentation

Control of light and colour, image capture and lighting techniques, the language of the camera lens and framing, etc. Introduction to the use of tools and expressive resources in the creation of a cinematographic image, and the work of the camera and photography department in the day-to-day running of an audiovisual production.

## Student competencies

CG01	Utilize different historical, sociologic, cultural and/or artistic sources in the creation of audiovisual projects.
CG02	Know the different tools and languages of film, to apply them in audiovisual projects..
CG03	Know the codes of ethics and deontology applicable to the audiovisual industry.
CG04	Know the various applications of the technological resources from the field of audiovisual creation.
CG05	Understand the concepts of photography, the creation of the film image and audiovisual language from an artistic and technical perspective.
CG06	Communicate verbally or in writing the objectives and characteristics of an audiovisual piece, in Spanish and in a foreign language (level B2 MCERL).
CG08	Develop critical discourse in the field of audiovisual creation with attention to cultural, social and artistic changes.
CE01	Understand the history, evolution and contribution of film from the perspective of aesthetics, society and ethics.
CE02	Understand the essentials and specificities of an audiovisual project in its different formats, genres and typologies.
CE03	Know the codes of ethics and deontology applicable to the audiovisual industry.
CE04	Understand filmmaking in an open, multi-directional manner, from the forms and formats that are intrinsically related to the entertainment industry, to more expressive manifestations that explore avant-garde aesthetics and/or auteur philosophies.
CE05	Understand filmmaking in relation to the contemporary artistic and cultural panorama.
CE07	Understand the importance of the various roles, tasks and responsibilities related to the

	development of audiovisual projects.
CE17	Understand the possibilities offered by film technology and light engineering to create specific settings and atmospheres.
CE18	Work with different image capture technologies in accordance with the needs of the project.

## *Learning outcomes*

Upon completion of this course, each student must be able to:

1. Describe the roles of the members of the camera and lighting departments.
2. Explain and use the basic concepts of photography.
3. Use a DSLR (or similar) camera on their own.
4. Light a simple scene using three-point lighting
5. Identify the principal lighting tools and equipment
6. Identify different aspect ratios, types of framing and the use of lenses in cinematography.

## *Teaching methodology*

<i>MD1</i>	Participatory masterclass.
<i>MD2</i>	Case studies and discussion.
<i>MD3</i>	Problem resolution and discussion of results.
<i>MD5</i>	Cooperative and collaborative learning.
<i>MD6</i>	Tutoring and monitoring.

## *Course content*

<i>Content</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The photography and camera department. Individual functions and competencies in Preproduction, Principal Photography and Postproduction.</li> <li>2. Essential principles of photography.</li> <li>3. Framing in visual representation.</li> <li>4. The camera: characteristics, menus and basic configurations.</li> <li>5. Characteristics of visual perception.</li> <li>6. Video signal.</li> <li>7. Recording: supports and formats.</li> <li>8. Digital video.</li> <li>9. Optics and the creation of the image.</li> <li>10. Composition.</li> <li>11. Basic principles of exposure.</li> <li>12. Fundamentals of light and color.</li> <li>13. Introduction to light sources.</li> <li>14. Basic lighting setups. Principles of the photogenic image.</li> </ol>
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## *Learning activities*

AF1	Theoretical and theoretical-practical classes.	15 hours
AF2	Classroom/laboratory exercises and practicals.	24 hours
AF4	Art appreciation activities: attendance at seminars, visits to exhibitions or viewing of visual/audiovisual works.	12 hours
AF5	Research activities: research and selection of documentation, reading of supporting material and bibliographic and visual references.	60 hours
AF6	Academic tutoring.	6 hours
AF7	Evaluation.	3 hours
AF8	Autonomous study of theoretical content and autonomous preparation of practical work and activities.	60 hours

## *Assessment*

### GENERAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

#### ATTENDANCE

The classes are in-person, and attendance is mandatory, as it is a determining factor in the continuous assessment system, as well as in class attitude and participation. However, in exceptional cases due to health situations or family reconciliation, students may request online access as a methodological adaptation (for more information, please contact the student department).

#### MARKS

Continuous Assessment is a comprehensive assessment of each student's results judged on the assessment criteria described in the following section, on a scale of 0 to 10 as provided in current legislation.

Students wishing to bring up their grade in the extraordinary/re-assessment period must first contact the Registrar's Office to expressly waive in writing all of the marks they obtained in the regular assessment period. Their final assessment mark will be the mark obtained in re-assessment.

#### SPELLING AND EXPRESSION

Spelling and written expression are taken into account in the marking of written examinations and assignments. Written examinations cannot contain more than 2 spelling errors or 10 accent errors (omitted or misplaced). Assignments completed outside of the classroom may not contain more than 1 error.

## UNIVERSITY WRITTEN REPORTS

These must have a title page, table of contents and bibliography listing at least 4 sources. These works must be original. Excerpts from other authors must be properly cited. Demonstrable plagiarism is an academic offence. If one student copies the work of another student, both shall be held accountable.

## SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

### REGULAR ASSESSMENT PERIOD

The teaching team will provide the details/specifications on the content or submission of assessment tasks; this information will be given in class or in a document made available to the student on the Virtual Course Space (in Spanish, *Aula Virtual*).

Assignments not submitted by the deadlines set by the teaching team will receive an assessment mark of 0.

<i>Assessment task (*)</i>	<i>Revaluable/non-revaluable</i>	<i>Minimum mark yes/no</i>	<i>% of final mark</i>
SE1 In-class tests and examinations (oral and/or written)	<i>Revaluable</i>	Yes	40%
SE2 Assignments and projects	<i>Revaluable</i>	Yes	50%
SE5 Attitude and participation	<i>Non-revaluable</i>	No	10%
			100%

(\*) *Records and evidence of all of the assessment tasks (writings, recordings, etc.) listed in this table will be kept and filed in the Registrar's Office.*

### EXTRAORDINARY/RE-ASSESSMENT PERIOD

Students that do not pass the course in the term it is delivered can attempt again in the extraordinary/re-assessment period, except in cases where the characteristics of the course make this impossible.

The teaching team will inform the student of the assessment tasks that will need to be done in re-assessment. The teaching team can decide whether to maintain the marks of 5.0 and above the student received over the course and in the regular assessment period.

## REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT MARKS

As set out in the TAI School of the Arts Student Handbook.



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## *Resources*

### RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### RECOMMENDED FILMOGRAPHY

### WEBSITES OF INTEREST

<http://www.theas.com/>  
<http://www.red.com/>  
<https://www.arri.de/> <http://www.welab.es>  
<http://www.epc.es> <http://www.epc.es>  
<http://www.rcservice.es> <http://www.rcservice.es>  
<http://www.servicevision.es>  
<http://www.carycrane> <http://www.carycrane>  
<http://www.citylightiluminacion.com>  
<http://www.citylightiluminacion.com>

### REQUIRED MATERIAL FOR THE COURSE

Paper and pen to take notes.

### VISITS, MASTER CLASSES, EVENTS OR WORKSHOPS