

MCMA 497, Section 201: Editing in Final Cut Pro X FALL 2015 - SYLLABUS

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Class Share: nmclab.siu.edu (username: mcma497stoffel, password: fcp)

Lectures: COMM 9A (NMC), Wednesday, 12:00-2:50pm

Course Description: MCMA 497 is a hands-on introductory course into the essence of Apple's editing software FCPX. The course is designed for students who need more than just basic operational knowledge of Final Cut Pro for future media production curricula. No previous knowledge of the application is required, but basic familiarity with Macintosh computers is expected.

Course Objectives:

1. You will learn how to use and to navigate within the FCP interface
2. You will become familiar with fundamental and essential video theory and terminology
3. You will master nearly all video and sound editing functions available in FCPX, enabling you to optimize your creative potential

Learning Methods:

Each class will build on the previous class, so it is highly recommended that you not miss any lecture. Each week's session will typically be divided into two parts: First there will be a lecture portion, featuring the introduction, explanation and demonstration of editing techniques (for details see "Course Structure" below). In the hands-on, second half of the session you will practice these newly acquired techniques in a series of exercises. All necessary media files will be provided for you. You are expected to complete these exercises for a short review during the following lecture. NOTE: Use FCPX as much as you can; play with it, experiment, try to find your own solutions for complex visual sequences. Only then will you become truly fluent with the application.

MCMA 497 Course Structure:

WEEK 1 (August 26th)

Course Introduction
Introduction of the FCPX Interface
Defining “Events” and “Projects”
Importing files
Append edit to the primary storyline
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 3 (September 9th)

Working with the Inspector
Video Terminology / Video Basics
Optimization and Analysis of media
Working with still images
Metadata and keywords
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 5 (September 23rd)

Filters & effects: Applying, viewing, modifying,
and copying filter parameters
Creating titles & credit rolls,
Creating mattes & masks
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 7 (October 7th)

FCPX preferences
Exporting and Sharing using the FCP interface
Understanding Codecs
Exporting using Compressor
FINAL PROJECT
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK

WEEK 2 (September 2nd)

Quiz #1
3 more edit types: Connect, Insert, Overwrite
Selecting, moving, trimming
Introducing additional editing tools and techniques:
Ripple, roll, slip, slide
Applying transitions: Cuts, dissolves, wipes
Working with the “Precision Editor”
Expand audio-video, Separate audio-video, for “split edits”
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 4 (September 16th)

Quiz #2
Importing from a camera / Capturing from tape
Audio in FCPX: Importing, modifying
Speed / variable speed
Color Correction / Video scopes
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 6 (September 30th)

Quiz #3
Creating Compound Clips
Key Framing for motion path, effects, and filters
Advanced compositing
Keying
ESSENTIAL SHORTCUTS OF THE WEEK
EXERCISES

WEEK 8 (October 14th)

Quiz #4 – Final Project Due

Equipment requirement: external hard drive (USB, FW, or Thunderbolt) to store class projects

Grading:

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C,
60-69 = D, 59 and below = F

Point Structure

4 Quizzes (15 pts/ea.)	60 points
1 Final Project	30 points
Attendance / Participation	10 points

Grading Details:

Tests: 60 Points

There will be four tests (each one worth 15 points), true/false and multiple choice, covering editing techniques, fundamental video terminology, and keyboard shortcuts, all as discussed during lecture. These tests will be conducted electronically via D2L (online.siu.edu).

Final Project: 30 Points

You are expected to recreate a complex editing sequence that was assembled using a wide variety of advanced video and audio editing techniques – all of which will be covered in class. Your grade will be based on how closely your own version resembles the original. All raw footage will be provided along with the “master” sequence.

Exercises: 10 Points

..... for posting your finished exercise to the class share after each lecture.

Misc:

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism and cheating will result in penalties ranging from an “F” on an assignment to expulsion from class or the University. Please see the University’s guidelines for further information on this matter.

Emergency Procedures

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency. Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

NOTE: THE SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING THE SEMESTER. CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND POSTED ON BLACKBOARD.