

Com 317, Fall 2019

Digital Post Production

Instructor: Dr. Brent Simonds
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Reggienet: Course schedule, messages, lecture notes, grades, etc.
Office: Fell 412
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30 pm – 1:45 p.m.
or by appointment

Course Objectives

In-depth investigation of the art and craft of film/video editing utilizing state-of-the-art tools and techniques. Technical mastery of video editing software is expected as well as an enhanced historical, theoretical, and aesthetic understanding of visual storytelling.

By the end of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Edit a music video.
- Edit a documentary.
- Edit a narrative film.
- Exhibit technological competence with state-of-the-art editing software.

Textbooks

Ondaatje, M. (2002). *The Conversations: Walter Murch and the art of editing film*. New York: Random House.*

**Please note that there are five copies of the Ondaatje book on reserve in Milner Library*

Recommended Reading

Murch, W. (2001). *In the Blink of an Eye Revised* (2nd ed.). Los Angeles: Silman-James Press.

Bricca, J. (2018). *Documentary Editing: Principles & Practice*. New York: Routledge.

Course Requirements

Reading Objectives for Discussions

Two reaction/synopsis papers to documentaries shown in class

Midterm exam (written)

Final exam (editing practicum)

Edited Music Video

Edited Documentary

Edited Narrative Film

Grading

Assignment	Points
(2) Written Reaction/Synopsis	2 x 5
(15) Edits in Progress	15x5
(5) Reading Objectives for Discussion	5x10
Edited Music Video	75
Edited Documentary	75
Edited Narrative Film	100
Midterm Exam	50
Final Exam	50
Total	485

Grade	Percentage	Points
A	90-100%	436+
B	80-89%	388+
C	70-79%	339+
D	60-69%	291+
F	59% & below	290 -

Course Policies

1. Regular attendance is expected. Students should have read the assigned material prior to class and be prepared to participate (ask questions, complete lab tasks). Being absent/tardy or failure to actively engage in class activities will negatively affect your grade.
2. Exams must be taken at the scheduled time unless you have contacted me in advance to make other arrangements and have sufficient cause to take the test at another time. Please note that your reading objective scores will be reduced by 50% if are not in class to participate in the discussions.
3. Deadlines must be met unless you have met with me and I have approved a delay. Late assignments will have points deducted equivalent to one letter grade for each day late.
4. For your own protection, please keep digital copies of all assignments you submit to me.
5. Plagiarism (i.e., presenting someone else's work as your own or without proper acknowledgment) or any other type of academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating on an exam) will be considered justification for failure in the course.

Course Schedule

- <http://my.ilstu.edu/~bksimon/com317/>
- You can also access the schedule by following the "Course Schedule" link on the class Reggienet site.

Tentative Schedule of Class Topics & Reading Assignments Fall 2019

Week	Tues	Topic/Readings	Thurs	Lab Activities & Assignments
1	08/20	Introduction, Orientation Introduction p. xi (Ondaatje)	08/22	The Cutting Edge (Film)
2	08/27	The Cutting Edge (cont.)	08/29	Editing Music Videos (FCPX) Synopsis/Reaction #1 due
3	09/03	<i>1st Conversation</i> p. 3 (Ondaatje)	09/05	Start editing "Legs for Days"
4	09/10	<i>2nd Conversation</i> p. 87 (Ondaatje)	09/12	Continue editing "Legs for Days"
5	09/17	<i>3rd Conversation</i> p. 151 (Ondaatje)	09/19	Finish editing "Legs for Days" Turn in edit
6	09/24	<i>4th Conversation</i> p. 210 (Ondaatje)	09/26	Documentary editing (Premiere Pro) Begin editing "Gnarly in Pink"
7	10/01	<i>Last Conversation</i> p. 279 (Ondaatje)	10/03	Midterm Exam Continue editing "Gnarly in Pink"
8	10/08	Continue editing "A Portrait of an Artist"	10/10	Continue editing "Gnarly in Pink"
9	10/15	Continue editing "A Portrait of an Artist"	10/17	Finish editing "Gnarly in Pink" Turn in edit
10	10/22	Side by Side (Film)	10/24	<i>Side by Side (cont.)</i>
11	10/29	Editing Narrative Films (DaVinci Resolve) Begin editing "Anesthesia" Synopsis/Reaction #2 due	10/31	Continue editing "Anesthesia"
12	11/05	Continue editing "Anesthesia"	11/07	Continue editing "Anesthesia"
13	11/12	Continue editing "Anesthesia"	11/14	Continue editing "Anesthesia"
14	11/19	Continue editing "Anesthesia" Work on Sound/Color	11/21	Continue editing "Anesthesia" Work on Sound/Color
15	11/26	Thanksgiving Break	11/28	Thanksgiving Break
16	12/04	Continue editing "Anesthesia" Work on Sound/Color	12/06	Finish editing "Anesthesia" Turn in edit Final Exam Review

Absences due to Student Bereavement: Students who experience the death of an immediate family member or relative as defined in the University Student Bereavement Policy will be excused from class for funeral leave, subsequent bereavement, and/or travel considerations. Students are responsible for providing appropriate documentation to the Dean of Students office and for contacting the instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements for completing missed work. More information is available in the Student Bereavement Policy at <http://policy.illinoisstate.edu/students/2-1-27.shtml>

Research Participation - Extra Credit: There will be a few extra credit opportunities for research participation. The extra credit points will be added to your final grade, and may not necessarily appear in the gradebook immediately upon your completion of the opportunity. There are no guarantees for extra credit, and it is each student's responsibility to be aware of and take advantage of such opportunities. You may receive extra credit for participating in any of the studies posted to the School of Communication's Research Announcement Board. The Research Announcement Board is updated as research studies are opened/closed, and it is your responsibility to access the Board and be aware of available opportunities. The Research Announcement Board can be accessed via: <https://sites.google.com/site/ilstusocstudies>

In general, each 30 minutes of participation in an extra credit study will earn you .5 Research Credits, but please see the call for participants for the Research Credits associated with each study. For example, if you participate in a research study worth .5 Research Credit, your participation would provide 5 points to your final grade. Each project listed on the Research Announcement Board will indicate the specific number of Research Credits associated with the project. You can only receive five extra points once for Com 317.

I will get evidence of participation and the time of participation from the researcher(s) who administer the research studies at the conclusion of the semester; however, it is your responsibility to make sure that the researchers have the necessary evidence of your participation at the time of the study. Before participating in a study, please be sure to have your name, ULID (i.e., the part of your email before @ilstu.edu), instructor name, and course and section number ready, as you will need to provide these to receive credit. Research Credit can only be applied to one course for each study, unless specified otherwise on the Research Announcement Board. After the final exam, there will be no further opportunities for extra credit or to otherwise improve your grade.

Non-Research Extra Credit Opportunities (Instructor Determined): There may be some studies for which you are not eligible (e.g., recruiting based on gender or family structure) or in which you do not wish to take part. Reasonable alternatives are available for those not able or wanting to take part in specific studies, to ensure equitable non-research based opportunities. Throughout the semester, the instructor will announce non-research opportunities for extra credit, which may include attending a colloquium, reading a recent article or research paper, or attending an on-campus event and writing a summary of the connection of the event to course content. The instructor will make these opportunities and specific details available as they arise.

Special Needs: Any student needing to arrange a reasonable accommodation for a documented disability and/or medical/mental health condition should contact Student Access and Accommodation Services at 350 Fell Hall, (309) 438-5853, or visit the website: www.StudentAccess.IllinoisState.edu

Mental Health Resources: Life at college can get very complicated. Students sometimes feel overwhelmed, lost, experience anxiety or depression, struggle with relationship difficulties or diminished self-esteem. However, many of these issues can be effectively addressed with a little help. Student Counseling Services (SCS) helps students cope with difficult emotions and life stressors. Student Counseling Services is staffed by experienced, professional psychologists and counselors, who are attuned to the needs of college students. The services are FREE and completely confidential. Find out more at Counseling.IllinoisState.edu or by calling (309) 438-3655.