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DSC:294

3/28/12

Final Writing Assignment

What is Media Editing?

We are living and growing in what most would call an age of technology. Whether you hear about it or not, new innovations are on the brink each and every day. Let's face it – it's 2012. The term media doesn't just mean the news any more. It doesn't only pertain to editing film anymore. Gone are the days of media being limited to only a handful of mediums and categories of technology. Today, media covers almost every outlet of our lives. Whether it is the movies we see, the advertisements we buy into, the songs we hear, the social networks we partake in, or even the buildings we enter – media is all around us, and the editing of that media is happening to the same degree. After all, all of this great stuff that makes our day-to-day lives more interesting and sometimes easier has to be created and upheld by someone, right?

Media Editing:???

This semester, upon entering the DSC294: Media Editing classroom, I took a seat, glanced around the room and sat back in ponder. "What is this course going to cover?" I thought to myself. In my mind, the definition *media editing* was simple and quite straightforward. It meant quite merely the editing of different mediums such as photos, videos, and songs. I remember thinking that the course was going to be simple; an easy A. Or, even worse, a class in which my cognitive abilities were severely close to unneeded. Suffice to say, I was pleasantly surprised that my initial predictions were wrong – way wrong! The course took off like a bat-out-of-hell from the start. I quickly found myself really applying myself and constantly reworking and transforming my idea of what media editing really meant.

Media Editing: The editing of different mediums.

We started with our first module: Text and Graphics. At first, it was simple enough: we were to create a rather basic piece using a Tweet from Kanye West and an accompanying photograph. Okay, this was seemingly meaningless on the surface, but when reflecting on the project, it is actually quite intricate. By using both a social network and a form of media editing with Photoshop a sense of interdisciplinary artwork arose. As if that hadn't been eye opening, we continued the module with the emergence of a game we called "Layer Tennis". It was at this point early in the course that I realized that my previous definition of media editing had been majorly transformed. No longer was it simple – it became complex. It was with this game that I realized that media editing contains a social factor.

Media Editing: The editing of different mediums that contain social elements and have social significance.

The class moved along, and after the first module, we arrived at the Audio and Video modules. I have compressed these two into this one paragraph because it was during both of these modules that I found an expansion to my definition of media editing. Within the audio module, I adapted to the idea that audio served as a very powerful medium to getting a point across. Also, while completing my video module final project, I realized that video can also serve as an extremely worthy ground for spreading an idea or raising awareness. It was in these two modules that my definition of media editing fattened up to include the idea of presenting a message through different mediums can make its idea quite potent.

Media Editing: The editing of different mediums that contain social elements and hold a means to conveying a message.

The days went on, and as we grew older in the sense of education, the course presented us with the Social Networking and Interface modules. To me, these happened to be the most interesting as they seemed to present to me the most eye-opening ideas. During the Social Networking bit, my definition grew to include the idea of networking and outreach. Within the Interface module, my mind really did a back flip.

Never before had I even teased the idea that media editing touches on the idea of making life better. However, and quite apparent in this module, it is very important (if not essential) for my definition to include the initiative of bettering the human experience.

Media Editing: The editing of different mediums that contain social elements and have social significance with the sense of networking to reach a common goal of bettering the human experience.

Finally, DSC294 dived into its final two modules. These modules contained a wealthy amount of information and knowledge. In our Spatial Intervention module, I gained the insight that media editing can also provide the means to express oneself. For my final in this module, I suggested a rather cool idea to both extenuate my artistic skill and to also promote the Digital Culture major; which, as we all know is not well-known as of yet. In our very last module, I learned the most valuable lesson that the semester had to offer: to edit media is to edit life.

Media Editing: to edit life through different mediums that contain social elements, social significance, and artistic expression with the sense of networking to reach a common goal of bettering the human experience.

As you can see, this semester was spent morphing and perfecting my view and personal definition of Media Editing is to me. Like I said earlier, this class really surprised me and opened my mind to all-new concepts. Through the execution of projects and in-class assignments, I feel that I received a realistic grasp on what media editing really is.

Media Editing: the editing of life.