

# Course Description For Video Production

**Major Concepts/Content:** The Introduction to Video Communications course is designed to provide students in grades 7 through 8 with exploratory and investigative activities dealing with camera functions, filming techniques, composition, non-linear/linear editing, and computer animation/graphics. Through a hands-on approach students will learn the entire process of video/television production from initial filming to final editing.

**Major Instructional Activities:** Students will work in a cooperative environment with their classmates in order to produce video projects, which demonstrate understanding of the fundamentals of video communication. Students will explore career opportunities in the video/television career field and will also complete projects dealing with computer animation and graphics.

**Major Evaluative Techniques:** Video, computer graphics, and animation projects will be evaluated for completeness, neatness, and application of video communication concepts. Students will be required to evaluate their work and recommend ideas for increasing the communication value of their work. Complete individual participation in group projects is a requirement for success in this course.

**Essential Objectives:** Upon completion of the video communications course, students should be able to

- Explore the historical context and evaluate current careers in the field of video communications.
- Complete video communication projects that demonstrate an understanding of the materials and equipment used in video communication.
- Apply the principals of filming, composition, non-linear/linear editing and computer graphics in order to effectively communicate using the video medium.

Students will work in groups with each contributing equally to the finished project. While not all work will be the same, each will have a component to complete that when added to the whole will result in a completed video.

Class will begin with an over view of what video truly is, camera usage, tripod usage, camera shots, effects, and transitions. We will examine good video and bad video and compare the differences. Each video shot will be critiqued by all students. Critiquing will be done ONLY in a positive manner, any one making rude comments about others work will be reprimanded and not allowed to continue in the critique.

The first production the students will attempt is a 20 to 30 second video. The video should carry a constructive, positive, or self help theme. No one will be allowed to talk during the video, no dialog at all. The intent of this is to reinforce to the children that the image must carry the day, not the commentary.

The second project will include dialog. This video will run no more than 45 to 60 seconds, and again must carry a constructive, positive, or self help theme.

For the third project (time allowing), the group will undertake a large project involving multiple cameras. These types of projects typically take several weeks to complete and involve much writing of the dialog. A result of these long projects is that all students MUST cooperate fully, not only with the teacher, but with each other.

## Late Work

Late work will be accepted for one (1) week past the due date. Work will lose 10 points per day for each day late. Students should make every effort to turn work in on time, however if a situation is presented where by the student needs additional time, they should avail themselves of their Seminar for the extra help and the time to work on the assignment.

## Video Grading Policy Per nine week period.

- 1) **Participation and Cooperation 10% of total grade:** This grade is taken weekly and will reflect the child's cooperation and contribution to the group.
- 2) **Storyboard 18% of total grade:** The storyboard is the heart and director of all videos. This will be graded 4 times. Once for the original idea, once for the introductory portion of the story, once for story presentation, and once for conclusion.
- 3) **Videography 18% of total grade:** This grade will represent how well the child follows set rules for scene development, camera position, subject position, lighting concerns, shot selection. Each child will have to run the camera and be an "actor". There will be 3 videography grades taken
- 4) **Editing 18% of total grade:** The proper editing of video is where the "magic" occurs. Children will be graded on how well they are able to edit the scenes down into manageable lengths, while selecting the order of scenes to provide a smooth flow. There will be 3 editing grades taken
- 5) **Effects 18% of total grade:** The children will be grade on how well they select and implement effects to enhance their video. Effects should only be used to enhance the video, not just because it is a cool effect. There will be 3 effects grades taken.
- 6) **Transitions 18% of total grade:** The transitions are taking the viewer from one scene into another smoothly. Sometime none are the best, while at other times something is needed. The transition might be used to show the passage of time, or blended with an effect to create a magical quality. There will be 3 transition grades taken.

## **Classroom Management**

All classroom situations run best if there are clearly defined rules, expectations, and consequences. The students have been actively engaged in defining the rules they believe their particular class setting should be run by.

Parent involvement is critical to student success and as such has been incorporated into the management plan fully. The rules and consequences are in compliance with stated school rules on pages 15 to 32 of the handbook.

1. First Offense;      Student will be corrected by the teacher
2. Second Offense:    Student will be counseled by teacher
3. Third Offense;      Student will be reprimanded by the teacher and may have their seat changed. Parent contacted by Email, Phone Call, Note in Agenda Book.
4. Fourth Offense:    Student will be assigned a lunch detention, and parent again contacted by Email, Phone Call, Note in Agenda Book
5. Fifth Offense:      Student will be referred to the principal's office.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Video Production Classroom Rules**

1. Do Not Interrupt others
2. Provide only constructive criticism
3. Do not abuse video out of class privileges
4. Be prepared for class