

## **DC 320 Editing II – SECTION 901 / DC 420 Editing – SECTION 901**

Instructor: [Melissa Lawrenz](#)

Quarter: SPRING 2015

W 5:45PM - 9:00PM

CDM 632 Loop Campus

Email: [mlawrenz@cdm.depaul.edu](mailto:mlawrenz@cdm.depaul.edu) or [mlawrenz@gmail.com](mailto:mlawrenz@gmail.com)

Phone: (312) 371-8471

Office hours: W 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 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 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*, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed., Sam Kauffmann & Ashley Kennedy, Focal Press, 2012

Lynda.com – online tutorials

*Avid Agility*, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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*, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**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 25%

Midterm 5%

Final Exam 5%

**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, and short answers 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](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

**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: 3/30**

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*, Ch. 7- *Syncing video to high quality audio*
2. Download media for Project 1 on D2L

### **Week 2: 4/6**

Avid Quiz #1, Post Production Workflow, Assign Project 1, AVID LAB #2- AMA & Transcoding, Syncing Audio with Video, Project Organization

#### **Homework:**

1. **Read Article #1 Anne Coates-** Write up review
2. **Project 1-** Sync, 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

### **Week 3: 4/13**

Avid Quiz #2, Editing Dialogue, AVID LAB #3- Editing Techniques, Keyboard shortcuts, User Profiles & Settings, Basic Editing, The Smart Tool, Titles, Export a QT

#### **Homework:**

1. **Project 1-** Assembly Cut, export QT and upload to D2L
2. **Read Article #2 Music Editors-** Write up review
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 5, 8

### **Week 4: 4/20**

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

#### **Homework:**

1. **Project 1-** Rough Cut: Export QT and upload to D2L
2. Study for Midterm & Avid Quiz

**Week 5: 4/27**

Avid Quiz #4 + MIDTERM Exam, Project 1 Screening for feedback

**Homework:**

1. **Read Article #3 Mark Livolsi-** Write up review
2. **Project 1-** Fine Cut, Upload QT and Avid Project Folder to D2L.
3. **Project 2-** Download media from D2L
4. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 7, 14

**Week 6: 5/4**

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

**Homework:**

1. **Project 2-** Rough Cut, Export QT upload to D2L
2. **Read Article #4 Animation Editors-** Write up review

**Week 7: 5/11**

Avid Quiz #5, Cutting Animation & Docs, Dealing with VFX, AVID LAB #6

**Homework:**

1. **Project 2-** Fine Cut, Export QT upload along with Project Folder to D2L. If you have problems uploading the Avid Project Folder to D2L, email it to [mlawrenz@gmail.com](mailto:mlawrenz@gmail.com)

**Week 8: 5/18**

Review Cuts of Project 2 in class for Feedback, Using Experimental Techniques in Narrative , Prepping for Sound Design & Mix, Finishing & Delivery, AVID LAB #7- Exporting for Sound Design & Online, Set up Project 3

**Homework:**

1. **Read Article #5 Balancing Act-** Write up review
2. **Project 3-** Rough Cut, Export QT upload to D2L
3. Watch Lynda.com- Ch. 11 Basic Color Correction

**Week 9: 6/1**

Working in Post Production, Project 3 Screening for feedback, AVID LAB #8- Color Correction, Archiving an Offline project, Final Project Timeline

**Homework: Project 3- Fine Cut is due at 5:45pm on June 8<sup>th</sup>.** Upload QT and Avid Project Folder to D2L. Late submissions will not be accepted.

**Final Exam:** June 8, 2015 at 5:45pm in CDM 632

## SPRING QUARTER 2015

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>March 28, 2015</b>	<b>Begin Saturday Classes for SQ2015</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>March 30, 2015</b>	<b>Begin SQ2015 Day &amp; Evening Classes</b>
Friday	April 3, 2015	Last day to add classes to SQ2015 schedule
<i>Friday</i>	<i>April 3, 2015</i>	<i>Good Friday – University officially closed</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>April 4, 2015</i>	<i>Easter Holiday – University officially closed</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>April 5, 2015</i>	<i>Easter Holiday – University officially closed</i>
Friday	April 10, 2015	Last day to drop classes with no penalty Last day to select pass/fail option
Saturday	April 11, 2015	Grades of “W” assigned for classes dropped on or after this day
Friday	April 18, 2015	Last day to select auditor status
Saturday	April 25, 2015	Begin optional mid-term exam week
Friday	May 1, 2015	End optional mid-term exam week
Friday	May 15, 2015	Last day to withdraw from SQ2015 classes
<i>Monday</i>	<i>May 25, 2015</i>	<i>Memorial Day – University officially closed</i>
Friday	June 5, 2015	End SQ2015 Day & Evening Classes
Saturday	June 6, 2015	Begin SQ2015 Day & Evening Final Exams
Friday	June 12, 2015	End SQ2015 Day & Evening Final Exams