

**Topic of Lesson:** Basic Editing Skills

**Week/Day:** 1 Week (2 days lecture - 3 days hands-on)

**Lesson Title:** How do we edit? (Final Cut Pro)

**Common Core Standard:**

- Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

- Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

**Supplies Needed:** Raw video shot, on SD or tape, Mac Computer with Final Cut Pro, Final Cut Pro for Dummies (a great resource).

**Time of Lesson:** 1 week

**Brief one-paragraph description of the session:** Students will learn the basics of editing a video. This lesson is about learning the editing tools; what they do and how to apply them. Students will create an edited 30 second video from their "How to shoot" lesson.

**Detailed, step-by step lesson plan:** Teacher will walk the students through the process of editing by projecting final cut pro's interface on the smartboard. Students will be seated at their computers in groups of 3. Students will follow along as teacher demonstrates. Some discussions will occur as the lesson progresses.

**Discussion:** Why do we edit? (20 minutes)

- To control pace
- To communicate
- To create emotion
- To add effects
- To cut to time (length)
- To create graphics
- To add music
- To add voice over
- To add text
- To create a story with many clips

- 1) Open Final Cut Pro (Adobe Premiere, iMovie very similar). I use final cut pro in my classroom. Before starting to edit you might want to have students view their video from the camera so each student has a sense of what they have shot. Example of badly edited video: Why is it bad? What makes a good edit? A good edited video flows. One does not notice that there are edits.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ItASqc5cEpA> (Bad Edited Video)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sSwhk33CRk> (Good Edited Video)

- 2) Explain the FCP interface:

Menu Bar - Scroll across showing the different commands and how each command has a shortcut.

Browser - where media lives

Viewer - where you edit clips - your video painting..

Canvas - your edited sequence

Timeline - sequence you are editing

Toolbar - where your tools live (explain each basic tool and what it

Audio Level - a visual view of your audio levels in your sequence.

- 3) Open your editing software and create a new project. Capture your video footage. In order to do this, you'll need to have some way of connecting your video camera to your computer (your editing station) and record or transfer the video footage from the camera to your hard drive. There are numerous types of connections and file formats (SD cards, mini DV tape).
- 4) Your project can be made up of one sequence or many sequence. A sequence can be one clip or many clips. You might want to have you "long" project that has many acts be divided into sequence. Act 1, might be one sequence and Act 2 another sequence. For short form projects you would have one sequence.
- 5) There are many way of starting to "cut" - the quick way of doing of fast cut is to place all your video and audio into the TIMELINE - the timeline is separated by video and audio tracks. There are multiple tracks, meaning you can layer your sequence. (Show how you can do that on the smartboard).
- 6) You can use the razor from the tool bar to start cutting your video on the timeline. Hightlight what you want to delete with your "pointer" tool and press delete. You are slowly shortening your video.
- 7) The length of your video is read in timecode. The size of standard digital video and/or clip will be either 640x480 or 720x480 (aspect ratio) at 29.97 (we round up to 30) frames per second. Hight Definition or HD 1080X720 lines (same frames per second). The little squares are called PIXELS - the more pixels in a FRAME, the better the quality of the video.  
A one minute video would how many frames? (ask the students to figure this out! Answer:  $60 \times 30 = ??$ )

- 8) As you are "cutting" your sequence, you can view it in the CANVAS. Once you have cut your video whereby you have a story and it is the right length, you can add music, transitions, graphics, etc. When adding effects, Pay attention the the audio levels - you do not want to exceed. Teacher does a show and tell on the smartboard.
- 9) It is now time to EXPORT your video. You can export your video directly to your jump drive. You export your file by going to the menu bar and scrolling down to FILE to EXPORT and then scrolling down to USING QUICKTIME CONVERSION. You name it and tell it to save to you jump drive or desktop. Your video will now start to convert. The conversion is fast - make time!
- 10) You now have your final edited video!

**Rubric:**

Story (does the edited video flow or is it too choppy, does it feel like it is edited - can you tell there are edits - an edited story should feel like it was one long camera shot) - 20 pts

Use of transitions (too many? do they work with the story?) - 10 pts

Audio levels (are they consistent from clip to clip) - 10 pts