

The Business of Hollywood

Spring 2026 Wednesdays 12:45pm-2:15pm

MAB2

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Course Description

Over the course of the next 10 weeks we will discuss how Hollywood really works, the roles of everyone involved, and the chain of events that starts with an idea and ends on the big (or small) screen. I teach in the UNLV film school having retired from a 25+ year career in making big budget, studio films. I look forward to sharing what I have learned, along with an anecdote or two about some of your favorite movies and actors!

Week	Topic	Notes
Week 1 / February 4	Week 1 Welcome! What is Hollywood?	Studios, Independents, Production Companies, Distribution
Week 2 / February 11	Week 2 Who are these people??	Producers, Directors, Writers
Week 3 / February 18	Week 3 Let's Make A Movie! (Or a TV show!)	Creative and Physical Production, Greenlighting
Week 4 / February 25	Week 4 Who are these people part 2??	All those credits! Everyone from the Production Manager to the Best Boy Grip
Week 5 / March 4	Week 5 Getting Bigger!	2 nd Unit, Visual Effects, Stunts, Wrapping, Post Production
Week 6 / March 11	Week 6 Putting it all together	What makes a good movie?
March 18	NO CLASSES – UNLV SPRING BREAK	



Week 7 / March 25	Week 7 The Story of <i>Red</i>	Intro to the movie <i>Red</i> (2008), begin viewing
Week 8 / April 1	Week 8 Complete Viewing <i>Red</i> (2008)	Finish movie, Q&A
Week 9 / April 8	Week 9 Indie Film and Film School	Watch <i>A Better Life</i> (2011) if time allows
Week 10 / April 15	Week 10 The Future of Film	Thoughts on the future of entertainment.

***Content/order/classes/speakers subject to change if necessary.**