

DC 320 Editing II – SECTION 701 / DC 420 Editing – SECTION 701

Instructor: [Melissa Lawrenz](#)

Quarter: FALL 2015

TH 5:45PM - 9:00PM

CDM 632 Loop Campus

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Office hours: TH 9:00 – 10:30 PM – CDM Loop Room 632

Summary of Course:

Emphasis is on developing the student's understanding of the art of cinematic storytelling and montage. Work on more advanced projects is integrated into the class as a means of mastering advanced editing tools and techniques.

* If you have no previous editing experience prior to this course, you will struggle. Avid has a steep learning curve and prior editing experience is a must in order to keep up with this class. Building upon previous training in Adobe Premiere, DC 320/420 will expand that knowledge base in Avid Media Composer, the industry standard for feature film, TV, documentary and advertising. As such, it is imperative for cinema editors to be adept at multiple applications.

PREREQUISITE(S): DC 220 or DC 460 or DC 409

Learning Outcomes: In DC 320/420, students will:

1. Study the “rules” of editing (i.e. when to cut and when not to cut).
2. To understand numerous styles of editing- the history and skills needed
3. Gain a good foundation of editing in Avid Media Composer.
4. Learn advanced editing concepts
5. Be able to effectively understand the technical ins and outs of Post-Production as it applies to workflows and delivery.

Required Text:

DC 420: *In the Blink of an Eye*, Walter Murch, Silman-James press. 2nd Edition. 2001. ISBN-10: 1879505622 / ISBN-13: 978-1879505629

DC 320/420: Lynda.com: Avid Media Composer 8 Essential Training with Ashley Kennedy

Recommended Texts:

Avid Editing: A Guide for Beginning and Intermediate Users, 5th Ed., Sam Kauffmann & Ashley Kennedy, Focal Press, 2012

Lynda.com – online tutorials

Avid Agility, 3rd Ed., Steve Cohen, Createspace, 2012.

Make the Cut: A Guide to Becoming a Successful Assistant Editor in Film & TV, Lori Coleman & Diana Friedberg, Focal Press, 2010.

Cut by Cut: Editing Your Film or Video, 2nd Ed., Gael Chandler, Michael Wiese Productions, 2012.

Required Supplies:

You must have your own external drive for your project work for this and other DC classes. A USB 3.0 or Thunderbolt is recommended. Some of the new computers no longer support Firewire. If you have a Firewire drive, you will need a Thunderbolt adapter.

A USB flash drive is also recommended for project back ups. The University cannot guarantee that media or projects left on lab computers will be safely maintained.

To be able to work on both Mac and PC with your external drives, I highly recommend formatting your external drive to ExFAT. If you will only be using the drive on Macs then Mac OS Extended (Journaled) is fine.

Grading Scale

A = 100-93, A- = 92-90, B+ = 89-87, B = 86-83, B- = 82- 80, C+ = 79-77, C = 76-73, C- = 72-70, D+ = 69-67, D = 66-63, D- = 62-60, F = 59-0.

A indicates excellence, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D work is unsatisfactory in some respect, F is substantially unsatisfactory work

Grading:

Attendance & Participation 5%

Avid Quizzes 10%

Article Reviews 10%

Project 1 20%

Project 2 20%

Project 3 20%

Midterm 5%

Final Exam 10%

Student responsibilities:

Each student is responsible for their time management and for meeting the expectations in the syllabus. The instructor is not responsible for reminding students of assignment deadlines in class. In the event of an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor for an assignment sheet detailing any homework. If an assignment is listed on the syllabus you are still responsible for completing the assignment on time.

Deadlines:

Cinema production requires strict adherence to deadlines; therefore late assignments will not be accepted for grading and written feedback will be given at the instructor's discretion. You will not be eligible for an A in the class unless you turn in all assignments on time.

Attendance & Participation:

This course demands class participation - attendance is mandatory. Students arriving more than 15 minutes late, or leaving before class is dismissed will be

considered absent. You are allowed one (1) unexcused absence. After that, a one letter deduction for each absence will be taken from your final course grade. Excessive tardiness will also be penalized.

Quizzes:

There are five Avid Quizzes testing on your ability to retain information taught in class and learned through weekly usage of the application. Review the Avid Lab Sheets for the quizzes. The Lynda.com should supplement your understanding of the labs.

Article Reviews, Class Discussion:

There will be five reading assignments from articles that I assign. You will read and write a one to two page review highlighting the most interesting points of the articles and what you thought about what was discussed. We will discuss the articles in class so you can use your review for the discussion. Students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. The written review is graded so proofread the article before turning it in.

Please double space and follow MLA general guidelines for formatting.

420 / Walter Murch textbook:

Graduate sections will have to read the Walter Murch book, *In the Blink of an Eye*, and you will have to answer questions regarding specific chapters in Murch's book on the Midterm and Final exams.

Midterm:

The Midterm will consist of short answers and an essay based on class presentations and homework. Graduate students will have essays based upon the Murch book.

Final Exam:

The Final will consist of multiple choice, T/F questions, short answers, and essay based on class presentations from the last half of the quarter and Avid ideas presented throughout the quarter. Again Graduate students will have some specific questions based upon the Murch book.

Online Course Evaluations:

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students complete

the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

Attitude:

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting, or using the internet whether on a phone or computer. If any issues arise, a student may be asked to leave the classroom. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

Cell Phones/On Call:

If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Out of respect for fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

Academic Policies:

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: cdm.depaul.edu/enrollment.

Students with Disabilities:

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential. To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@depaul.edu.

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd.

Phone number: (312) 362.8002

Fax: (312) 362.6544 TTY: (773) 325.7296

Content Changes:

Depending on time factors, equipment, software and infrastructure issues, the assignments projected for the term may require slight alteration or rescheduling

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Week 1: 9/10

Introductions, Syllabus, The Editing Process, AVID LAB #1- Intro

Homework:

1. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 1, 2- through *Performing basic edits...*, Ch. 3- *Linking to media using AMA* and *Consolidating and Transcoding AMA media*
2. Download media for Project 1 on D2L

Week 2: 9/17

Avid Quiz #1, Post Production Workflow, Shaping Story & Performance, AVID LAB #2- Set up Project 1, AMA & Transcoding, Project Organization, Sub-clipping

Homework:

1. **Read Article #1 Mark Livolsi**- Write up review
2. **Project 1**- Sub-clip, organize project, Upload Project Folder to D2L- make sure to zip the folder before uploading
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 2- *Using the Smart Tool* through to the end of the chapter, Ch. 4, Ch. 15- *Exporting your sequence as a file*

Week 3: 9/24

Avid Quiz #2, Cutting Action, Comedy, Horror and Suspense, AVID LAB #3- Editing Techniques, Keyboard shortcuts, User Profiles & Settings, Basic Editing, The Smart Tool, Titles, Export a QT

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Rough Cut, export QT and upload to D2L
2. **Read Article #2 Music Editors**- Write up review
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 5, 7- up until *Syncing video to audio* , 9- *Applying & Editing Transitions & Editing Effects in the Effect Editor* only

Week 4: 10/1

Avid Quiz #3, Adding the Soundtrack as an Editor, AVID LAB #4- Using the Trim Tool, Audio Editing, Transitions, Effects

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Fine Cut: Export QT and upload along with Avid Project File to D2L
2. Study for Midterm

Week 5: 10/8

Project 1 Screening for feedback, MIDTERM Exam

Homework:

1. **Read Article #3 Anne Coates-** Write up review
2. **Project 2-** Download media from D2L
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 7- *Syncing video to high quality audio*, 14

Week 6: 10/15

Editing Dialogue, AVID LAB #5: Set up Project 2, Syncing Audio with Video, Managing Media

Homework:

1. **Project 2-** Sync, organize project, Upload Project Folder to D2L- make sure to zip the folder before uploading

Week 7: 10/22

Avid Quiz #4, POV and Narrative Stance, AVID LAB #6: Editing dialogue in Avid

Homework:

1. **Project 2-** Rough Cut, Export QT upload to D2L
2. **Read Article #4 Animation Editors-** Write up review
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 9 from *Keyframing effects* through to the end

Week 8: 10/29

Review Cuts of Project 2 in class for Feedback, Cutting Animation & Docs, AVID LAB #7: Working with VFX and compositing and adding multiple effects

Homework:

1. **Project 2-** Fine Cut, Export QT upload along with Project Folder to D2L
2. **Project 3-** Download media from D2L

Week 9: 11/5

Avid Quiz #5, Using Experimental Techniques in Narrative, Prepping for Sound Design & Mix, Finishing & Delivery, AVID LAB #8- Exporting for Sound Design & Online, Set up Project 3

1. **Project 3-** Organize project and create a Rough Cut, Export QT upload to D2L
2. **Read Article #5-** Editors of Shield
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 11 Basic Color Correction

Week 10: 11/12

Cutting for TV, Working in Post Production, Project 3 Screening for feedback, Avid Review, AVID LAB #9- Color Correction, Archiving an Offline project, Final Project Timeline

Homework: Project 3- Fine Cut is due at 5:45pm on Nov. 19th. Upload QT and Avid Project File to Dropbox.

Final Exam: November 19, 2015 at 5:45pm in CDM 632

AUTUMN QUARTER 2015

Monday	August 31	Begin Immersion Week of Discover Chicago Program
Friday	September 4	TUITION DUE: AUTUMN QUARTER
Monday	September 7	Labor Day - University officially closed
Wednesday	September 9	BEGIN AUTUMN QUARTER 2015 ALL CLASSES
Tuesday	September 15	Last day to add (or swap) classes to AQ2015 schedule
Tuesday	September 22	Last day to drop classes with no penalty (100% tuition refund if applicable and no grade on transcript)
		Last day to select pass/fail option
Wednesday	September 23	Grades of "W" assigned for AQ2015 classes dropped on or after this day
Tuesday	September 29	Last day to select auditor status
Monday	October 19	Begin December Quarter/Graduate Intercession Registration
		Begin Winter Quarter 2016 Registration
Thursday	October 1	DEADLINE: Application for November 2015 degree conferral
Tuesday	October 27	Last day to withdraw from AQ 2015 classes
Tuesday	November 17	End AQ2015 Day & Evening classes
Wednesday	November 18	Begin AQ2015 Day & Evening Final Exams
		AQ2015 Grading Available for Faculty
Monday	November 23	TUITION DUE: December Quarter/Graduate Intercession 2015
Tuesday	November 24	End AQ2014 Day & Evening Final Exams
		END AUTUMN QUARTER 2015
Thursday	November 26	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Friday	November 27	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Saturday	November 28	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Sunday	November 29	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Thursday	December 3	AUTUMN 2015 GRADES DUE
		IN Grades issued Winter 2015 lapse to F
		R Grades issued Autumn 2014 lapse to F