

Training for SSV Summer Period-Documentary Filmmaking (3 Weeks)

Training on Vixia and FCP X

possibility of revising/finalizing treatment at beginning of week 1

Friday May 9: Sojourn Day

Assignment #1

Take as many photos with your smart device of each one. Pick one and make a showcase:

Why did you pick one over the other four?

give us something that really captures nature

give us something that really captures a person

give us something that really captures an action

give us something that really captures the river

In journal, reflect on that process, and make 2 lists, of potential places to go back to for shots (shot list) and people who would be potential interviews (interview list).

- Journal, upload and reflections to blog.
- Take photos with smart phone or ipad.
- Using a vixia camera take video shots that can be used in doc.
- Scout out potential interviews.
- Generate shot list.
- Film footage with GoPro cameras.

Saturday May 10: Sojourn Day

Assignment #2

- Journal and upload reflections to blog.
- Take photos with smart phone or ipad.
- Using a vixia camera take video shots that can be used in doc.
- Scout out potential interviews.
- Generate shot list.
- Film aerial footage with Drone.

Week 1:

The goal of week one is to complete exercises on storyboard construction and short documentary analysis. Students should have a grasp of the vocabulary of video, a sense of how other filmmakers have used video techniques to communicate with an audience, and a sense of how storyboards are constructed by the close of week 1. Treatment is finished.

Monday May 12

AM

- Review Photos/Video/Journals from Sojourn. Monday May 12, morning--four pictures for each to talk about.
- Bri introduces vocabulary of film (why one would use each different type of shot) and why it's important to learn when applying a storyboard.
- Review what each shot looks like. (shots taken from previous Environmental Res student films/Bri Shamokin film.

PM

- **Short documentary film fest and discussion:** Students watch a variety of short documentaries (post these online or on blog to view outside of classroom) and discuss how they see examples of that vocabulary in each along with what is/is not effective about each piece.
- **Shooting Exercise-**Students create a 1 minute basic documentary film about something(building, object, person) that includes all of the shots taken from the vocabulary shot list and upload to MediaSpace. Explain how you used each shot and why?(use these for future composition exercise but do not discuss composition now)

***Example-**Academic West Documentary: film ACWS ext./int. No additional music/effects/titles are necessary.

(FCPC basic training involved?)

Tuesday May 13

AM

- Baraka Discussion
- Video Vocabulary Exercise

PM

- Sojourn Selects (Video Lab)
- Discuss Documentary Film Exercise
- Composition/Framing Review (Dayline Paul Photography)

Wednesday May 14

AM

- Discuss Sojourn Assignment/Review Sojourn Selects
- Bucknell Baraka 1 min. documentary shooting exercise

PM

- Meet with WVIA/Interviews/broll

Thursday May 15

AM

- Review Bucknell Baraka 1 min documentary film exercise.
- Intro to storyboarding. What is a storyboard, how is it used, why is it important? Watch Crop Dusting Scene from Alfred Hitchcock's North by Northwest and compare it to the storyboard.
- Conduct Reverse Storyboard Exercise (Storyboard their Bucknell Baraka doc. films)

PM

- Review Reverse Storyboard Exercise.
- Review Treatment/Amazon Storybuilder
- Work on SSV Storyboard

Friday May 16

AM

- Storyboard development

PM

- Cont. Storyboard
- Compile a list of questions you may have for Chloe for Monday regarding research.

Week 2: The goal of week 2 is for students to use the knowledge and skills gained in week 1 to draft a storyboard for the documentary project. Student time in the second week will be spent discussing and drafting, with input from Alf and Bri. They will also work to continue refining their video composition skills, with the goal of developing these skills for the fall shooting period, and informing their storyboarding process.

Week 2 subject to change

Monday May 19

AM

- Meet Chloe to discuss research
- Work on Storyboard.

PM

- Storyboard Check-in
- Who are we interviewing? Begin collecting list of interviewees. Use list from Sojourn.

Tuesday May 20

AM

- Where are we at with interviewees? Discussion about interviews. Lock them down.
- Create a interview bio sheet/Contact Sheet
- Develop contact sheet/think through scheduling for Elkland Township Camp (put this on production schedule)
- Review Storyboard

PM

- Conducting Interviews-how to? lighting? questions? Interview Best Practices?
- Conduct an interview with partner. Interview Questions 5 relating to your home town. Be conscientious of the subject's responses. These can lead to other interview questions that were not pre-planned. I will be looking for examples of you demonstrating this.

Wednesday May 21

AM

- Continue storyboard.
- Begin thinking about narration development. Begin to write narration.
- Begin thinking about interview placement within storyboard.

PM

- View interview assignment #1

Thursday May 22

AM

- Final Storyboard work
- What is composition/framing? Why is it important? How to do it?
- Review films with great composition and discuss why it works (Daylin Paul Photography)
- Composition Exercise #1: (1 HOUR) Using a smart phone or ipad take 6 photos applying the composition techniques learned in the AM. Upload them and discuss. (pic locations out of hat?)

PM

- Final Storyboard work
- *Draft Storyboard Due*

Friday May 23

AM

- **Introduce Interview Assignment-Conduct 1 professional interview (faculty member, a student involved in an organization, a staff member about their job at Bucknell)**

Criteria for interview:

Must use at least 1 light

Include at least 5 interview questions.(Subject must repeat the question in the answer)

Use lav mic

Consider your location

Consider your background

Consider composition (framing) of your shot

Use a tripod and level your tripod

Medium shot

Upload to MediaSpace and include interview questions in the description section.

PM

- **Review Storyboard**
- **Review Treatment**
- **Begin piecing together production schedule**

Week 3: The goal of week 3 is for students to finalize their storyboard and draft a shooting schedule for the fall project. To assist in this, Alf and Bri will give the students feedback on their draft storyboard from week 2. In addition, students will work on exercises designed to help them understand how much time different production tasks are likely to take, so they can draft the schedule in a sensible way.

Monday May 26

AM

- Interview Assignment due
- What is a production schedule? Why is it important? Examples
- Begin drafting SSV production schedule.
- Follow up on Elkland Twp. (film in Fall) Camp example. Need to reach out to them.

PM

- Begin thinking about Narration
- email Tom from Priestly House (when can we visit Priestly House?)
- Interview Contact List (start reaching out to contacts)
- Review Storyboard and highlighted areas.
- Sent out Doodle form for Fall schedule

Tuesday May 27

AM

- **Review Professional Interview Assignment/Regular Interview Assignment**
- *Draft storyboard feedback returned*
- Discuss any corrections

PM

- **3-point/4-point lighting setup**
- **Prep for Tom Interview-Interview Questions**
- **map out Priestly House (prep for site visit)**
- **Equipment Checkout for Wed.**

Wednesday May 28

AM

- Corrections applied
- Priestley House Visit (coordinate with Tom)
- Conduct interview with Tom and apply skills learned from Interview/Lighting Exercise

PM

- Storyboard Review
- Production Schedule Draft 1
- Narration

Thursday May 29

AM

- Storyboard Review
- Production Schedule Draft 1
- Narration
- Continue work on shooting schedule, schedule for interviews, establish contacts for location work
- Review Tom Interview

Friday May 30
AM

No one here on Friday

Week 4: In week 4 students learned how to conduct interviews, develop a production schedule, continue developing the storyboard and shot list, and begin conducting interviews.