

# Unit 04: The Camera and How to Use It

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **Ongoing**  
Status: **Published**

## **Brief Summary of Unit**

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Students will understand the use of the camera and gain an understanding of the technical equipment used to shoot a film or video. Students will understand the basic functions of a camera and learn to manipulate the features of digital video equipment to create highly controlled images.

## **Transfer**

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## **Essential Questions**

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- • What are the controls used on a camera?
- • What is a digital video camera?

## **Essential Understandings**

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- • a zoom can bring an object closer or farther away in a viewer.
- • each camera has unique functions.
- • each camera mount and movement has a desired compositional effect?
- • the digital camera is the primary tool in bringing images to the screen.
- • what you put into the frame (actors, props, furniture, etc) tells a story
- • whenever possible keep the camera still unless for a desired effect.

## **Students Will Know**

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- • how to create mood control of exposure.
- • how to use a digital video camera.
- • how to use basic camera techniques..
- • how to use the exposure controls.
- • how to use the zoom or digital zoom lens.
- • the components and use of a tripod
- • the features and controls of a digital video camera.

- • the various jobs of a camera team.
- • time codes
- • what a handheld camera is.

## **Students Will Be Skilled At**

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## **Evidence/Performance Tasks**

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- • Complete a graphic organizer detailing six separate camera tests including the use of different exposures, the time code indicator, depths of field, handheld shots, , tripod shots and dolly shots.
- • Complete a graphic organizer detailing the features and controls of a digital video camera.
- • Demonstrate knowledge of composition by drawing six separate storyboard shots, then line them up through the viewfinder and shoot them.
- • Demonstrate understanding of camera technology through practicals and written quizzes.
- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the course
- • Write an analysis of camera style and movements in a 30 minute television show and how they affect the message.

## **Learning Plan**

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- • Analysis of camera movements.
- • Apply new understanding of digital camera by working with teams to shoot video for video projects.
- • Demonstration of the basic functions and types of cameras.
- • Discussions and worksheet on how digital images are created.
- • Preview the essential questions and continue to add to Film Production Journal that will follow students throughout the course.
- • Students will examine and complete a graphic organizer on the components of a camera.
- • Students will practice with cameras shooting six test shots using a tripod.

## **Materials**

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## **Suggested Strategies for Modifications**

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