Directing for American TV (Sit-com, Half-hour Comedy and One-hour Drama)
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Abstract
Students will receive introduction to directing all three major forms of American Television. Schedule, best practices, and a breakdown of how to approach the various forms: sit-com, half-hour single-cam comedy, one-hour drama/dramedy. One hour of the three will be devoted to each form, with short example scenes used to illustrate. Topics such as multi-camera versus single camera staging, continuity, eyelines, “crossing the line,” marks, shot language, director’s prep, etc. will be covered.

Faculty Biography
Paul Lazarus is an award-winning director, producer and writer of film, theater and television projects. He recently completed a feature documentary called "SlingShot" about Segway inventor Dean Kamen and his work to solve the world's safe water crisis. Lazarus directed and produced the independent feature, "Seven Girlfriends," starring Tim Daly and Melora Hardin. He has directed many notable TV series including most recently "Pretty Little Liars," "The Middle" and "Big Time Rush." Past shows include: "Ugly Betty," "Friends," "Samantha Who," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "LA Law," "Psych," "Beverly Hills 90210" and "Melrose Place." In the early 90s, he served as the Artistic Director of the historic Pasadena Playhouse in California. A graduate of Dartmouth College, Lazarus apprenticed with the Royal Shakespeare Company in England.