

# FILM: RAW

DOCUMENTARY & REALITY

**Instructors:** Erin Belmont & Ian Marquand

## **Class Description:**

This isn't staged, there's no script. This stuff really happens -- this is your life. If you really want the truth join Film: Raw where you tell the story as it unfolds. Learn film making and editing as well as communication skills and interviewing.

Industry guest lecturers will be part of the class experience.

## **Structure:**

Class Size: 20-25

Days: Wednesday & Thursday

Class Time: 4:30-6:30

Film: Raw is a tuition free 32 week course split into four 8 weeks sessions. Students can take one or more of these sessions. First year students are encouraged to complete all four sessions of one course.

## **Class Objectives:**

- Instill an ongoing interest in creative expression through video.
- Foster media literacy and critical thinking among students.
- Build understanding of ethics in the field of visual media.
- Understand value of evaluative processes and comparing individuals' work.
- Build teamwork and an understanding of the value of collaboration.

## **Learning Objectives:**

After successful completion of this class, students will understand:

- Working with a group in a creative environment.
- Use of FLIP cameras, and computer editing software.
- Common technical standards for shooting and editing video.
- Common ethical standards for news and reality video.
- Developing individual creative standards for video.

## **PreRequisites:**

- no specific skill set needed to apply

## **Class Timeline:**

### **CRASH COURSE** (Weeks 1-8)

- The class learns how the class will work, how to use cameras and editing software, basic technical and ethical standards. Learn MAPS production logo and branding standards.
- Students and teachers will review individuals' work as a class and provide constructive critiques.

- Class will include video “field trips” within walking distance of Westview.
- Teachers will assign a project “theme.” Students will be expected to gather video that relates to that theme and edit a small project.
- Students will feature their work at “Friends and Family” Day.

### **"DOC CHALLENGE" (Weeks 9-16)**

*This section is a short film competition!*

- Students work in teams choosing between 2 assigned documentary genres (such as Biography, Music, 1st Person, etc.).
- A specific theme is assigned (such as "Freedom", "Change", "Fun") that will dictate the content and direction of the film.
- Short films, 5-8 minutes long, will be completed every 2 weeks. During the 2 weeks the students will:
  - \* Research the subject matter
  - \* Write the script (if applicable)
  - \* Shoot
  - \* Edit
  - \* Complete Graphics and Sound Design
  - \* Render
- \* Output the media for viewing
- Teams will change every 2 weeks and new themes will be assigned.
- Teams will be evaluated for creativity, technical skills, and following the assignment.
- Students will feature their work at a "Friends and Family Day".

### **GROUP DOC PROJECT (Weeks 17-24)**

- Teachers will create shooting/scripting/editing teams of students.
- Each student will take a turn as photographer, scriptwriter and editor during this quarter.
- Together, students will create a documentary on MAPS\* and the students in the program.
- All shooting will take place at Westview during class time, including some Mon.-Tues. classes.)

*(Weeks 1-2 may include special classes on Titles/Graphics with Mike Henderson's class).*

*• Students will feature their work at “Friends and Family” Day.*

*(\*Actual documentary content may change if a PBS show is scheduled.)*

### **STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL (Weeks 25-32)**

- Students will create videos to show at the Student Film Festival event in May.
- Students may work individually, in groups, as a class, or any combination of those options.
- Student will feature their work at The Student Film Festival @ The PharaohPlex.

### **Outcomes:**

- Student work uploaded to YouTube.
- Individual or small group edited video projects, incorporating the following:
  - Non-narrated video with natural sound, depicting an event or a subject.
  - Student narration of video.
  - Student Q&A with another person.
  - Editing video with music.
- A MAPS documentary, either for the MAPS website or for PBS.
- Individual or group student projects for showing at the Student Film Festival.
- Three “Friends and Family” showings at Westview during the school year.
- Outstanding student work may be placed on the MAPS Media Institute website.

## **Evaluation:**

- Completion and Quality of projects
- One on One interviews
- Knowledge of technical / computer skills
- Exit Surveys



## **Program Goals:**

- *Provide safe after-school mentoring programs for Ravalli County High School students in the media arts.*
- *Develop skills in communication, teamwork, community awareness, problem solving and media literacy.*
- *Promote positive development through individuality, leadership and creative and intellectual curiosity.*
- *Increase vocational opportunities.*