N W S A

**NEW WORLD SCHOOL
OF THE ARTS**

TPA 4352 Digital Design for Theatre and Dance
3 Credits T/R 11:30am-1:00pm
Instructor: Jeffrey Lloyd Smith
Room: 5206
jsmith12@mdc.edu
Office hours: M-F
(By Appointment)

8am-3:45pm

Course Description:

In this course you will learn how to create short form movement-based films in documentation, documentary, narrative, and conceptual styles. Your film projects will be supported by daily hands-on activities including framing subjects, creating scenes, filming shot types and camera angles, performing camera movement, and editing. The course is designed progressively so that every skill leads to the next. After each exercise is completed, you will build on that foundational skill in the next.

Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

- Produce well-composed moving images.
- Demonstrate skill filming subjects in every scale and angle, eliminating the idea of movement as being frontal.
- Perform steady and well-planned camera movement.
- Edit footage in a way that supports the trajectory of the film.
- Choose and sync appropriate sound elements with your film.
- Combine learned skills and sensibilities to create material that could be used for online promotions, performance trailers, short-form teaser documentaries, and dance films.

Procedure:

- Camera experiments and exercises followed by field activities.
- Discussions of movement-based films as supporting material.
- Partnered activities for feedback and workshopping.
- Editing exercises in iMovie.

Discrimination and Harassment Grievance Process:

For students who do not feel comfortable reporting concerns of racial discrimination to NWSA faculty, Dean Burns, Leslie Wilson, or the college counselor, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity/ADA/Title IX. The contact person is Dr. Joy Ruff, Director, OEOP/ADA/Title IX Coordinator: jruff@mdc.edu 305-237-0269. For more information about reporting any form of harassment or discrimination please visit: https://www.mdc.edu/rightsandresponsibilities/ and select Discrimination and Harassment Grievance Process.

What you can expect from me:

1. Receptivity to your speed of learning.
2. Clarification of content.
3. One on one feedback and work time before every assignment is due.
4. Availability and communication.

Grades and Attendance:

Grading is based on a point system adding up to a possible 50 points. Starred assignments work on a checkmark basis and you will get full points upon completion whereas the others are graded according to the rubrics.

1. Phrase Editing Linear 10
2. Phrase Editing Montage 10
3. Cinedance 10
4. Checkmarks 10
5. Final Project10

Maintaining a supportive learning community depends on everyone's participation. Screenings of your work will happen with almost every assignment so late work or makeup must be turned in no later than the day before following class period. Contributing to class viewings creates a sense of support and inclusion.

93-100%	A:	Exceeding expectations in terms of effort, class participation, quality of work, and attitude.
90-92.99%	A-	

87-89.99%	B+	
83-86.99%	B: Meeting course requirements with above average effort, class participation, quality of work, and attitude.	
80-82.99%	B-	
77-79.99%	C+	
73-76.99%	C: Successfully completing course requirements with moderate effort, class participation, quality of work, and attitude.	
70-72.99%	C-	
67-69.99%	D+	
63-66.00%	D: Insufficient attention to course standards and requirements, but passing.	
60-62.99%	D-	
<60%	F: Unacceptable on all levels and not eligible for credit.	

Readings:

- *Making Video Dance* by Katrina McPherson
- *Filmdance…* article by Amy Greenfield
- *The Limitations of "Cinedance"* article by Roger Copeland
- *Design Basics* by David A. Lauer and Stephen Pentak

Mandatory Materials:

- Notebook for notes and journaling. Blank AND Lined Paper.
- You must bring all handouts to every class.
- Headphones for editing.
- Phone with available storage.

Please contact me if you need to borrow any of the listed items.

Digital Design Second Semester Itinerary and assignments:

Editing:

- Importing clips onto desktop computer, titling, creating libraries and projects in iMovie.

- Learning dance-on-camera editing techniques…primarily cutting on action and transferring energy.

- Linear and Montage Phrase editing assignment using final footage from last semester (Graded Projects 20 points).

Conceptual Development of Individual Film Projects and Cinedance Assignment:

- Storyboarding (location, subject, movement, costumes, sound, etc.).

- Planning shot lists.

- Filming and Editing Cinedance Projects (Graded Project 10 points).

Final Project of the Year:

- Class will vote on second Cinedance, dance reels, or group project. It is designed to serve your goals, and it doesn't have to be unanimous. There can be different projects going on simultaneously (Graded Project 10 points).

The remaining 10 points will be for checkmark assignments and exercises. This semester it is paramount that you attend class sessions or makeup material with other students as we will be learning hands-on skills in the lab. Like last semester, I will communicate lab days and project days. You will need the computers in the lab often this semester.

Important policy and contact information for student well-being and safety:

College Counselor: Alex Zucarro azuccaro@mdc.edu office: 305-237-7379

Leslie Wilson, Director of Student Services Office: 305-237-3472

Note: Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking, reliable data, and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular viewpoint, or belief.