



ESCUELA UNIVERSITARIA
DE ARTES. MADRID

Aesthetics of Sound

COURSE GUIDE

BACHELOR'S IN FILMMAKING

COURSE 2026/2027



Universidad
Rey Juan Carlos

Course data

<i>Duration</i>	Annual
<i>Credits</i>	3 ECTS
<i>Modality</i>	In-person
<i>Language</i>	English
<i>Faculty</i>	Filmmaking
<i>Teacher</i>	

Course presentation

Conceptual approach to the aesthetic and narrative values of sound in the conception of an artistic and/or cinematographic work.

Student competencies

CG01	Utilizar diversas fuentes históricas, sociológicas, culturales y/o artísticas para la creación de proyectos audiovisuales.
CG03	Conocer los códigos éticos y deontológicos propios de la industria audiovisual.
CG04	Conocer las diferentes aplicaciones de los recursos tecnológicos propios de la creación audiovisual.
CG06	Communicate verbally or in writing the objectives and characteristics of an audiovisual piece, in Spanish and in a foreign language (level B2 MCERL).
CE01	Comprender las claves y especificidades de un proyecto audiovisual en sus diferentes formatos, géneros y tipologías.
CE04	Comprender la cinematografía de una manera abierta y multidireccional, desde las formas y formatos intrínsecamente relacionados con la industria del entretenimiento hasta aquellas manifestaciones expresivas que exploran estéticas de vanguardia y/o filosofías autorales.
CE05	Understand filmmaking in relation to the contemporary artistic and cultural panorama.
CE06	Know the different production models and their relationship to the demands of the audiovisual industry.
CE16	Design the sound of an audiovisual work through capture, conceptualization and the tonal and spatial composition of the dialogues, settings, effects and music.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Understand the philosophy and aesthetics of sound as an essential part of audiovisual narrative and film creation.
2. Know the lines of thought on sound in the history of film.
3. Develop the capacity and creativity to develop an artistic and conceptual discourse on sound.
4. Know and work with the primary concepts of audio creation and experimental sound.

Teaching methodology

MD1	Participatory masterclass.
MD2	Case studies and discussion.
MD3	Problem resolution and discussion of results.
MD5	Cooperative and collaborative learning.
MD6	Academic tutoring.

Course content

Content	Conceptual approach to the aesthetic and narrative values of sound in the conception of an artistic and/or cinematic work. 1. Sound in the design of mise-en-scène. Narrative devices of sound. 2. Conceptual transformations of the image with a sound atmosphere. 3. Forms and concepts of sound. Experimentation and avant-garde. 4. Synchronism and asynchronism. Sound vs. image. 5. The discourse of sound in currents of the art of film. 6. Audio creation and experimental sound. 7. Sound in contemporary stage trends.
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Learning activities

AF1	Theoretical and theoretical-practical classes.	21 hours
AF4	Art appreciation activities: attendance at seminars, visits to exhibitions or viewing of visual/audiovisual works.	6 hours
AF5	Search and selection of documentation, reading of supporting material and bibliographic and visual references.	30 hours
AF7	Evaluation.	3 hours
AF8	Autonomous study of theoretical content and autonomous preparation of practical work and activities.	30 hours

* *The distribution of hours between training activities may undergo changes due to the academic needs of the course, the group and/or the teaching team.*

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

The grading of written examinations and assignments will consider spelling, grammar, and clarity of expression. Errors in spelling, punctuation, and writing style may negatively affect the final grade, depending on their nature, frequency, and severity.

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 offense. 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.

Assessment task (*)	Revaluable/non-revaluable	Minimum mark yes/no	% of final mark
SE1	Revaluable	Yes	45%

In-class tests and examinations (oral and/or written)			
SE3 Continuous assessment: weekly tasks and homework, periodical reports, problem resolution	Non reevaluable	No	45%
SE5 Attitude and participation	Non reevaluable	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 who have not passed the course during the regular assessment period may choose one of the following extraordinary assessment options:

- **Option 1: Criterion-based reassessment.** Assessment will be limited exclusively to the reassessable criteria that were not passed during the regular assessment period. The reassessment activity will be of the same nature as the original one (exam, assignment, etc.). The grades obtained in the ordinary assessment period for non-reassessable criteria (provided the minimum passing grade was achieved) will be retained and included in the weighted calculation of the final extraordinary assessment grade.
- **Option 2: Comprehensive reassessment.** Students may complete a single assessment activity accounting for 100% of the extraordinary assessment. The nature of this activity will be determined by the instructor and may include an oral or written examination, submission of a portfolio, theoretical and/or practical assignments, or other equivalent forms of assessment.

The instructor must communicate both Option 1 and Option 2 for the extraordinary assessment through the course notice board on the virtual campus at least 10 days prior to the extraordinary assessment date.

Students must respond to this communication via the virtual campus notice board, indicating their choice of Option 1 or Option 2, at least 3 days prior to the extraordinary assessment date. If a student does not respond, the instructor will automatically apply Option 2 (a single assessment activity accounting for 100% of the extraordinary assessment).

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

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE

VISITS. MASTER CLASSES. EVENTS AND ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS