PREPARATORY WORK FOR CINEMA PRODUCTION IN IRELAND

The course is designed is to bring from concept to distribution a cinematic work based within the foundations of narrative, documentary or experimental expression. The class will guide everyone through all these phases of work.

In order to prepare for this, it is helpful to consider the following component parts necessary to accomplish all of this.

Creative Statement: Think about what you want to express or explore? What mode of film best matches your vision?

Pre-Production: Pre-production can often be the most time-consuming part of a film. It involves research, writing, scripting, storyboarding, and planning of the work. It can involve location scouting, interviewing, arranging interviews, casting talent and other things. Have a notebook and index cards to jot down thoughts, sketch ideas and write script.

Production: Production is the part of the film where you are using a camera to record the raw material that will be your film. Contrary to popular opinion, the production stage is the shortest part of the process. A well-planned film can often be shot in a matter of hours.

Suggested Production Equipment:
Video Camera
Shotgun or Lavalier Microphone
Tripod
SD Cards and External Storage

Post-Production: Post-Production is the stage where all the gathered materials are edited into what the audience will see and hear in sequential order. It may also include graphics, credits, special effects, sound "sweetening" and other creative processes.

Suggested Post Production Equipment:
Laptop with Final Cut Pro, Premiere, iMovie, AfterEffects or other editing software
Small portable external hard drive

Copyright: You must have copyright permission for all media included in your work. If you need to use copyrighted media, talk to Glenda and Jesse first. Here is a site for some copyright free Irish music from the Free Music Archive: http://freemusicarchive.org/genre/Celtic/

Trial Software: iMovie, Final Cut Pro and Adobe Premiere are standard editing programs. Both Final Cut Pro and Premiere offer (one-time) 30-day, free trials available for download.

Suggested Reading:

Documentary: A History of the Non-Fiction Film, by Erik Barnouw
Introduction to Documentary, by Bill Nichols
The Filmmaker's Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide for the Digital Age, by Steven Ascher

In the Blink of an Eye: A Perspective on Film Editing, by Walter Murch
Film Directing Shot by Shot: Visualizing from Concept to Screen (Michael Wiese Productions)