

## Project SP-16 Reconstruction (2 - 3 minutes)

**Project** Identify a subject for, plan, shoot, gather archival materials for, and edit together a reconstruction that interprets a true story from the past using the techniques of documentary and fiction filmmaking.

### Goals

- a) Select a story that would benefit from wholesale or selected reconstructions.
- b) Plan carefully to generate imaginative imagery and sound that best evokes the emotional and intellectual truth of the story.
- c) Control the edit and its elements to engage and guide the viewer through the story, dramatizing the ambiguities of human memory and engendering the past with present significance.

### Steps

#### *Preproduction*

- a) Identify a person who has an interesting story to tell from their history
- b) Describe the person featured and summarize their story and its theme
- c) Describe the approach you will take to telling the story (Re-enactment? Docudrama? Fake documentary? A combination of techniques?)
- d) Make a list of the audio elements you will need to gather to tell the story
- e) Make a list of the visual elements you will need to gather to tell the story
- f) Storyboard the shots you will need to produce
- g) Make a split-page (A/V) script describing the film's parallel sound and picture as it will play out from start to finish

#### *Production*

- a) Shoot interviews, imagery, and staged performances
- b) Use synchronous sound, voiceover and/or narration
- c) Gather any archival material necessary to the story

#### *Postproduction*

- a) Use music in the edit, selecting a track or tracks you have the rights to use and choosing something without vocals or lyrics that supports the emotional quality of the story
- b) Edit together a cut of the material
- c) Add any onscreen text that you may need to help tell the story
- d) Make an audio mix of tracks and color correct picture

**Creative Limitations** Although it may be tempting to try a comedic mockumentary, save your exploration of that form for a time when your learning focus is on comedy writing and improvisational acting.

## ASSESSMENT, PROJECT SP-16 RECONSTRUCTION

Criteria	Rating
1. <b>Directing.</b> Identifies a compelling subject that lends itself to a reconstruction.	0 1 2 3 4 5
2. Evidences well-planned and controlled picture and sound elements.	0 1 2 3 4 5
3. Achieves nuanced language and visual information.	0 1 2 3 4 5
4. Evokes emotional states of participants and suggests a theme.	0 1 2 3 4 5
5. <b>Camera.</b> Interprets meaning through visual treatment.	0 1 2 3 4 5
6. Achieves high quality across interviews, fiction-style reenactments and/or expressive imagery.	0 1 2 3 4 5
7. <b>Sound.</b> Communicates language content clearly.	0 1 2 3 4 5
8. Interprets meaning through well-recorded sync sound, wild sounds, and/or ambience.	0 1 2 3 4 5
9. <b>Editing.</b> Interprets meaning through thoughtful juxtaposition and arrangement of sound and picture elements.	0 1 2 3 4 5
10. Makes use of music and ambience tracks to generate atmosphere and support the emotional tenor of the film.	0 1 2 3 4 5
11. Balances the audience's need for expository information with the need to divulge details for best dramatic effect.	0 1 2 3 4 5
12. Pacing supplies a sense of continuous forward movement through the film.	0 1 2 3 4 5
13. Creates a clear sense of beginning, middle, and end.	0 1 2 3 4 5
14. <b>Dramatic Form.</b> Imposes an effective structure on the material.	0 1 2 3 4 5
15. Tracks the shifting dynamics of participants' recollections through the plot points of the story.	0 1 2 3 4 5
16. Resolves in a satisfactory manner.	0 1 2 3 4 5
17. <b>Authorship.</b> Film suggests subjective experience of participants.	0 1 2 3 4 5
18. Film considers and recognizes the audience's perceptions.	0 1 2 3 4 5
19. Film transcends limitations of project to say something original.	0 1 2 3 4 5
20. Film has a high overall impact.	0 1 2 3 4 5
<b>TOTAL</b>	_____/100