

**Tennessee Arts Commission
Lesson Plan/Content Outline**

Artist's Name: John Warren

Presentation/Activity Name: Video Production Workshop

Indicate which disciplines this activity represents: Visual & Media Arts

Location: Nashville, TN

Grade Level: High School (9-12)

Brief Description:

In this course, students will learn about filmmaking techniques, processes, language and storytelling. They will view and analyze films from nonfiction, narrative, and alternative modes. Students will work with digital cameras, lighting, and computer editing software to produce their own short films as well as a collaborative group project. Assignments include written work, visual work, video production, audio production and editing.

This program is currently structured as a workshop that meets once a week for three hours a day, but could be modified. It also requires that students work outside of class to write and film their projects.

Visual & Media Art Curriculum Standards:

1. Students will demonstrate the use of knowledge and technical skills in video production.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the safe and responsible use of art media and tools.
3. Students will create visual art that communicates ideas through the use of media, techniques, and processes.
4. Students will analyze, synthesize, and evaluate the application of media, techniques, and processes used to solve visual art problems.
5. Students will develop an understanding of the personal and cultural forces that shape artistic communication.
6. Students will reflect on the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.
7. Students will evaluate works of media art in order to understand various interpretations.
8. Students will assess works of media art and their meanings by using a variety of criteria and techniques.

Weekly Lesson Plan:

Class meeting # 1: Visual Composition / Analyzing Imagery / The Language of Film

Students will review/learn the language of photography and film. They will learn vocabulary necessary to analyze and conceptualize photography and film. They will be able to identify types of shots used in photography and film.

Activities:

- Write detailed analyses of photographs.
- Write visual stories from “found” photographs.
- Storyboard a three shot story using their “found” photo as the middle frame.
- Arrange images to tell a story, write corresponding direction and dialogue.
- Take 3 Photographs to demonstrate knowledge of shots and angles. Elaboration on shot choices is required.

Class meeting # 2: Genre / Point-of View

Students will be introduced to different film genres, watching how film techniques are employed.

Activities:

- Brainstorm various genres of films/ Give examples.
- Watch/Discuss film genre examples.
- Work in pairs to research genres.
- Create a visual story that conveys genre.
- Critique each others work giving positive feedback and suggestions for improvement.
- Watch film to be named.
- Rewrite a scene from the point of view of a specific character from the film or write an alternate ending.
- Write a review of the film.

Class meeting # 3: Film Elements

Students will learn about Pre-Production, Production and Post-Production. They will learn the roles involved in filmmaking.

Activities

- Students will work in pairs to research job descriptions
- They will present their findings and share out.

Class meeting # 4: Production/In-Camera Editing

Students will be taught to use and care for the equipment. They will learn the components and operation of the video camera, tripod and sound equipment. They will do a short camera exercise and edit in camera. They will shoot an in-camera editing sequence.

Activities:

- Write short script/scene
- Storyboard ideas
- Shoot scene
- Watch scenes

Class meeting # 5: Post-Production

Students will learn the editing components of a film. They will watch several scenes from different movies to see how the editing works to tell a story and convey meaning in a sequence. They will be

given a basic scenario or script. They will work in small groups and come up with a film idea to shoot and edit in camera. They will shoot an in-camera editing sequence.

Activities:

- Write short script/scene
- Storyboard ideas
- Shoot scene
- Watch edited scenes

Class meeting # 6: Film Ideas

Students will watch examples of “video portraits,” mostly produced by other teens to see how youth represent themselves or views in film.

Activities:

- Brainstorm ideas.
- Develop their ideas and write treatment.
- Present or pitch their story ideas.
- Storyboard

Class meeting # 7: Lights, Camera, Action

Students can work alone or with a partner to each produce a short film—most likely a documentary or experimental film that can be shot in the school, neighborhood or community. Films may be autobiographical, biographical, topical or poetic.

Activities:

- Students will shoot appropriate and engaging images.
- Use I-Movie or Adobe Premiere to edit
- Compose music
- Make titles and credits

Class meeting # 8: Group Production Workshop

Students will work as a film crew to produce a personal work expressed within a filmmaking collective.

Activities:

- Work collaboratively in crews
- Use I-Movie or FCP to edit
- Compose music
- Make titles and credits

Class meeting # 9: It’s a Warp

Watch student films.