

Film Connection
Chapter 1 Assignment
by Joseph McCutcheon 7/30/15

My first assignment asked for me to write a paper that would specifically outline and detail what I want out of this program, what I see myself doing in the film industry and how I plan on getting there. So given the opportunity, I would like to do so. I do believe that not only will this help the Film Connection and my mentor structure my learning but it will also help keep me focused on specific goals that I want to achieve during this program.

What I want out of this program is to gain tools and knowledge to procure work within the film and video industry. Film has always been a passion of mine since childhood. I might not have always thought about working in film and video as a career my whole life, but the love and passion that has always made me gravitate towards films, television and music videos is undeniable. Because I am passionate about film and video, working on them does not feel like real work to me. I already know that working on films and videos does not feel like real work to me because I have worked on them in the past on a small personal scale. I have had hundreds of hours editing my own small projects and never once felt like it took a long time. Not because it didn't take long, because it did, it just didn't feel that way because I was so passionate in trying to finish. That is a very big reason I took this leap into a new career field, because I have found a passion I would like to pursue. Now in order to pursue my passion I will need to be taught certain aspects and details of the industry and the standard of equipment and procedures being used in the industry today. That includes everything.

Areas I want to learn about(not limited too):

Cameras: Types being used, specs, how to import video into editing programs, files types and differences, lenses and how to achieve desired focus, how to connect microphones and monitors, camera rigs: tripods/cages/cranes/dollies/steady/drones, fundamentals of photography

Microphones: Types being used, specs, how to attach them to cameras and computers, industry standard and preferred sound levels, when to use different types of microphones

Lighting: Types being used, specs, how to set them up to achieve different lighting, filters, common used lighting techniques, professional industry standard lighting levels

Editing: The industry standard editing software and applications, history of the editing process, current standard of the the editing process, after effects for film and video, how to achieve certain effects shots(before and after filming), exporting to different mediums(files, dvds, blue-rays, social sites), how to check for audio clarity in your project

Business end: funding, expenses, outsourcing, filming laws...anything and everything about the business and legal end of film and video production.

The second part of this chapter assignment asked what I see myself doing in the film and video industry. Even though I want to learn every part of the business, I really see myself as a editor. I

would like to think I have a good idea of general perception which I would think comes in handy when editing video or film. I do not necessarily see myself working on big Hollywood projects, but I am not counting that out as an option. But even without big Hollywood movie projects, I still think I can make a decent living editing for local area needs.

My plan to achieve this knowledge and these goals starts right here with the Film Connection. I plan on being a sponge whenever I meet with my mentor. Paying attention and asking questions will be essential to my hands on learning while I am with my mentor. I also need to be proactive as far as using my eTextbook. That way I can ask questions to my mentor that might come up in my textbook chapter. So I think starting by reading each chapter early in the week can point out things and questions that I will need to ask my mentor when I see him. I also believe that practicing the skills that I learn each week will help solidify those skills. So as part of my own goals to learn during this process, I will be forcing myself to make mini projects throughout this course that will focus on the new skills that I am acquiring.

These are the goals that I am setting for myself and the course of action that I think will be best to achieve the ultimate goal of working in film and video production.