Dear University of Pittsburgh Students:

I wanted to let you know about upcoming changes to the Pittsburgh Filmmakers curriculum. Beginning in Fall 2018, our curriculum will be changing from top to bottom. Most courses will be getting new names, some will be changing their focus, a few will be discontinued, and some new courses will be added. All of this is an attempt to make our courses more relevant to changes in the fields of filmmaking and photography, and to create a naming and numbering scheme that makes it easier to see which courses follow from earlier ones, and what each course is about.

In addition, there will be a renewed focus on learning through making. Creating visual art, whether a film, a series of photos, or a website, is primarily a problem-solving exercise, from simple technical problems to larger aesthetic ones. We have always believed that the best way to learn problem-solving is by actually solving problems, not by someone telling you how, and all of our new courses will reflect this philosophy.

The changes can get confusing, as suddenly the course you planned on taking is named something else, and has a prerequisite you may not recognize. Attached is a chart of all of our existing courses in the University catalog and how they correlate to the new curriculum.

I'm excited about these changes to our curriculum. I hope you will be too. I know that it will be a bit confusing at first, and want to assure you that if you have any questions, you can email me at jcantine@pfpca.org and I'll be happy to talk to you about them.

John Cantine
Director, Pittsburgh Filmmakers School

Curriculum changes:

Old course name:	New course name or closest course equivalent:
Motion Picture Fundamentals	Filmmaking 1: Fundamentals
Video Production 1	Filmmaking 2: Sight and Sound
Video Production 2	Filmmaking 3: Story to Screen
Writing and Producing the Short Script: Capstone	Filmmaking 4: Capstone
Introduction to Screenwriting	Elements of Screenwriting
Electronic Cinematography	Digital Cinematography
Script Development	Developing the Feature Script
Advanced Digital Editing Techniques	Post-production 2
Lighting for Film and Video	Lighting for Motion Pictures
Sound for Film and Video	Sound for Motion Pictures
Directing Actors	Directing Actors
Animation (or Animation Production)	Animation 1
Film Production 1	Super-8 and 16mm Film Production
Digital Effects and Compositing	Digital Effects 1
Introduction to Digital Editing	Post-Production 1
Black and White Photography 1	35mm Photography and Darkroom
Black and White Photography 2	Medium Format Photography
Basic Digital Photography	Photography 1
Advanced Digital Photography	Photography 3
Introduction to Web Design	Web Design 1
Photoshop Foundations	Photo Editing 1
New course	Audio Production
New course	Business of Photography and Multimedia
New course	Photography 2
New course	Writing the Original Series