

## ROUGH CUT ASSIGNMENT

**Distributed:** *Tues., March 15, 2009*

**Due:** *Tues., March 31 / April 2, 2009 (see below)*

### **Overview:**

With the completion of your video exercise, you all have shown the ability to compose and film shots, capture video, and put the shots into sequences. For this next assignment you will produce a rough cut of your final documentary so that the class can offer feedback and guidance as your project nears completion. This will also ensure that your project is generally on track.

A rough cut is a draft version of your documentary film. It should contain a sufficient number of sequences to give viewers a realistic sense of your final documentary, though not necessarily in a finished or highly polished form.

The rough cut might not have final titles or transitions, scenes might need more trimming and editing, you might not have finalized all of your audio choices, and you might even have stand-in shot to fill in for those you still plan to get. Don't worry, we will not judge the rough cut as if it is a finished piece. It should serve as a status update, not a final product.

That said, the rough cut is not a random or haphazard collection of footage. It should be thoughtfully edited to give viewers a sense of where the project is headed that is as accurate as possible.

The idea is to produce a draft of your documentary that you can show to us and to the class to get feedback to use in producing your final cut of the documentary. Though there is no maximum or minimum length for this assignment, the rough cut should generally be pretty close in length to your final cut. So if you expect your final cut to be about 7 minutes, your rough cut could be 5 minutes, but more likely, it would be closer to 9 minutes, since you will likely still have some editing and trimming to do.

You will be expected to present your rough cut to the class, and explain what you have, what you will get, and your vision for the completed clip.

### **Requirements:**

***Due in class Tues., March 31*** - For this assignment, you will produce a rough cut of your final documentary to share with the class. You should turn in your rough cut on a DVD in class.

***Due Thur., April 2*** - You will also need to post your rough cut to the web blog, along with a web blog entry providing some context for your video and asking the class for specific feedback on any relevant areas.

*Grading*

You will not be graded on the quality of your piece. Rather, your grade will be based on the extent to which we can get a good sense of where you are going, your explanation of the film and your vision to the class, and your contextualizing blog post. Take full advantage of this opportunity to get feedback.