MONASH University
Information Technology

FIT3008
Digital video post production

Unit Guide

Semester 1, 2010

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FIT3008 Digital video post production - Semester 1, 2010

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Contact hours: Thursdays: 11AM - 1PM

Introduction

This unit aims to enhance the student's understanding of the multimedia development process, to provide a 'hands-on' understanding of the techniques, tools and products used in multimedia systems, and to experience practical projects in the development of multimedia products, services and systems.

The unit builds on the knowledge of basic concepts from FIT2026 by developing further understanding of the multimedia development process and the tools and techniques used to manage and control rich media as it applies to current audio and video post-production technologies and the management and control of the multimedia development process. Students will undertake a mixture of formal lectures tutorials and studio work.

They will be required to undertake project and research development work, both by themselves and in groups. The projects will aim to provide practice in identifying multimedia opportunities and specifying product and system requirements, and in building multimedia products and system components. Project work will be carried out under the supervision of a member of the academic staff.

Unit synopsis

The unit builds on the knowledge of basic concepts from FIT2026 Sound and Video (which covered the authoring techniques and concepts used to create motion based digital audiovisual content), by developing further, an understanding of the multimedia development process and the tools and techniques used to manage and control it as applied to advanced time based media manipulation in multimedia content production.

Learning outcomes

At the completion of this unit students will have -
A theoretical and conceptual understanding of:

- the nature of the multimedia system development process, and the tasks and management processes associated with it;
- the characteristics of computer hardware and software which are used in the development of multimedia systems related to post production of audiovisual content;
- the working environment in which complex audiovisual content is developed and the tools and techniques which are used to manage the development process;
- the need for management and control of the development process and the contribution which management tools and techniques can make to this process.

Developed attitudes that enable them to:

- appreciate the aesthetic and technical requirements involved in creating complex digital content which should effectively and clearly communicate a message to the target audience.

Developed the skills to:

- prepare a project plan for carrying out the development and implementation of an audiovisual presentation;
- manipulate and integrate elements of computer hardware and software to develop a multimedia system;
- creatively combine and apply the tools and techniques learnt in the core units in the development of multimedia products and systems components.

Demonstrated the teamwork skills necessary to:

- work as a member of a project team.

Contact hours

1 hr lecture/wk, 3 hrs laboratories/wk

Workload

Due to the nature of group work in this subject, it is expected that all students will attend 100% of classes.

If you are absent for more than two tutorial sessions you must supply a medical certificate or other appropriate documentation.

If you are finding problems with this requirement please ensure you speak to your unit adviser as early as possible.

Attendance at tutorials without any work outside of this allocated class time will not be sufficient.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you can make this commitment before you embark on this subject

There will be a one-hour lecture and a three-hour tutorial each week. It is also expected that you will spend 8 hours per week in personal study and research. To get the most out of this time you should make sure you have with you a copy of the project you are working on with you when you attend classes.

Unit relationships

Prerequisites

FIT2026

Teaching and learning method

Teaching approach

The structure for this unit is based upon students working through a series of tutorial exercises to build up their knowledge and skills in digital video compositing. Four assignments make up the final grade for the unit.

Timetable information

For information on timetabling for on-campus classes please refer to MUTTS,
http://mutts.monash.edu.au/MUTTS/

Tutorial allocation

On-campus students should register for tutorials/laboratories using the Allocate+ system:
http://allocate.its.monash.edu.au/

Unit Schedule

Week	Date*	Topic	Key dates
1	01/03/10	Introduction to subject. Overview of main assignment and activities for week one	
2	08/03/10	Required documentation for main project	
3	15/03/10	Concepts in motion graphics production. Overview of Apple Motion	
4	22/03/10	Using masks and Mattes	Assignment 1 due
5	29/03/10	Informational graphics - Typographical applications	
Mid semester break			
6	12/04/10	Particle systems	
7	19/04/10	Green screen capture	Assignment 2 due
8	26/04/10	Chroma keying	
9	03/05/10	3D applications in post production	
10	10/05/10	Motion tracking	
11	17/05/10	Applying expressions and behaviors	
12	24/05/10	Rendering and troubleshooting	Assignment 3 & Assignment 4 due
13	31/05/10	Review of topics	

*Please note that these dates may only apply to Australian campuses of Monash University. Off-shore students need to check the dates with their unit leader.

Unit Resources

Prescribed text(s) and readings

There are no required texts. Individuals may need to purchase texts relating to thier specific project

Recommended text(s) and readings

There is no required textbook for this subject but it is expected that you utilise the library resources such as books, video, CDs, DVDs and undertake your own research.

Required software and/or hardware

The computer labs are available from 8.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. each day.After hours access is available if you apply online at http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/itsupport/lab-info.html

After hours access usually takes 48 hours to approve.

After hours access for the green screen room must be arranged through Mark Szota,

Technical Services

- Final Cut Studio, including
- DVD Studio Pro for Macintosh OSX
- Final Cut Pro HD for Macintosh OSX
- Soundtrack Pro 2 for Macintosh OSX
- Apple Motion for Macintosh OSX
- Apple Compressor for Macintosh OSX
- Apple Garageband for Macintosh OSX

- Adobe After Effects CS4 for Macintosh OSX
- Keylight plugin for after effects CS4
- Adobe Photoshop CS4
- Adobe Illustrator CS4
- Audacity (latest version) Free ware both PC and Mac.Download at http://audacity.sourceforge.net/download/
- Jing (latest version). Download at http://www.jingproject.com/

Study resources

Study resources we will provide for your study are:

- Weekly detailed lecture notes outlining the learning objectives, discussion of the content
- Laboratory tutorials
- Assignment specifications ;
- This Unit Guide outlining the administrative information for the unit;
- The unit web site on MOODLE, where resources outlined above will be made available.
- Video cameras, microphones, lights, MP3 recorders and still cameras from Technical services

Study resources for FIT3008 are to be found on the FIT3008 web site on MOODLE where slides, information and assignment specifications will be posted.

Assessment

Overview

Practical Assignments: 100%. Assignments will include group and individual components.

Faculty assessment policy

To pass a unit which includes an examination as part of the assessment a student must obtain:

- 40% or more in the unit's examination, and
- 40% or more in the unit's total non-examination assessment, and
- an overall unit mark of 50% or more.

If a student does not achieve 40% or more in the unit examination or the unit non-examination total assessment, and the total mark for the unit is greater than 50% then a mark of no greater than 49-N will be recorded for the unit.

- This unit has a 60% team based component, so participation in all team activity is essential. Attendance at 100% of classes is an expectation.
- obtain a total result for the assignments of at least 50%

If you are finding problems with this requirement please ensure you speak to your unit adviser as early as possible.

Assessment proceedures for a non – performing team member

If the unit assessor, or one or more team members, becomes concerned regarding the contribution of one or more members of a group then the unit assessor will determine ,using the project documentation ,examination of individual work completed and discussion with the students concerned whether the student or students are making an equitable contribution to the work of the group. If it is determined that the student or students are not making an equitable contribution to the work of the group they may be deemed to be a non-performing team member.

In the event of this determination being made the group component of their assessment will be multiplied by a factor of up to 0.5 to arrive at a raw score

Assignment tasks

Assignment coversheets

Assignment coversheets are available via "Student Forms" on the Faculty website:
http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/forms/
You MUST submit a completed coversheet with all assignments, ensuring that the plagiarism declaration section is signed.

Assignment submission and return procedures, and assessment criteria will be specified with each assignment.

- **Assignment task 1**

  Title:
  Group assessment- Major project documentation
  Description:
  The aim of this document is to present an accurate picture of the goals & objectives of a project which will be complete & ready to publish by week 13
  Weighting:
  30%
  Due date:
  Week 4, 25 March
  Remarks:
  Full assignment details will be posted on MOODLE

- **Assignment task 2**

  Title:
  Individual assessment- Motion graphics
  Description:
  Create an animated motion graphic which demonstrates an understanding of composition, timing, graphic design and audio as it relates to contemporary motion graphics as used in broadcast production.
  Weighting:
  20%
  Due date:
  Week 7, 22 April
  Remarks:
  Full assignment details will be posted on MOODLE

- **Assignment task 3**

  Title:
  Group assessment-Major compositing project
  Description:
  Using 3D, compositing & video technologies, create an example which demonstrates your skill in compositing and post production.
  Weighting:
  30%
  Due date:
  week 12, 27 May
  Remarks:
  Full assignment details will be posted on MOODLE

- **Assignment task 4**

  Title:
  Individual assessment - demonstration of 2 effects processses
  Description:
  Each individual should include a sequence showing 2 effects that they have created and breaking down the indiviual processes involved.
  Weighting:
  20%
  Due date:
  week 12, 27 May

Remarks:

Full assignment details will be posted on MOODLE

Due dates and extensions

Please make every effort to submit work by the due dates. It is your responsibility to structure your study program around assignment deadlines, family, work and other commitments. Factors such as normal work pressures, vacations, etc. are not regarded as appropriate reasons for granting extensions. Students are advised to NOT assume that granting of an extension is a matter of course.

Students requesting an extension for any assessment during semester (eg. Assignments, tests or presentations) are required to submit a Special Consideration application form (in-semester exam/assessment task), along with original copies of supporting documentation, directly to their lecturer within two working days before the assessment submission deadline. Lecturers will provide specific outcomes directly to students via email within 2 working days. The lecturer reserves the right to refuse late applications.

A copy of the email or other written communication of an extension must be attached to the assignment submission.

Refer to the Faculty Special consideration webpage or further details and to access application forms: http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/resources/student/equity/special-consideration.html

Late assignment

Late submission of assignments

It is your responsibility to keep track of and manage your assignment due dates

Penalties are incurred from the due date at the rate of a 10 % reduction in grade for each day (including weekends) the assignment is late.

If you are having difficulty with assignment submission, please advise your Unit Adviser immediately so that any problems can be addressed.

If you are having problems It is essential that you take action immediately if you realise that you have a problem withyour study. The semester is short, so we can help you best if you let us know as soon as problems arise. Regardless of whether the problem is related directly to your progress in the unit, if it is likely to interfere with your progress you should discuss it with your lecturer or a Community Service counsellor as soon as possible.

Students are, at all times, responsible for their work. All relevant material is to be backed up on a regular basis to CD, DVD or hard drive.

The university has CD & DVD burners in the computer labs and blank CDs/DVDs may be purchased through the on campus bookstore.

Loss of assignment work due to hardware failure, virus or theft will not be accepted as reasons for late or non-submission of work. Students must hold an exact copy of all work which they submit for assessment. This copy should be held until your final result for the unit is released.

Return dates

Students can expect assignments to be returned within two weeks of the submission date or after receipt, whichever is later.

Appendix

Please visit the following URL: http://www.infotech.monash.edu.au/units/appendix.html for further information about:

- Continuous improvement
- Unit evaluations
- Communication, participation and feedback
- Library access
- Monash University Studies Online (MUSO)
- Plagiarism, cheating and collusion
- Register of counselling about plagiarism
- Non-discriminatory language
- Students with disability
- End of semester special consideration / deferred exams