iMovie Basic

Introduction

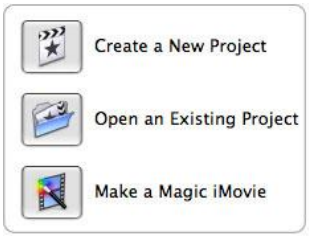
This document will introduce faculty members to iMovie, one of the video editing applications on Mac. For additional information and assistance in using iMovie, please contact IRT (Instruction and Research Technology) at http://www.wpunj.edu/irt and/or at 973-720-2659.

Connecting Camera to Computer

1. Connect firewire cable to DV Cam
2. Turn DV Cam On and switch to VCR/VTR mode

Opening iMovie

1. Locate and Open iMovie HD
2. Select Create a New Project from dialog box



Importing Files

1. Select FILE → Import File

2. Select the appropriate file from the hard drive (Imported files will appear on the shelf.)

The following are files that iMovie can import:

- Video formats - DV Stream2.
- Audio formats - AIFF, this is the format of an Audio CD3.
- Still image formats - Any format that QuickTime can understand such as: TIFF, PICT, JPEG, and also PSD and GIF

Capturing Video – Camera Mode Window

1. Make sure DV Cam is connected and turned on and the tape is rewound or cued
2. Select the movie-camera symbol on the iMovie monitor to switch into Camera mode. Directly below the preview is a set of VCR controls that operate the camera
3. Notice that underneath the Shelf it states approximately how much disk space is left for footage
4. Control camera from VCR type buttons on the bottom of Monitor. Press triangular "play" button (looks like VCR play button) to begin playing using device control of camera, press the double arrows both on the far left and right to Fast Forward and Reverse
5. In Camera mode, you will see an oval Import button. You can click on this button to start and stop Importing clip
6. You are then given a clip named "Clip1" on the Shelf. Click on the name of the clip to change it. It is always best to give clips a meaningful name rather than clip 1 and clip 2- this makes editing much more organized

Adding Clips to the Timeline

1. Drag desired clip from Shelf to Timeline by clicking on the picture, not the name
2. Drag the next clip into timeline, placing it next to the first clip
3. Position the playhead at the beginning of the clips on the Timeline by clicking on the Timeline ruler and then press the space bar in order to play the Timeline

Shortening and Splicing Clips

1. Choose a clip by selecting (double clicking) it either from the Timeline or the Shelf
2. Position the mouse just underneath the tick marks of the Scrubber bar in the Monitor window.
   If you have done it right, the ghosts of two triangle handles appear side-by-side. As you move the cursor horizontally without clicking, homing in on the beginning trim point, the ghost handles follow it around.
3. Drag horizontally until the triangle handles have selected either what you want to keep OR what you want to get rid of

> One way of splitting the clip without having to delete anything is achieved by placing the Playhead along the TOP of the Scrubber bar until you find the spot where you want to split the clip. To do this choose Edit → Split Clip at Playhead. The clip is now split.

Adding Transitions to Clips

1. Place two clips next to each other in the Timeline.
2. Choose a transition from the transitions window accessed by pressing Transitions button on the bottom the Shelf.
   *Notice the speed indicator, which indicates how long the transition will last.
3. Change this to a short amount of time, no longer than 1 or 2 seconds.
4. Drag the transition, a cross dissolve is the simplest option, by selecting either the name of the Transition OR the image preview itself. Drag into the timeline, between clip #1 and clip #2 and drop it between them.
5. Hit the Preview button in the Transitions window before you have moved it to the Timeline in order to preview a transition do either a mini preview.
6. To preview larger, wait until the red line that show the rendering process underneath each transition has finished rendering (after you have moved it to the Timeline). You can then select clip and press Preview from the Monitor that looks like the play button with a dark rectangle around it.

Exporting to Quicktime

1. Select File → Export Movie and select Quicktime from Export to Quicktime.
2. Select the Formats button to access preset options to make a Quicktime or select Expert to set your own settings for compression, frame rate, etc. if the end user has specific specifications.
3. Click Export. Name the movie & choose a destination for the file.
4. Click Save. Exporting a movie may take a few minutes depending on the length of the movie & the export format chosen. When the movie has been saved, double-click it to play it.