

Course: **POST 309/409 – Editing the Feature Film**
Section: **701 – Fall 2021**
Class Number: 7285
Meeting Time: Thursdays 5:45 PM – 9:00 PM
Location: ON-CAMPUS

Instructor: Brian Mellen
Email: bmellen@cdm.depaul.edu
Office: REMOTE
Office Hours: W 9:00am to 12:00pm - Zoom Meeting by Appt. Only
F 12:00pm to 3:00pm - Zoom Meeting by Appt. Only

POST 309 - Editing the Feature Film

Course Description:

In this course, students will be introduced to the specialized post-production workflow of editing the feature film. Topics will include: understanding the script notes, organizing the project, editing scenes with a focus on performance and character arcs, working with sound effects and music, performing a temp mix, breaking the film into reels, and producing deliverables for the composer, sound editor, and color correction.

Learning Goals:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be expected to:

- Understand and utilize script notes
- Organize a feature-length film
- Compose scenes with a focus on performance and character arcs
- Create a temp sound mix using dialogue, sound effects, and temp music
- Break a film into reels
- Produce deliverables for the composer, sound editor, and color correction
- GRAD STUDENTS: Supervise the final mix and color correction

Prerequisites: POST 200

Software: Adobe Premiere Pro

**Adobe Creative Cloud Licenses Provided by DePaul*

Required Materials/Equipment:

An external hard drive (USB 3.0 or Thunderbolt or better) with a minimum of 150 GB

It is very important that you have your own external hard drive, so that you can save your personal projects and media on it. **Exceptions for missed work due to data loss will not be granted.*

Required Textbooks: **ON FILM EDITING** – Author: DMYTRYK
IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE – Author: MURCH

LinkedIn Learning: Subscription is included with tuition.

Changes to Syllabus:

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter.

Drop Dates:

Tuesday, Sept. 14: Last day to add (or swap) classes 11:59 PM Deadline
Tuesday, Sept. 21: Last day to drop classes with no penalty
Wednesday, Sept. 22: Grades of "W" assigned for classes dropped on or after this day
Tuesday, Oct. 26: Last day to withdraw from class

Course Schedule:

WEEK 1 (Sept. 9th)

Lecture: Setting Up and Organizing Your Project
Assign Project for the Quarter
Read: Bernadette Script (before next class)
Quiz #1 (Due Sept. 16th)
Discussion Post #1: Details posted on D2L. (Due Sept. 16th)

Week 2 (Sept. 16th) – DUE: Editing Exercise 1

Lecture: The Difference Between an Assembly, Rough Cut, Fine Cut
Do: Editing Exercise 1
Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 1 – 4**; Murch, **Pages 1 – 9**
Quiz #2: (Due Sept 23rd)
Discussion Post #2: Details posted on D2L. (Due Sept 23rd)

Week 3 (Sept. 23rd) – DUE: Project (Organized) DUE: Audio synced to Bernadette Scene Footage

Lecture: Character Arcs
Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 5 – 7**; Murch, **Pages 10 – 20**
Quiz #3: (Due Sept. 30th)
Discussion Post #3: Details posted on D2L. (Due Sept. 30th)

Week 4 (Sept. 30th) – DUE: Editing Exercise 2

Do: Editing Exercise 2
Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 8 – 9**; Murch, **Pages 21 – 31**
Quiz #4: (Due Oct. 7th)
Discussion Post #4: Details posted on D2L. (Due Oct. 7th)

Week 5 (Oct. 7th) –

Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 10 – 12**; Murch, **Pages 32 – 42**
Discussion Post #5: Details posted on D2L. (Due Oct. 14th)

Week 6 (Oct. 14th) – DUE: Project (Rough Cut 1)

Do: Exchange Scenes (Footage & Projects)
Screen Project Rough Cut 1
Read: Dmytryk, **Chapters 13 – 14**; Murch, **Pages 46 – 50**
Quiz #5: (Due Oct. 21st)

Week 7 (Oct. 21st) – DUE: Editing Exercise 3

DUE: Project (Rough Cut 2 by Oct. 30th)

Lecture: Breaking a Film into Reels and Delivering Deliverables

Do: Editing Exercise 3

Read: Dmytryk, **Chapter 15**; Murch, **Pages 52 – 63**

Quiz #6: (Due Oct. 28th)

Discussion Post #6: Details posted on D2L. (Due Oct. 28th)

Week 8 (Oct. 28th)

Screen Project Rough Cut 2

Read: Dmytryk, **Chapter 16-17**; Murch, **Pages 64 – 72**

Quiz #7: (Due Nov. 4th)

Week 9 (Nov 4th)

Lecture: Supervising the Final Mix and Color Correction

Workshop: Project

Discussion Post #7: Details posted on D2L. (Due Nov. 11th)

Week 10 (Nov 11th) – DUE: Fine Cut (Fine Cut by 11/11th)

Screen: Bernadette (Official Cut)

Discussion Post #8: Details posted on D2L. (Due Nov. 18th)

Finals Week (Thurs., Nov. 18th) – DUE: Project Deliverables and Editing Paper

Upload Project Deliverables to the Google Drive by 11:59 PM on Thursday, Nov. 18th

Grading:

Project Organization	10%
Project Rough Cut 1	10%
Project Rough Cut 2	10%
Project Fine Cut	20%
Project Deliverables	10%
Editor Analysis Paper	10%
Editing Exercises	10%
Attendance/Participation	10%
Discussion Posts	10%

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** = 60-66
F = 0-59

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

Participation in Discussion Forum: 10% of your total grade (1% per week, 2% for week 9). You must post to receive any credit.

Discussion Forum Rubric (A weekly grade will be given):
100% = 1 posting and 2 replies to other posters per week
75% = 1 posting and 1 reply to other posters per week

50% = 1 posting and 0 replies to other posters per week
0% = 0 posting and 0 replies to other posters per week

LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Precautions:

Keeping our DePaul community safe is of utmost importance in the pandemic. Students, faculty and staff are expected to (1) wear a mask as required at all times while indoors on campus; (2) refrain from eating and drinking in classrooms; (3) keep current with their COVID-19 vaccinations or exemptions; (4) stay home if sick; (5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing; (6) complete the online Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus training; and (7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory. By doing these things, we are Taking Care of DePaul, Together. The recommendations may change as local, state, and federal guidelines evolve. Students who do not abide by the mask requirement may be subject to the student conduct process and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Students who have a medical reason for not complying with any requirements should register with DePaul's Center for Student with Disabilities (CSD).

Electronic Devices:

There is a no tolerance policy on electronic device usage during class. Cell phone/tablet usage and/or internet usage during class will result in 0 attendance points for the day. It is distracting to others around you. You may take notes on a computer using word or text edit (do not browse the internet) but not on a cellphone/tablet.

Cell Phones/On Call:

If you have 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 or mute your computer's microphone in an unobtrusive 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.

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.

Also, eventually all hard drives fail. Make sure you backup your projects at least twice for this class and all future projects. If your hard drive fails and you didn't backup your project, no extensions will be given. No accommodations are typically made in the real world for lack of preparation and in order to prepare you for the job market, no accommodations will be made in this course for lost data.

Deadlines:

Video 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, and Professionalism:

This course demands class participation - attendance is mandatory. Students arriving to class 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. Missing three (3) or more classes will result in a failing grade. Excessive tardiness will also be penalized. If you are sick, have a family emergency, a conflict with work, or any other kind of unforeseen circumstance, please tell me ASAP so that I know what is going on and I can help you out. Addressing these issues weeks after the absence occurred will make it more difficult to help you out and I do want to help wherever I can.

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. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues if issues are ongoing and can't be resolved in class. Also, adhering to the courses cellphone and computer policy is factored into this portion of your grade as well. SEE ABOVE.

Assignments:

You will submit all of your assignments to the appropriate Google Drive folder. The organization of your editing projects is a significant part of your grade. **LATE PROJECTS will not receive credit.**

Quiz:

Periodic quizzes will be given throughout the quarter testing you on important information from lecture and tutorials. These could be given anytime during class and many times happen at the beginning of class. Make sure you come to class on time. If you miss them you forfeit credit.

Editing Exercises:

Editing exercises will be completed during class time. Editing exercises that are turned in on time can be made up and turned in again for more points; however, **all resubmissions must be turned in within two weeks of the due date.** Missed editing exercises can be made up and turned in before the start of the following class. If an editing exercise is missed, it is the responsibility of the student to watch the missed lecture on D2L and turn in their makeup assignment before the start of the following class. For your convenience, all lectures are recorded and saved on D2L.

Editing Analysis Paper:

Students will be required to write a 2-3 page paper comparing and contrasting the classes' cut of Bernadette and the official edit. More information will be given on D2L about this particular assignment as the quarter progresses.

University Policies

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 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.

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.

Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD)
Lewis Center 1420
25 East Jackson Blvd.
Phone number: (312) 362-8002
Fax: (312) 362-6544
TTY: (773) 325-7296