

Digital Videography 1

Course Schedule and Overview

Welcome to Digital Videography 1! This is an exciting new course from IPS that is designed to help you use your Digital SLR camera to make fantastic videos. This 8-week class is weighted with more lectures in the early weeks and more homework during the latter weeks. You are welcome to watch any of the videos at any time during the class. Feel free to skip ahead or review a video as many times as you like!

Many of the videos in this curriculum are also used in our Digital Photography 1 and Digital Photography 2 curricula. Concepts like filling the frame, rule of thirds, direction of light, and exposure are integral to both photography and videography. If you have already participated in a DP1 or DP2 class, these videos will simply be review.

Students wishing to receive a grade for their participation in this class [Full Version] must submit a summary paragraph of each lecture contained in the curriculum, even if you have already seen this lecture during previous classes. These paragraphs should be included in a single document per week and saved as a PDF file before emailing to your instructor.

All assignments will receive comments from your instructor. Each week throughout the class, this review will be conducted live via online chat. You will receive an email from Google Calendar, sent on behalf of IPS, to attend each of these critique sessions. All critique sessions will be recorded, so if you are unable to attend, you will be able to watch these sessions later. (Students wishing to receive grades and a transcript for this class [Full Version] will need to submit a summary paragraph for the recorded critique session if they do not participate in person.) Full Version students will also receive a numeric grade associated with their assignments each week.

Week 1

Lectures

1. Camera Settings for Videography
2. Camera Technique for Videography
3. Import and Export | Adobe Photoshop Lightroom
4. Library Module | Adobe Photoshop Lightroom
5. Centering the Needle | Exposure
6. Filling the Frame | Composition

Assignment 1

1. Upload a 10-second clip of a person walking down the street either toward or away from the camera. Pull focus throughout your shot to keep them sharp. Do not use a wide angle lens.
Full Edition This part of the assignment is worth 10 points. You will be graded on how well you pull focus without shaking the camera.
2. Upload a 10-second clip of a person walking parallel to the camera. Pan throughout your shot to keep them in the same position relative to the frame.
Full Edition This part of the assignment is worth 10 points. You will be graded on how smoothly you pan and how well you follow your subject.

Parameters:

- Use the [Neutral] Picture Style or Picture Control
- Set a [Custom White Balance]
- [1920x1080 @ 30fps] (29.97)
- Rename your files like so: [initials-assignment-clip##.mov] (eg. rdg-assignment1-clip01.mov)

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week's tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you've never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Frame rate
 - b. Audio levels
 - c. Resolution
 - d. Picture styles
 - e. File size limit
 - f. Sensor overheating
 - g. Manual focus
 - h. Digital zoom (focus assist)
 - i. Pulling Focus
 - j. Histogram

- k. Variable neutral density filter
 - l. Tripod leveling
 - m. Panning
 - n. Take announcing
2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Week 2

Lectures

1. Camera Angles | Composition
2. Color of Light | Lighting
3. Direction of Light | Lighting
4. Quality of Light | Lighting
5. Rule of Thirds | Composition

Assignment 2

Upload 9, 10-second clips of a person eating a bowl of cereal, one clip for each of the following angles of view. (Hint: make your angles and lenses obvious!)

1. Wide angle from above
2. Wide angle from eye level
3. Wide angle from below
4. Normal from above
5. Normal from eye level
6. Normal from below
7. Telephoto from above
8. Telephoto from eye level
9. Telephoto from below

Full Edition This assignment is worth 20 points. You will be graded on whether you clearly achieved all the required angles.

Parameters:

- Use the [Neutral] Picture Style or Picture Control
- Set a [Custom White Balance]
- [1920x1080 @ 30fps] (29.97)
- Rename your files like so: [initials-assignment-clip##.mov] (eg. rdg-assignment2-clip01.mov)

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week's tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you've never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Lens selection
 - b. Camera angles
 - c. Shot sizes
 - d. Compositional depth
2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Week 3

Lectures

1. Video Interview Technique
2. Lighting the Face | Lighting
3. Mastering Your Aperture | Exposure
4. Understanding ISO | Exposure
5. Reading Your Histogram | Exposure

Assignment 3

Interview Technique: Film a 5-minute interview with someone

- Use good lighting, go for short or rembrandt
- Find a non-distracting background
- Work hard for clear audio. Use an external mic if you can. Make sure your background is quiet!
- Do claps and takes at the beginning of your shots
- Have your person look to the side (at you, not the camera)
- Practice asking them leading questions
- Don't do multiple takes, just keep the camera rolling between questions

Full Edition This assignment is worth 25 points. You will be graded based on your lighting, background, sharpness, clap and take call, and ability to ask leading questions.

Parameters:

- Use the [Neutral] Picture Style or Picture Control
- Set a [Custom White Balance]
- [1920x1080 @ 30fps] (29.97)
- Rename your files like so: [initials-assignment-clip###.mov] (eg. rdg-assignment3-clip01.mov)

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week's tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you've never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Interview lighting
 - b. Interview backgrounds
 - c. Interview audio
 - d. Where to look
 - e. Interview questions
2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Week 4

Lectures

1. File Management and Project Settings
2. Using Timeline Tools | Adobe Premiere Elements
3. Exporting Your Completed Video | Adobe Premiere Elements
4. Save Time with Smart Collections | Adobe Photoshop Lightroom

Assignment 4

1. Replicate the project that Rowan did in the Using Timeline Tools video. You don't have to use the exact timing that he did, but all of the major elements need to be there. Upload your completed, exported video and your work file (.prel) when finished.

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 20 points. You will be graded on your transitions, intro/outro slide, and audio sync.

2. Put all 9 of your clips from Assignment 2 (camera angles) together into a single video. Use each of these four types of transitions at least once. Upload your completed, exported video, your 9 source videos, and your work file (.prel) when finished.
 - a. Cut
 - b. Cross fade (one video into another video)
 - c. Fade through black
 - d. Fade through white

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 20 points. You will be graded on using all 4 transitions smoothly.

Parameters:

- Use the [Neutral] Picture Style or Picture Control
- Set a [Custom White Balance]
- [1920x1080 @ 30fps] (29.97)
- Rename your files like so: [initials-assignment-clip###.mov] (eg. rdg-assignment4-clip01.mov)

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week's tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you've never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Video management [Lightroom]
 - b. Smart collections [Lightroom]
 - c. Video editing in [Lightroom]
 - d. Exporting video [Lightroom]

- e. Exporting video [Premiere Elements]
 - f. Project settings [Premiere Elements]
 - g. Scratch disks
 - h. Timeline [Premiere Elements]
 - i. Clip transitions
 - j. Editing basics
 - k. YouTube settings
 - l. Vimeo settings
 - m. DVD authoring
 - n. Video file formats
2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Week 5

Lectures

1. Tweaking Your Video | Adobe Premiere Elements
2. Understanding the Develop Module | Adobe Photoshop Lightroom
3. Perfecting Exposure | Adobe Photoshop Lightroom

Assignment 5

1. Color grade each of the 4 sample clips provided to you (located on the tutorial video page), aiming for “really good looking reality.” Export them all in a single clip using export settings for Vimeo learned in Exporting Your Completed Video.

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 20 points. You will be graded on how well you improve each clip without overdoing them.

2. Capture a 10-second clip of a person walking out of a door from the inside (in indoor (tungsten or fluorescent light) and another 10-second clip of the same person coming out of the same door from the outside (in natural, outdoor daylight). Cut or fade them together in Premiere Elements, color grading them to match as closely as possible.

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 35 points. You will be graded on the quality of your footage, your transition between clips, and how well you match the colors.

Parameters:

- Use the [Neutral] Picture Style or Picture Control
- Set a [Custom White Balance] for each shot
- [1920x1080 @ 30fps] (29.97)
- Export your finished project using the export settings from Exporting Your Completed Video
- Rename your files like so: [initials-assignment-clip###.mov] (eg. rdg-assignment5-clip01.mov)
- Upload your completed, exported video, your work file (.prel), and the 2 original clips when finished.

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week’s tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you’ve never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Video effects [Premiere Elements]
 - b. Color correction (color grading) [Premiere Elements]
 - c. Color correction [Lightroom]
 - d. 3-way color corrector [Premiere Elements]

- e. Sharpening [Premiere Elements]
- 2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Week 6

Lectures

1. Don't Use Your Camera's Audio! | Audio
2. Mixing and Mastering Audio | Adobe Premiere Elements

Assignment 6

1. Take the 4 media clips provided (via download in the Don't Use Your Camera's Audio! video description) and synchronize the audio to the video. Put the two takes together into one completed video.
 - a. Use either a cut or a fade to transition between the two clips
 - b. Create and add a "Sample Video" graphic as an into and outro screen using fades
 - c. Upload your completed, exported video and your work file (.prel) when finished.

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 15 points. You will be graded on how well you synchronize the audio and the smoothness of your fades.

2. Complete the project in the Mixing and Mastering Audio video.
 - a. Use the interview shot as your A-roll through the film
 - b. Add 3 B-roll clips
 - c. Clarify spoken audio by reducing volume when the man isn't speaking
 - d. Add soundtrack, balancing with A-roll
 - e. Upload your completed, exported video and your work file (.prel) when finished, no need to send the source files.

Full Edition This portion of the assignment is worth 25 points. You will be graded on your clip transitions, how well you highlight the A-roll audio, and how well you integrate an appropriate soundtrack.

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Continue studying 3 of the key areas that were discussed in this week's tutorials. We recommend that you focus on the areas that are the most new/different/strange to you... the stuff you've never heard of before. Turn in your research by emailing a PDF containing a summary paragraph of each area that you look into and links to the online resources that were the most helpful to you.
 - a. Audio bit depth and sample rate
 - b. Audio recorders
 - c. Microphones
 - d. Recording audio
 - e. Syncing audio and video
 - f. Using smart mix
 - g. Audio mixing

- h. EQ settings
- 2. Email a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of each IPS tutorial video you watched this week.

Weeks 7&8

Lectures

Don't Lose Your Stuff | File Management

Assignment 7 – Final Project

Produce a short “How-To” video from start to finish. Be sure to include all of the important steps so that someone following your lead could duplicate your process. Here are some ideas of possible topics:

- Making chocolate chip cookies
- Building a lego castle
- Brewing a cup of coffee
- Washing a car
- Assembling Ikea furniture

Full Edition Your Final Project is worth 100 points. You will be graded on the quality of your video footage, the quality of your audio, the flow of your message, your transitions, your intro and outro screens, your soundtrack, and your final export quality.

Parameters:

- Must contain A-roll (a person talking to the camera or interviewer)
- Must contain B-roll (interesting footage that helps tell the story but isn't of someone talking)
- Soundtrack
- Minimum length 5 minutes, maximum length 10 minutes
- Intro screen (graphic with text, create in Photoshop or in Premiere)
- Outro screen (graphic with text)
- Cuts and fades only for transitions
- Your final product should be a .mov file in Quicktime format, 1280x720p, at either 24fps or 30fps.
- Be creative!
- Upload your completed project only, no work file or source files. You will be critiqued on the final presentation only.

Full Edition Additional Assignment

1. Write out your solution for managing and backing up your important information. Submit this as a PDF file via email to your instructor.
2. Email your instructor a PDF containing a 1 paragraph written summary of Don't Lose Your Stuff.