

DC 420 Editing – SECTION 802

Instructor: [Melissa Lawrenz](#)

Quarter: WINTER 2016

TUES. 5:45PM - 9:00PM

CDM 922 Loop Campus

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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.

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

Learning Outcomes: In DC 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 Adobe Premiere.
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:

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

Lynda.com: Premiere Pro CC Essential Training (2015) with Ashley Kennedy
For Lynda.com, you can use your student account for free access:
<http://offices.depaul.edu/is/services/technology-training/Pages/online-training.aspx>

Recommended Texts:

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:

All our class exercises and home assignments deal with projects and media. It is the responsibility of the student to back up all projects & media. Do not leave your projects on the lab computer. Please note: hardware problems are not acceptable as an excuse for late submissions.

You must have your own external drive for your project work. A USB 3.0 or Thunderbolt is recommended and ideally your drive should run 7200 rpm. 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. Do not use flash drives as your main media drive.

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 & Active Participation 5%

Walter Murch Questions 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, 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. Any absence (missing more than 15 minutes of class time per session) will impact your grade. You are allowed one absence (equal to two tardies) before your grade is affected.

Article Reviews, Class Discussion:

There will be five reading assignments from articles that I assign. You will read the assigned article 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. Upload these assignments to the D2L Dropbox for this class.

Walter Murch textbook:

You will read the Walter Murch book, *In the Blink of an Eye*, and you will answer questions regarding specific chapters in Murch's book. The assignments are split up into 6 sections that begin Week 5 although you may submit the answers before the due dates.

Questions are in Word Document format and are available for download on D2L. Upload these assignments to the D2L Dropbox for this class.

Editing Assignments:

Footage for the assignments is available on D2L. You will be editing the footage in Adobe Premiere. You may also use Avid Media Composer, if you prefer. Please discuss this with me before you begin editing.

You will be turning in Project Files or QuickTime files. Project Files can be uploaded to D2L. Please submit QTs via wetransfer.com. WeTransfer sends you a receipt when the file has uploaded successfully and when I have downloaded it. I will have a Dropbox link on D2L to upload QTs as well, but please use this as a last resort. QTs have to be under 1gb for D2L and under 2gb for WeTransfer. Always bring a back-up copy to class on a drive.

Midterm:

The Midterm will consist of short answers, multiple choice, and an essay based on class presentations and homework.

Final Exam:

The Final will consist of multiple choice, T/F questions, short answers, and an essay based on class presentations from the last half of the quarter and Adobe Premiere ideas presented throughout the quarter.

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.

Computers/Cell Phones/On Call:

I can tell the difference between using your laptop/computer to take notes and using it for other purposes. 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: 1/5

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

Homework:

1. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 1 & 2
2. Download media for Project 1 on D2L

Week 2: 1/12

To Cut or Not to Cut, Shaping Story & Performance, Premiere LAB #2- Set up Project 1, Customizing keyboard, Project Organization, Sub-clipping

Homework:

1. **Read Article #1 Mark Livolsi**- Write up review
2. **Project 1**- Sub-clip, organize project, Upload Project file to D2L
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 3, 4, 15- *Exporting your project*

Week 3: 1/19

Analyzing a Script, Cutting Action, Comedy, Horror and Suspense, Premiere LAB #3- Editing Techniques, Basic Editing, Creating titles, Export a QT

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Rough Cut, export QT and upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Read Article #2 SFX & Scoring**- Write up review
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 5, 8

Week 4: 1/26

Adding the Soundtrack as an Editor, Premiere LAB #4- Using the Trim Tool, Audio Editing, Transitions

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Fine Cut: Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Murch**: Read Prefaces & pgs. 1-20, Download and respond to **Murch Questions #1**
3. Study for Midterm

Week 5: 2/2

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. **Murch**: Read pgs 21-51, Download and respond to **Murch Questions #2**
4. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 8- Review: *Syncing video to high quality audio*

Week 6: 2/9

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

Homework:

1. **Project 2**- Sync, organize project, Full Assembly edit, upload Project file to D2L, Export QT and upload to wetransfer.com
2. **Murch**- read pgs. 52-72, Download and respond to **Murch Questions #3**
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 6

Week 7: 2/16

POV and Narrative Stance, Working Practices for Editors, Premiere LAB #6: Editing dialogue

Homework:

1. **Project 2**- Rough Cut, Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Read Article #4 Animation Editors**- Write up review
3. **Murch**- read pgs. 75-107 (stop at *Random Access & Speed*), Download and respond to **Murch Questions #4**
4. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 9, 10, 11

Recommended Homework:

For our discussion on Documentary next week, I suggest watching the doc ***Capturing the Friedmans***.

You can see it here: <https://youtu.be/UaatTnsx9-s>

Week 8: 2/23

Review Cuts of Project 2 in class for Feedback, Cutting Animation & Docs, Premiere LAB #7: Working with Effects & Motion

Homework:

1. **Project 2**- Fine Cut, Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Project 3**- Download media from D2L
3. **Murch**- read pgs. 107-129 (stop at *Digital Future*), Download and respond to **Murch Questions #5**

Week 9: 3/1

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

Homework:

1. **Project 3**- Organize project and create a Rough Cut, Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload project file to D2L.
2. **Read Article #5**- Editors of Shield
3. Finish reading Murch – pgs. 129-146, Download and respond to **Murch Questions #6**
4. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 7, 12 Basic Color Correction

Week 10: 3/8

Cutting for TV, Working in Post Production, Project 3 Screening for feedback, Avid Review, Premiere LAB #9- Color Correction, Dynamic link, Final Project Timeline

Homework: Project 3- Fine Cut is due at 5:45pm on March 15th. Upload QT to wetransfer.com and Project File to D2L.

Final Exam: March 15, 2016 at 5:45pm in CDM 922