

COURSE SYLLABUS • EDITING III / ADVANCED EDITING • SPRING 2017

Course: DC 340/440-601 • Thursday 1:30 – 4:45 PM • CDM LOOP Room 922  
INSTRUCTOR: Martin Bernstein • Office: CDM 705 • Phone: (312) 498-8410 (M)  
Office Hours • Thursdays: 11:50 AM –1:20 PM  
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Homepage: <https://d2l.depaul.edu/d2l/home/566796>

### Summary

This course provides an advanced workshop for students to edit their own narrative or documentary projects. Students will be expected to bring in their own footage, and will take their projects from logging, through rough cut, to picture lock. Post-production workflow, basic sound design, color correction for picture editors and AVID Script Integration will also be emphasized. PREREQUISITE(S): DC 320

In a workshop/seminar setting, this course will expand upon students' considerable editing skills and experience, using AVID Media Composer, the industry standard for professional editing applications.

Students will bring their own footage to the course; thus, the variety and complexity will dictate the flow and direction of lectures, demonstrations, screenings and critiques. The individual and collective experience of students with the application will also determine the need for basic tutorial and advanced techniques in AVID Media Composer. For these reasons, a detailed course schedule will be developed only after the initial class meeting and consultations.

### Required Text & Resources:

Recommended Text:

Avid Editing: Fifth Edition, A Guide to Beginning and Intermediate Users • Sam Kauffmann & Ashley Kennedy ISBN 978-0-240-81856-6

Required Supplies:

1 External USB or adaptable Firewire Hard Drive (250 GB minimum) 1 Flash Drive for backing up projects. **Do NOT leave course projects on class computers.**

Lynda.com – access included with DePaul CDM registration. Details through CDM website or Campus Connect

### Course Objectives:

- Master the basics of AVID Media Composer and its related applications
- Develop story and script through analysis, organization, breakdown, scene structure, editing, revisions, etc.
- Understand the entire post-production workflow and use this to organize and plan a scheme for the finished product.

### Grading:

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

All grading is final (assignments may not be resubmitted for new grades). Late assignments will not be accepted (if you anticipate you will miss class, the assignment must be delivered to me, or posted to the D2L website before the start of the class in which it is due), unless the absence for the class is excused (documented illness, death in the family, etc.)

### **Editing Projects:**

Every student will be required to submit all the footage for a project of a finished length between 10-20 minutes. The total amount of footage must be more than 25 minutes (5:1 shooting ratio minimum), but not more than 300 minutes (20:1 shooting ratio). Two rough cut and one fine cut status submissions will be required throughout the quarter. Submissions will include a QuickTime movie compressed to H.264 codec along with AVID Project Folder compressed as .zip file. Students will be prepared to screen an example of their ongoing project work for the class, engage in critique, Q&A, and be able to describe, defend their editing, creative decisions.

### **Project Trailer:**

Every student will submit a trailer, average length of two minutes, designed to demonstrate the subject and technique of their Editing Project(s). The style should emulate that of the editor's voice/visual style, yet may use visual techniques not present in the final film, such as graphics, voice over, music, sound effects.

### **Scene Transcription:**

Choose a scene of 3 to 5 minutes in length, from the "Best Film Editing Sequences" on [filmsite.org](http://filmsite.org). Transcribe that scene, with a description of each shot and non-cut transition. For each shot, detail if you believe that shot is a separate setup or a cut back to a previous setup. We will do an example of a scene transcription during class.

If time permits, you will screen your scene, and walk us through your transcription.

You will receive one grade, based on the accuracy of your transcription. Please provide a copy of the clip for grading purposes, or a copy of the film you chose (on loan), with scene information.

### **Critical Analysis Case Study – Graduate Level:**

Students will choose an edited scene or scenes from an established filmmaker/editor, the style of which is thematically or visually related to what they are doing in their own project(s). They will describe and demonstrate that style for the class, using Power Point or other A/V methodology, and further relate specifically how that style connects to their own project(s). They will engage the class in critique, question & answer. Case study outline will be presented to the instructor for approval prior to presentation.

### **Critical Analysis Case Study - Undergrad Level:**

Students will choose an established film editor for critical analysis and presentation to the class. Since editor styles often vary with the style of the film or filmmaker, connection to the student's ongoing project is not necessary. Students will prepare an oral presentation with Power Point or other A/V methodology, and show and describe two or more clips of the editor's work, which demonstrate an editorial point of view or technique. Students will engage the class in critique, question and answer session. Case study subject will be presented to instructor for approval prior to presentation.

**Midterm and/or Final Exam: TBD** – Demonstration of knowledge, skills in AVID Media Composer, Story Structure, etc.

### **Course Schedule**

The following is a TENTATIVE schedule for the quarter, is subject to revision, and the instructor reserves the right to make such revisions with advance notice.

Any student who remains enrolled in this class accepts and is bound by the terms of this syllabus. Unless otherwise noted, assignments are due the next class after which they are assigned. Late submissions will be assessed a 50% penalty, and in any case, must be submitted.

#### **Week 1 – March 30**

Course Introduction Role of Editor • Assignment: Scene Transcription

Assignment: Transfer Footage for Workshop Project to Computer/Hard Drives; Begin Working on Project

#### **Week 2 - April 6**

DUE: Scene Transcription

LECTURE/DEMO: AVID Script Integration

Examples of Project Trailers

Assignment: Project Trailer

#### **Week 3 - April 13**

DUE: Project Trailer – Screen & Critique

LECTURE: Complete Post-Production Workflow

Assignment: Workshop Project 1st Rough Cut

#### **Week 4 - April 20**

Due: Workshop Project 1st Rough Cuts – Screen & Critique

LECTURE/DEMO: AVID Audio Controls

Assignment: Critical Analysis – Group 1

#### **Week 5 - April 27**

DUE: Critical Analysis Presentation – Group 1

Finish Screening Project: 1st Rough Cuts

LECTURE/DEMO: AVID Multi-Cam

Assignment: Critical Analysis – Group 2

#### **Week 6 - May 4**

DUE: Critical Analysis Presentation – Group 2

LECTURE/DEMO: METAPHOR & STORY STRUCTURE in Cinema

Assignment: Workshop Project: 2nd Rough Cuts

Assignment: Watch Roman Polanski's **Chinatown**

• In short paragraphs, identify and describe three metaphors

#### **Week 7 - May 11**

DUE: Workshop Project: 2nd Rough Cuts – Screen & Critique

DUE: **Chinatown** Metaphor papers

LECTURE/DEMO: **Chinatown** Metaphor Discussion

Assignment: Workshop Project: Fine Cuts

#### **Week 8 - May 18**

Finish Screening Workshop Project: 2nd Rough Cuts

LECTURE/DEMO: Color Correction • Assignment: Continue Workshop Project: Fine Cuts

**Week 9 - May 25**

DUE: Workshop Project: Fine Cuts – Screen & Critique

LECTURE / DEMO: MASTERING, Export to ProTools

Final Exam Review - Questions Provided

**Week 10 - June 1**

Finish Screening & Critiques of Workshop Project: Fine Cuts • Final Exam

**FINAL EXAM DAY: Thursday, June 8, 11:30 AM – 1:45 PM • Note Time Change**

DUE: Upload Final Cuts by Wednesday, June 7th @ 7:00 PM.

***DePaul CDM Important Dates • SPRING 2017***

March 25, 2017	Begin SQ2017 Saturday Day Classes
March 27, 2017	Begin SQ2017 Day & Evening Classes
March 31, 2017	Last day to add (or swap) classes to SQ2017 schedule
April 07, 2017	Last day to drop SQ2017 classes with no penalty (100% tuition refund if applicable and no grade on transcript)
April 07, 2017	Last day to select pass/fail option for SQ2017 classes
April 08, 2017	Grades of “W” assigned for SQ2017 classes dropped on or after this day
April 13, 2017	Last day to select auditor status for SQ2017 classes
April 14-16, 2017	Good Friday – Easter Holiday - University officially closed
April 27, 2017	Begin AQ2017 Registration
May 12, 2017	Last day to withdraw from SQ2017 classes
May 29, 2017	Memorial Day – University officially closed
June 02, 2017	End SQ2017 Day & Evening Classes
June 03, 2017	Begin SQ2017 Day & Evening Final Exams
June 09, 2017	End SQ2017 Day & Evening Final Exams
June 16, 2017	GRADES DUE • SQ 2017

**Changes to Syllabus**

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class or posted under Announcements in D2L, sent via email.

**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 do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in Campus Connect.

**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.

## **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](http://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](mailto:csd@depaul.edu).

Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd. Phone number: (312)362-8002 Fax: (312)362-6544 TTY: (773)325.7296

## **Course Policies as Suggested by the Dean of Students Office**

**Attendance:** 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.

**Class Discussion:** Student participation in class discussions will be measured in two ways. First, students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading assignments. Secondly, students will be called upon by the instructor to offer comments related to the reading assignments. Students must keep up with the reading to participate in class discussion.

**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.

**Civil Discourse:** DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students, both intellectually and personally, to be Socially Responsible Leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such 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 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.