

CIN 111 Video 1 D002
Monday 10:10AM – 2:15PM
Spring 2017

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Catalogue Listing

4 hours; 3 credits

An introductory workshop in the basic techniques of video production. Visual awareness as applied to composition and continuity is developed in a series of practical class projects. This course is a prerequisite for 200- and 300-level work in film/video production and is intended for Cinema and Communications majors and minors. (arts & com) (TALA) Others may register by permission of the instructor. This course is designed as the first half of a two-course sequence with CIN120, which concentrates on editing. NOTE: This course has a material fee.

Course Description and Goals

This is an introductory video course for students who want to learn the basics of film/video production (camera, sound, lighting, aesthetics) and post-production (digital editing). No prior video experience required, but if you do have experience this course will help you refine your techniques. Students will create two short videos and one final project as assigned. Emphasis is on experimentation, originality, and authentic expression.

Student video projects are critiqued by the class. The class will screen and critique films and videos by other artists as well. In addition to video production, there are three quizzes on the formal/technical aspects of working in video, one field trip to Manhattan during class time, and two writing assignments. Class participation involves attendance, being an active part of workshops and labs in production, digital editing, and speaking up in critique and analysis.

Refundable Security Deposit on Equipment Use Payable by Money Order Only

The Department requires students to pay a \$100 security deposit on equipment use. The deposit is payable via money order only to CSI staff. Make the money order payable to the College of Staten Island. No checks, no cash. The deposit covers expenses from possible loss or damage to the equipment and is fully refundable at the end of the semester. The amount can be kept on deposit to cover any and all future Media Culture production classes at CSI. The deposit is not optional. The deposit is refundable. There is no time limit on refund of deposit. Pay deposit on or before Feb 16.

Materials

Students are entitled to a free SD card (a media card for recording digital video) available from the Media Lab office as part of your class fee. You are encouraged to purchase at least one additional SD card. Buy an SD card that contains at least 16 to 32GB storage. Cards range in price from \$10 - \$25, depending on storage, and are available at electronics and photo stores (Best Buy, Radio Shack, J&R, B&H Photo Video, etc.). There is no textbook for this course.

The class uses Canon XA-10 HDV camcorders and we are editing in Adobe Premiere Pro CC.

Students are encouraged to use an external hard drive for storing video projects. Flash drives are not suitable for storing video projects. See the professor for specs on hard drives before making a purchase.

CSI editing systems are Mac-based. You will not be able to use a PC-formatted hard drive or SD card with our edit systems.

Certification for Equipment Check-out

The Media Lab requires each student to prove proficiency at operating the camcorders, tripods, microphones and lighting equipment. Techniques for certification are taught in class, and there is free tutoring by appointment available with tech staff, so students should be able to easily pass the proficiency exercise. Certification is required for the completion of this course.

Website for CIN111 at <https://cin111.wordpress.com/>

Course information, syllabus, additional videos, and links can be found at our Wordpress site at <https://cin111.wordpress.com>. The site contains technical information videos, handouts, and the syllabus.

Video Assignments

- Video Project 1 due Feb 27: in-camera editing, narrative in 3 parts (2 -3mins)
- Video Project 2 due Apr 3: documentary, non-fiction, or video essay edited using Premiere Pro CC (3 – 5mins)
- Final Project due May 22: An original edited work in video using text/titles, transitions, and multi-channel audio mix. (5 – 7mins)

Grading

- Participation in class, 15%
- Live action quizzes, writing assignments, museum visit 15%
- Video Projects 1 & 2, 30%
- Final Project, 40%
- Attendance: grade reduction if student misses more than 2 classes without valid excuse

Attendance

The class is held from 10:10AM to 2:15PM. Students are expected to be on time and to stay for the entire class period. We will have short breaks during each class meeting. Lateness will reflect on a student's final grade. Students are not expected to come to class if they are ill. If illness requires more than two consecutive absences, student must provide a note from a parent or medical staff. More than two unexcused absences will result in a loss of grade points.

Classroom Protocol

Food and drink are not allowed in the classroom with the exception of drinks in a closed plastic or metal container. The Media Lab may deny equipment access privileges for bringing food and drinks into the classroom.

Cell phones must be turned off and put away during class time. If a student repeatedly uses cell phones during class, phone will be confiscated until the end of the class meeting.

Course Outline

Week 1 Jan 30

Lab: Basics of using the Canon XA10 HDV camcorder. How to record, use camera settings, types of shots, framing. How to use a tripod.

Video assignment due Feb 27 - create a video using in-camera edits only to construct a story in 3 parts, e.g. intro, action, and conclusion. This assignment is specifically to be edited in the camera. Do not use iMovie or other editing programs. Do not use your cell phone – use the HD camcorder to complete this assignment. Your video should be about 3 mins long.

Week 2 Feb 6

Lab: Camcorder and tripod techniques continued. Framing, lens operation, aperture, zoom lens, white balancing; pan and tilt tripod functions.

Certification: Students sign up for certification in camera and tripod.

Security deposit: Students pay \$100. refundable deposit by Feb. 16.

NO CLASS MONDAY FEB 13 DUE TO LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY
CLASS RE-SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY FEB 16

Week 3 Feb 16

Lab: Using microphones and recording audio.

Equipment: Students reserve cameras and tripods to complete first assignment. Assignment due in class on Feb 27. Bring your SD cards containing your footage for the first assignment to class.

Security deposit due: Money order only, payable at the Cage to College of Staten Island.

NO CLASS MONDAY FEB 20 DUE TO PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY

Week 4 Feb 27

Video Project 1 due: in-camera editing, a story in 3 parts (3mins)

Live Action Quiz: Video basics, camera movement, tripod, framing, types of shots.

Week 5 Mar 6

Lab: Digital editing basics in Adobe Premiere Pro CC. Intro to the digital editing workspace.

Lab: Recap any questions about the camera, and recap using external microphones to record proper sound with video.

Week 6 Mar 13

Lab: Digital editing - importing video footage into Premiere. Working with sequences, clips, and transitions (fades, dissolves, wipes etc.).

Lab: Lighting basics, lighting safety.

Preparation for Museum of Modern Art class trip next week.

Video Assignment due Apr 3: documentary, non-fiction, or video essay edited using Premiere Pro CC (3 – 5mins).

Week 7 Mar 20 Midterm Notices & Field Trip to MoMA

Mid-term notices will be sent to individual students via email.

The class meets at 10:45AM at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) to view media artworks on exhibit. Meet at the first-floor Information Desk. Bring your CUNY ID so that your admission is free. Without ID admission is \$25, so please remember to bring your ID.

MoMA is at 11 West 53rd Street (between 5th and 6th Avenues) in Manhattan. We will be there for 1 hour. Students may choose to stay longer if you would like to see more exhibits and do not have to return to CSI for later classes.

Students will take notes on the works on exhibit. Note the name of the piece, the maker, the date, total running time, and the medium (video, installation, etc.). Write down your impression of the work and bring notes to the next class meeting.

Week 8 Mar 27

In-class writing assignment: Using your notes from the visit to MoMA as well as additional research you have done on the artists and the works on view, write a response to the work in the exhibit Lab: Digital editing – rendering and creating a QT movie from your Premiere Pro sequence.

Live Action Quiz: Lighting and lighting safety

Certification: Students sign up for certification in audio and lighting.

Week 9 Apr 3.

Video Project 2 due today: documentary, non-fiction, or visual essay edited in Premiere

Discussion: How to write a project description.

Written assignment due Apr 24: project description of your final project, one page (250-500 words), double-spaced. Send to me as a PDF attachment via email. Do not send in the body of the email but send as an attached PDF document.

SPRING RECESS APRIL 10 – 18

NEXT CLASS MEETING IS ON THURSDAY APR 20

Week 10 Apr 20

Lab: Digital editing – using keyframes, creating special effects

Live Action Quiz: Using microphones and sound recording techniques

Week 11 Apr 24

Lab: Digital editing – creating text and titles

Written project descriptions of your final projects due: Send to me via email by class time today. One page (250-500 words), double-spaced.

Week 12 May 1

Live Action Quiz: Digital editing basics.

Week 13 May 8

Lab: Final re-cap for digital editing. Bring your production and post-production problems to class and we will figure them out.

Week 14 May 15

Workshop rough edits of final projects. This means bring your rough edit to class for feedback.

Week 15 May 22

Final projects due. Upload a file of your final video to the classroom desktop for final screening.