

DC 320 Editing II – SECTION 601 / DC 420 Editing – SECTION 601

Instructor: [Melissa Lawrenz](#)

Quarter: SPRING 2016

MON 1:30-4:45PM

14 E. Jackson Rm. 513

Email: mlawrenz@cdm.depaul.edu or mlawrenz@gmail.com

Phone: (312) 371-8471

Office hours: M 12-1:30pm– CDM 522

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. Learn the “rules” of editing (i.e. when to cut and when not to cut) and when to break them.
2. Learn how to control story and character development through editing.
3. Learn how to apply these techniques in NLE software.
4. Gain an understanding of techniques editors use in experimental film, dialogue, documentary, animation, television, etc.
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: 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 computers. 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 & Participation 5%
Article Reviews 10%
Editor Research Project 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:

Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. The overall grade for participation drops one-third after any absence. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course.

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.

Editor Research Project

Undergrads and Graduates will choose an editor to research. If you don't know any editors, look at your favorite films and you'll find someone worth researching. For this assignment, you are going to research the background of the editor and find out how they got into post production. Then you will watch one film edited by your chosen editor and analyze the techniques you think they utilized to build the story. You can concentrate on things like how they used experimental techniques, or their ability to create strong dialogue sequences, or they're great at intense action sequences. I will give you more specific information for the assignment.

420 / Walter Murch textbook:

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

Editing Assignments:

Footage for the assignments is available via a link 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 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:

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 to 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: 3/28

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

Homework:

1. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 1, 2, 8 Ch. 8- *Syncing video to high quality audio*
2. Download media for Project 1: Lavinia's Heist

Week 2: 4/4

To Cut or Not to Cut, Shaping Story & Performance, Premiere LAB #2- Set up *Lavinia's Heist*, Customizing keyboard, Project Organization, Syncing Video w/ Audio

Homework:

1. **Read Article #1 Anne Coates**- Write up review
2. **Project 1**- Sync, organize project, Full Assembly edit, upload Project file to D2L
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 3, 4, 15- *Exporting your project*

Week 3: 4/11

Analyzing a Script, Editing Dialogue, Premiere LAB #3- Editing Techniques for dialogue, Keyboard shortcuts, Exporting options

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Rough Cut, Export QT 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: 4/18

Project 1 Screening for feedback, Adding the Soundtrack as an Editor, Premiere LAB #4- Review the Trim Tool, Audio Editing, Transitions

Homework:

1. **Project 1**- Fine Cut: Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. Study for Midterm

Week 5: 4/25

Open time to screen Fine Cuts, MIDTERM Exam

Homework:

1. **Read Article #3 Mark Livolsi-** Write up review

Week 6: 5/2

POV and Narrative Stance, Cutting Action, Comedy, Horror and Suspense, Premiere LAB #5- Set up Project 2- Action sequence

Homework:

1. **Project 2-** Organize project, Full Assembly edit, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Read Article #4 Animation Editors-** Write up review

Week 7: 5/9

Cutting Animation & Docs, Premiere LAB #6- Working with Effects

Homework:

1. **Project 2-** Rough Cut, Export QT- upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
2. **Project 3-** Download media from D2L

Week 8: 5/16

Project 2 Screening for feedback, Using Experimental Techniques in Narrative, Prepping for Sound Design & Mix, Finishing & Delivery, Premiere LAB #7- Exporting for Sound Design & Online

Homework:

1. **Read Article #5 Editors of Shield -** Write up review
2. **Project 2-** Fine Cut, Export QT- upload to wetransfer.com, upload Project file to D2L
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 11 Basic Color Correction

Week 9: 5/23

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

Homework:

1. **Project 3-** Download media, Organize project and create a Rough Cut, Export QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload project file to D2L.
2. **Editor Research Paper-** Upload to D2L

Week 10: 5/30- NO CLASS- MEMORIAL DAY

DUE:

1. Rough Cut of Project 3 - QT upload to wetransfer.com, upload project file to D2L.
2. Editor Research Project Paper – upload to D2L

As long as you upload a QT by the end of class time on 5/30, I will respond to your cut with feedback that you can use for the fine cut.

Homework: Project 3- Fine Cut is due at 2:30pm on June 6th. Upload QT to wetransfer.com and Project File to D2L.

Final Exam: June 6, 2015 at 2:30-4:45pm in 14 E. Jackson Rm. 513