Denise Belafonte-Young
Assistant Professor
College of International
Communication
Radio, Television, Internet Media
Lynn University
Curriculum Swapshop

My Favorite Storytelling Exercise
Teaching storytelling and television field and studio production skills all in a 15 week semester!
COM 145-Television Production

- Required for current Radio, Television and Internet Media majors
- Required for new curriculum Film majors
- Elective in the major for Photography and Multimedia Journalism majors
- Electives for all other majors in the University in a variety of colleges
Students enroll from a variety of majors...

- Biology
- Graphic Design
- Business
- Hospitality & Sports Management
- Advertising and Public Relations
- Photography
- American Studies
- Multimedia Journalism
- Criminal Justice
- Aviation
Classes usually fill from 15 to 22 students per semester
How do I accomplish my goal to bring everyone together to tell a story through media and technology?

what's your story?
Studio and Field Production Assignments

- The students are exposed to a variety of multi-camera studio projects and productions
- We also pack in single-camera still and video assignments, as well as an introduction to editing
- Storytelling is a key component to enhance technical and creative skills in all of the assignments
- I also have them identify and analyze the shots of a ½ hour sitcom
- They learn terms and abbreviations e.g., ECU, CU, MS, OTS, etc
Assignment 1 – Stills In Motion - Photography Shooting/Editing Assignment
Photographs due-Tuesday February 19th.
Edited project due Thursday February 28th.

This assignment requires that each student shoot a series of still photographs using a
digital camera. Students may use a camera that they presently own or may check one out
from the equipment room located across from the television studio.

Each photograph should fill the frame and be aesthetically pleasing and balanced.
All photographs should be downloaded and saved to a folder that you create on your
Lynn University computer account. Each photograph should then be printed and
submitted in a packet/album to the instructor for review and comment. A copy of this
assignment sheet should be the first page in the packet that is submitted. Each page of
the packet should have the student’s name, course number, shot number, page number,
and total number of pages in the packet. Photos must be printed IN COLOR! Also
submitted will be a photo slideshow with music, titles, effects, and transitions which will
be handed in on a CD or DVD. All photos will be cropped and color corrected for
optimal production value.

The following shots are required:
1. Close-up of a square object;
2. Close-up of a circular object;
3. Close-up of a triangular object;
4. Close-ups of five other types of geometric shapes;
5. ditto;
6. ditto;
7. ditto;
8. ditto;
9. Close-up of one person;
10. Medium shot of one person;
11. Long shot of one person;
12. Medium shot of 2 people;
13. Long shot of 2 people;
14. Medium shot of 3 people;
15. Close-up of a flower;
16. Close-up of an object with a distant background;
17. Create four of your own artistic shots;
18. ditto;
19. ditto;
20. ditto.

Items 17-20 = four shots, total.

NOTE: Each printed photo should be logged with the circumstances and camera settings
used for each shot (e.g., day, date, time, location, aperture, shutter speed, lens settings,
camera used, subject, etc.).
Composition began with shapes in life and basic framing aesthetics

- This was a key point in teaching zooms, movement, titles, axis and continuity techniques.

What's the best way to explain this idea?
Video Here
This student was a Hospitality major.
I voided the music due to time constraints.
This was a story of our photography/video field trip to Butterfly World in Coral Springs, Florida

The assignment also taught:
- Following a shot list
- Creating a storyboard
- They created a photo album of the shots replicating a storyboard
Another student embraced her home life

My Weekend
Moving on to motion picture videography and HD cameras

- Still following a shot list and reconstructing my rendition of basic 23 shots of camera work
SHOOTING ASSIGNMENT
COM-145
DUE: Thursday March 28th

OBJECTIVE: To learn and display the aesthetic and creative methods and values of camera operation, direction, and videography.

METHODS OF SHOOTING: This assignment will be done using both studio and field equipment. Students will learn and demonstrate how to pack, plan, prepare, and execute a series of various shots and movements depicted in the world of television.

- Always remember to set-up your camera, filter wheel, white-black balancing, lighting, angle, and ALWAYS CALIBRATE YOUR ZOOM. Know how to rehearse a shot before performing it on tape, or ON THE AIR.(Remember audio set-up and monitoring when applicable).

Remember the rules of depth of field, rule of thirds, and background-foreground distortion.

SHOTS: You will do this series of shots in two ways. First showing your zooming and tilting process as you stop at each focal length for 5 seconds, and second starting and stopping the camera in-between shots as you hold them for 5 seconds: You will zoom out and reverse the process zooming back in remembering the tilt method of zooming.

Tripod & Handheld:
1. ECU-XCU 6. LS
2. CU 7. ELS
3. MCU 8.2-shot-MCU
4. MS 9.3-shot-MCU
5. MLS 10. 2-OTS-Over the shoulder- A & B

Handheld:
11. Tilt up an interesting structure stopping at the bottom and top.
12. Zoom in/dolly out, watch the background and leave the subject the same size.
13. Zoom out/dolly in, These 2 things should be done simultaneously.
14. Rack focus on 2 objects.
15. Follow the action
16. Arc around subject/semi-circle
17. Macro a flower
18. Pan from one object to another knowing when to stop.
19. Point-of-view shot
20. Oblique/Dutch angle
21. High angle/low angle

- Some of the shots you can use the tripod or handheld method or both. Some of the shots can only be done handheld. Always remember to recalibrate the zoom whenever you or the subject moves. Never have you subjects back to the sun, and never shoot where it’s too dark!

HAVE FUN!

Storyboard and DVD should be submitted on the due date. Please make sure to book the equipment in a timely manner, and make sure everyone uses THEIR OWN tapes! Import the tapes onto your external hard drives before returning the cameras.
FOCAL LENGTHS, MOVEMENTS AND VIDEO CAMERA OPERATION

Shooting Assignment
Rachel Levenson
COM 145
Key components included:

- Depth of Field
- Angles
- Movements
- In-camera editing for clean footage without post production
The final assignment was to use the 23 shots to tell a story in-camera

- Had to shoot in-sequence
- Showed raw footage
- Able to add music, titles, effects and transitions (optional)
- Audio not required
COM 145- TELEVISION PRODUCTION
FIELD Shooting Assignment-Continuity

Assign 2-Storyboards - Due 4/11
Assign 2- Final tape shot/dubbed to DVD - Due 4/25
ASSIGNMENTS CANNOT BE LATE. PACE YOURSELF PROPERLY AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT WELL IN ADVANCE. THIS IS ALL PART OF PRE-PRODUCTION FOR PLANNING A SHOOT.

FOLLOW ALL CRITERIA FROM SHOOTING ASSIGNMENT CRITERIA SHEET.

Storyboard - Map out assignment on a Storyboard in the sequence you will be shooting the continuity assignment.
Storyboard - 23 shots, resembling the example given in class.
You may draw it, use photos, Google images or magazine cut outs.
Shots must be the proper composition and aesthetically pleasing. Proper headroom and use of background and color are required when applicable.
Shots include:
Shooting Assignment -
You will now implement ALL of the shots that you learned into an in-camera sequence that tells a story from beginning to middle to end. NO EDITING OR POST-PRODUCTION IS NECESSARY. Pace your shots evenly (Count in between recording and shutting off record). You can mix up the shots in any order you’d like, using subjects and objects as well. Your storyboard should identify the sequence of shots you will be using. Also submit a shot list in the order you used the variety of shots 1-23. (Be careful of the rule of thirds especially on the Over-the-shoulder shots. ALL SHOTS 1-23 MUST BE USED!!! Tapes must be handed in on DVD.

1. ECU-XCU
2. CU
3. MS
4. MLS
5. MCU
6. LS
7. ELS
8. 2-shot-MS/MCU
9. 3-shot-MS/MLS
10. OTS-Over the shoulder (A)
11. OTS-Over the shoulder (B)
12. Oblique/Cant/Dutch angle
13. High Angle
14. Low angle
15. Tilt up an interesting structure stopping at the bottom and top.
16. Zoom in/dolly out, watch the background and leave the subject the same size.
17. Zoom out/dolly in, These 2 things should be done simultaneously.
18. Rack focus on 2 objects.
19. Follow the action
20. Arc around subject/semi-circle
21. Extreme Close-up of a flower
22. Pan from one object to another knowing when to stop.
23. Point-of-view shot

- Some of the shots you can use the tripod or handheld method. Some of the shots can only be done handheld. Always remember to recalibrate the zoom whenever you or the subject moves. Never have you subjects back to the sun, and never shoot where it’s too dark!
Criteria was key

Name: 
Date: 
Assignment: Shooting 2
Title: 
Grade: 

1-10

1. Composition/Framing:
2. Iris/Set-up/Color temperature:
3. Zooming:
4. Equal Length of Shots/Pacing/In-Camera Editing:
5. Proper Focus:
6. Lighting/Resolution/Crispness:
7. Movements:
8. Content/Location/Tells A Story:
9. Background/Foreground:
10. Creative Aesthetics:
Video Here
This sequence is part of my favorite assignments because

- It addresses cinematography, editing and storytelling to non-majors
- It has enticed students to embark in a minor in RTIM
- It helps me cram a lot of projects sequentially in one semester
- The outcome is usually so rewarding!

THANKS!