Brian Fuller, Instructor, Lighting and Sound
Chair's Observation of Teaching, Fall 2018   Peer Observer Prof. William Mathie

I visited prof. Brian Fuller's Lighting and Sound class on Monday November 5, 2018. On this day he was presenting a lecture on Graphics and Color.

Professor Fuller had the webpage syllabus for the class projected on a screen showing a list of the class presentations for November allowing students to plan and review what would be presented.

He began by discussing problems inherent to color calibration and problems that arise if students are unaware of the many factors that affect their perception of color while viewing an image on a computer monitor. By helping students to understand what they know (or don't) and what they may be assuming about the colors they perceive on the screen, Professor Fuller caused them to reassess and improve both their process and their critical thinking skills.

He also spoke about qualities of light and contrast to manage while shooting video. He had prepared for class by creating an electronic folder for each student that included video and audio clips and a project. Students opened the video clips from their folders using video editing software on their computers. Prof. Fuller led the students through the basic process of labeling the video properly followed by introducing more complex color editing tools as the students followed along on their computers. He asked students questions to assess how well they had learned information presented earlier in the semester. Students also asked him questions. Prof. Fuller walked around the room checking to see that all students were keeping up. He offered a great deal of information for students to process, but students followed along well. As he altered color, contrast, highlights and shadows he spoke not only about the technical effects of white balance but also of the emotional implications for the viewer created by manipulating each variable.

When he worked at the computer he regularly shook his mouse to help students follow his actions on the large screen. He also walked to the front of the room when needed to point out important information.

Professor Fuller knew and used each student's name when addressing them. He also knew each student's chosen concentration whether it be photo, film or animation. His speech is clear and emphatic instilling confidence in his students. Class time is well utilized. He is energetic and animated in his presentation style and very adept at seeing and understanding the progress of the work on the computer screen of each student in the class. He includes wide ranging references that hold the students' interest. The students respond well to his teaching style. They seem to appreciate all the knowledge they are gaining.

Everything I witnessed seemed appropriate for the teaching of the Light and Sound class and would suggest that Professor Fuller is doing an excellent job teaching.