



**MRTS 4912 Special Problems in Film Production
Spring 2026**

Meetings: As needed.

Instructor: Brandon Gaesser (he/him), Office: RTFP 272A

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:

Individual study topics to be proposed by the student and approved by MRTS faculty and Production Committee prior to commencing work.

Course Objectives:

1. Student(s) will work on an ongoing film production project during the summer session.
2. Student(s) will gain advanced experience in film production.

Course Schedule:

Student will regularly check in with instructor throughout the summer session to provide progress reports and to receive constructive feedback and guidance while working toward completion of a special film project.

Required Reading:

There is no required book/text to purchase for this class. Any assigned required reading will be available digitally via Canvas.

Course Evaluation:

Special Film Project	100 points
Total:	100 points

Communication and Timeline:

It is the responsibility of the student to plan and complete a special film project with feedback and guidance from the instructor as needed. Please stop by; I am always glad to help. I am also always reachable by email, and I will respond as quickly as possible (within two business days, at the very least). **Please only use your UNT email to contact me.**

UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

According to UNT Policy 06.003, [Student Academic Integrity](#), academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the [Code of Student Conduct](#). The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

The [Dean of Students Office](#) enforces the [Code of Student Conduct](#). The Code explains what conduct is prohibited, the process the DOS uses to review reports of alleged misconduct by students, and the sanctions that can be assigned. When students may have violated the Code they meet with a representative from the Dean of Students Office to discuss the alleged misconduct in an educational process.

ADA Accommodation:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Visit [Title IX Student Information](#) for more resources.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called [Eagle Alert](#) to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Academic Support & Student Services:

This course has digital components. To fully participate in this class, students will need internet access to reference content on the Canvas Learning Management System. If circumstances change, you will be informed of other technical needs to access course content. Information on how to be successful in a digital learning environment can be found at [Learn Anywhere](https://online.unt.edu/learn) (<https://online.unt.edu/learn>).

Technology Support

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a [Student Help Desk](#) that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues:

Phone: 940-565-2324

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Current list of [Student Help Desk hours](#)

Academic Support Services

- The [UNT Academic Resource Center](#), which provides links to the bookstore, registration and advising information, tuition information, financial aid, and more.
- The [UNT Academic Success Center](#), which offers academic support services and free individual tutoring.
- [UNT Writing Lab](#)
- [UNT MathLab](#)

Student Services

- [Multicultural Center](#)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](#)
- [Student Affairs Care Team](#)
- [Student Health and Wellness Center](#)
- [Pride Alliance](#)
- [Student Legal Services](#)
- [UNT Food Pantry](#)

UNT Copyright Notice

Materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection. Materials may include, but are not limited to: documents, slides, images, audio, and video. Materials in this course Web site are only for the use of students enrolled in this course, for purposes associated with this course, and may not be retained for longer than the class term. Unauthorized retention, duplication, distribution, or modification of copyrighted materials is strictly prohibited by law. For more information, visit the [UNT Policy Office](#) or [Copyright.gov](#).

Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- a. The work is used only once.
- b. The work is not used in its entirety.
- c. Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- d. The student is not identified.
- e. The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

[Download the UNT System Permission, Waiver and Release Form](#)

Transmission and Recording of Student Images in Electronically-Delivered Courses

1. No permission is needed from a student for his or her image or voice to be transmitted live via videoconference or streaming media, but all students should be informed when courses are to be conducted using either method of delivery.
2. In the event an instructor records student presentations, he or she must obtain permission from the student using a [signed release](#) in order to use the recording for future classes in accordance with the **Use of Student-Created Work** guidelines above.

3. Instructors who video-record their class lectures with the intention of re-using some or all of recordings for future class offerings must notify students on the course syllabus if students' images may appear on video. Instructors are also advised to provide accommodation for students who do not wish to appear in class recordings.

Basics for Students New to Canvas

This [video](#) is a great way to help you get familiar with navigating your Canvas course and finding your way around. The [Canvas Student Guides](#) are your first and best resource for learning about how to do things in Canvas for your courses at UNT.

Here are just a few of the most helpful links they have in the student guides:

- [How do I use Conversations \(a.k.a. "Inbox"\) as a student?](#)
- [How do I submit an online assignment?](#)
- [How do I use Discussions as a student?](#)
- [How do I view my grades in a current course?](#)

If you prefer videos, then here is a link to the [Canvas Student Video Guide](#)

University Library Services:

Using Your University Libraries

Please reference this list of library services to enhance your discovery and use of library research materials. Simply click on the links below to learn more about the services. Feel free to direct any questions and concerns to AskUs@unt.edu.

Library Accessibility& Services for Persons with Disabilities

UNT Libraries strive to maintain reasonable accommodations for users with disabilities. Any library user with a disability that will require additional accommodations regarding software or equipment must present a written request to Scott Jackson, Assistant Dean for Library Facilities and Systems, via email at Scott.Jackson@unt.edu, or directly at (940) 565-3024.

Search & Study Resources:

Search the Library Catalog

[Search the library catalog](#) by entering your search terms, and we'll grab results from multiple systems. Find books, music, media, journals, as well as other physical and electronic materials owned by the libraries.

Requesting Materials

You may be eligible to [request and have library owned items delivered](#) to you at no charge. This service includes mailing of physical items, such as books, and electronic delivery of items, such as articles. Use the link to learn more about eligibility, types of available materials, renewal process, and requests for items not owned by the UNT Libraries.

Search Course Reserve Materials

[Search the course reserve materials](#) for assigned readings. The UNT Libraries holds and distributes materials for faculty members that are required or recommended reading in their courses. These materials are placed at a reserve desk within the libraries or are made available online and can include books, articles, chapters of books, sample tests, homework solutions, videos, CDs, and DVDs.

Renew Library Materials

If you have not finished using an item within the normal checkout period, you can sometimes [renew library materials online](#). Not all items are eligible for renewal, and some special rules apply depending on the type of item borrowed.

Request An Inter-library Loan

Do you need a book, a chapter, article, or other item that UNT doesn't own or subscribe to? Typically, you can request materials from another institution through [Interlibrary Loan](#). Use the link to learn more about eligibility, types of available materials, checking the status of an order, length of loans, and your responsibilities when using the service.

Advanced Research & Discovery:

Search Online Databases

[Academic databases](#) are collections of information that are commonly used for research and writing, including access to academic journals. Databases are an irreplaceable asset in your discovery and review of academic subjects, topics, and studies.

Search Online Articles

Narrow down your [search for online articles](#) by using options such as publication data, scholarly/peer-reviewed, content type, discipline, and more.

Request an Appointment with your Subject Librarian

[Subject Librarians](#) are here to help you! They can help with information literacy instruction as well as help with appropriate technologies, tools, and information resources to meet your needs and course expectations. Schedule a private appointment by directly emailing the [Subject Librarian](#) for your discipline.

Library Technology:

Off-campus Access

[Off-campus access](#) to electronic databases provided by UNT Libraries can be accessed by any UNT student, faculty, or staff member from virtually any computer in the world. Search here for more information on materials and resources available while studying and researching off-campus.

Subject & Course Guides

Subject guides are resources selected by [Subject Librarians](#) for your discipline. Course guides are a collection of course specific resources that will help you conduct the research necessary to complete your assignments and projects.

To see the Subject Guides and/or to see if your course has a Course Guide, please visit the [Subject Guides & Course Guides: Directory](#). There are also a few other guides for "Getting Started" and "Beyond the Basics."

Research Workshops

The Toulouse Graduate School and UNT Libraries provide a variety of research and other professional development workshops for all students. Please see the [Upcoming Workshops](#) for a workshop description, presenter information, available Live Online Stream option (Zoom), and to register. If you have questions about the workshops, you can contact Vesta Stacy at Vesta.Stacy@unt.edu.

Virtual Tours

If you're interested, you can also go on a [Virtual Tour of the Libraries](#). Enjoy!

Web Accessibility and Privacy

Please find the web accessibility and privacy statements for UNT, Canvas, and all CLEAR supported technologies below.

UNT

- [Web Accessibility Policy](#)
- [Privacy Statement](#)

Canvas/Instructure

- [Accessibility Statement](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)

CLEAR Supported Technologies

- See [CLEAR's Supported Technologies web page](#) for links to Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies.