

## Media Editing

Media Editing itself is a very broad topic. It can be used to put a twist on something already in existence or it can be creating something completely new. Any way one looks at it, they will see the almost limitless number of ways they could go. It is a subject I have been interested since I started doing these sorts of projects in Middle School. We would make our own videos and use other programs to create original work. I thought I had a pretty good grasp of the extents, but I have learned that there is so much more. I think media editing in a way is the backbone of the digital community as it is so heavily depended on in our current society. Everyone in some way or form seems to be doing media editing of their own.

With technology becoming more advanced and more available people are beginning to do things that weren't feasible before. One of the easiest ways for people to be a part of media editing is photography. Just about everyone these days has access to a digital camera, whether it's in their phone or a camera itself. The world and its people are being photographed more than ever. As we saw in the first project photos can be given a different meaning by simply adding a quote. I chose an Emerson quote for my photo as he loved nature and the quote talked about making a new trail instead of following one from the past. I found this quote to work well for the photo because it represented what I was doing at the time of the photo really well. A lot of change was happening in my life and I was doing new things. Going to Sedona was a spur of the moment idea. I like going new places and seeing new things and thought this quote worked best. This is media editing at its basics but it is important because it's probably the most common way people get involved. With programs like Photoshop and Gimp people have the ability to edit their digital photos with a few clicks of the mouse.

Audio is also one of the major aspects of media editing. Again creating and editing audio has become something relatively simple for people to do. It doesn't take much anymore to mix music. Audio editing is something I was not familiar with until this class. I have always been into music, playing piano and guitar for many years. I had always wanted to record guitar but never knew how to do so. I soon realized recording the audio would be a problem because the computer microphone recorded, but everything was fuzzy. I found my iPhone recorded things

well but the beat had to stay relatively simple. So I recorded different beats and mixed them together in audacity to create a final audio clip. I think this was a great way for me to gain the basic knowledge so I can go and record again and try new things. I think finding a new recording device would make this process simpler. This is definitely an area I will be doing more in now that I have found some resources and gained knowledge on the subject.

The next project dealt with video, another subject I was familiar with. I hadn't made a video since I was in middle school so it was definitely a refresher. At first I had trouble coming up with what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to make it myself and use things I filmed. I saw a music video that had cool camera angles and effects which inspired me to make the video I did. Once I had my footage and edited it down to the length I wanted I needed to find audio. I was going to make my own track so I could put it on Vimeo, but that seemed difficult. While browsing instrumentals I had saved on my computer I found a track which matched well so I used it. Videos are another form of media editing that have become something anyone can do fairly easily. People can record videos from their phones, laptops, and of course actual video cameras. A lot of emphasis has been put on the digital video world with things like Vimeo and YouTube people are able to create and share their work with each other. I think as technology improves more and more things will come from video and it's editing.

I am a very visual person so I found the social graph project to be interesting. I had never broken down my relationships that way or thought about them like that. It's always been a mental picture for me that I never really think about. Being able to map them out right in front of me made me learn some new things about who I am connected to and why. I think social graphs are important in media editing because networking and sharing projects is such a major aspect of the field. Every project in this class has had some sort of way to share the project online via a social networking site. Being able to see these things in a layout can be used to help a variety of problems. Although we used it for our relationships with people, graphs and maps have become an important part of planning projects, products, and all sorts of other things. It's a skill that can be applied to all sorts of fields.

I took a liking to the interface project because it is something I have recently taken an interest in. I remember being amazed by the interfaces in *Minority Report* and other movies with the same type of interface. It's something I can see myself doing as a career. This project

allowed me to explore ideas for a design contest I entered. The contest was showing concepts of what phones should be able to do a few years from now. This allowed me to sort out the interfaces for my phone concept. I think being able to control so many things from one device is important because it reduces waste. It does this by eliminating the need for 5 other controllers that have their own specialty. This project also inspired a project I am working on now. Interfaces are important because they depend on the user and their ability to use the system. Thinking about how to make things simpler for people stems from these interfaces.

The orison project was something new to me. It seems like a cool idea that does seem to have some practical purposes in the world. I got frustrated trying to figure everything out but once I did I enjoyed my experience with the program. I think it was interesting that the program did allow us to sort of “cut” someone’s life. It’s still kind of a weird concept to me but I find it interesting. I was only able to get a few chapters in my project because the database got really slow and unusable. I’m glad I worked through my original problems because it was fun to do once I got the hang of it. I think this concept will become more common in the near future as people increase their want to record what’s going on in their lives.

Overall I really enjoyed this class and liked the projects we did. I like classes with hands-on projects, especially with digital media which this class allowed me to do a lot of. I feel like our world is only at the beginning of “media editing” because so many of these technologies have come around within the past 10 years. It will be interesting to see the extent of all of this will be. Right now it seems limitless. I think as our world becomes more connected “media editing” will become more important because it has so much to do with communicating. Whether it is communicating with words, audio, video, photos, or any number of other ways, media editing will become a big part of what seems like everyone’s life at some point.