

HELP! For Movie Projects.....From the Tech Lab X2095

So...you are creating a movie and you've only ever been in front of the camera or on the couch watching finished products. You've never thought about shooting footage, editing it, and burning it to a CD or DVD! Here are a few guidelines to help you enjoy creating your project. ☺

1. **Get started LONG before you think you need to.** Most students are surprised at the time they end up putting into their first few projects.

2. **Think through your project & plan your time.** Answer questions like:

- How do you want to show your project when its complete & what format will you want?
 - Will you need a CD for viewing on computer, a DVD for DVD players & some computers, or a VHS tape for a VCR?
 - If it is an assignment that will be viewed by your professor on her/his computer, you most likely will want a compressed version on a CD. The Tech Lab Assistants can help with this.
 - If your project will be viewed by an 'audience', what equipment will you have access to? Go to that room & see that what you need is there. The equipment will determine what format you create.
- How long does your project need to be and what footage will be most effective?
- Editing is fun and students usually spend more time than they planned.
- Burning to CD or DVD takes about 3 min, per finished minute, so plan that time also.

3. **Check out a Digital Video Camera** from the Media Services Desk.

- Cameras are loaned, with an ID, for 3 days only & cannot be reserved. There are 4 cameras for loan at this time.
- You will need to purchase a Mini DV Tape. These are available at Media Services for \$6, or you can purchase one at the Bookstore or other off campus stores

4. When you have completed shooting footage, **come to the Tech Lab**, located on the 2nd floor of Van Wylen Library, next to the Media Services Desk, **to edit your project in 'iMovie'** on the Apple computers.

**** We suggest you Reserve a time in the Tech Lab during the last 3-4 weeks of the semester when the lab is very busy with a number of projects & there are just 2 Apple computers**

6. **Transfer** your Digital Video into "iMovie" on the Mac computers:

- Connect the 4 to 6 pin Firewire cable from the front of the digital video camera to the Firewire port on the Mac
- Turn the camera power switch to the **play position**
- On the Mac, open iMovie - the icon is in the bottom middle of the screen
- After iMovie opens, select **File->New Project**
- **VERY IMPORTANT – Name your project.** In left column of the new window, select **Desktop** and type a name for your project, **using the following format: "jsmithCivilRights"** (The first initial of your first name, followed by your last name & a topic)
- Move the slider near the bottom-left from the scissors to the camera position. The display should turn blue and display the words "Camera Connected."
- Make sure the camera is on and set to the spot where you want to begin importing your video. Select the **Import** button. The video should begin importing. When you are finished importing, press the **Import** button again to stop importing.

☺ **You are now ready to begin the fun of editing your movie project.**

7. BEFORE you leave each editing session, **have the Tech Lab Assistant secure/save your project on our Movie storage drives.** This MUST be completed by Tech Lab staff and will ensure that your project is secure and cannot be accessed by others accidentally.