

Sony a7iii Camera Workshop {Session 1 of 2} v.3

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Revised on September 14, 2022

The goal of this in-class workshop is to become familiar with basic operation of the Sony a7iii camera in fully-automatic mode to achieve acceptable focus, exposure, and color balance. In the second session we'll focus on manual/movie mode, providing full control of ISO, Shutter Speed, Aperture, and White Balance.

All video for this workshop must be recorded at 24p using the Sony XAVC S codec in HD (1920x1080) with a 1/50 shutter speed unless the camera is in P mode or you are instructed otherwise. By using ND filters, you can maintain a 1/50 shutter speed when shooting outdoors in bright sunlight. Use the PDF of the presentation slides as reference for set-up steps, configuration, and basic usage.

Hands-On Activity:

Record video clips using the camera in P (Program Mode) with auto/spot focus

Record the video described in the list below, keep a log using the paper form provided which you will hand in along with the files as a PDF, JPG, or PNG file. Include your name and the date on the log.

Document the camera settings for frame rate, codec, and data rate. For each video clip, include the location, a description, along with the camera and lens settings used along with any additional notes that may be relevant. If there are multiple takes, make notes as to which take is the best.

Keeping a log is critical because as you go out and record video, you'll generate a lot of files and a good log will make it easier to find what you are looking for and facilitate logging your footage in Premiere Pro.

Make sure to use the touch focus feature to assure you have proper focus, it is hard to tell if the focus is correct on the tiny screen. By using touch focus you are telling the camera what to focus on, increasing the changes of a usable shot.

You will be working in pairs, however, you are each shooting your own footage, your buddy is there to help you, but you are each shooting your own footage during the workshop. Return to the classroom at the scheduled time, please don't be late!

1. Establishing shot, interior environment, brightly lit
2. CU or MS of a person in the same interior environment, brightly lit, as 1
3. Establishing shot, interior environment, poorly lit
4. CU or MS of a person in the same interior environment as 3, poorly lit
5. Establishing shot, outdoor environment, in direct sunlight
6. CU or MS of a person in the same outdoor environment as 4, in direct sunlight
7. Establishing shot, outdoor environment, in the shade
8. CU or MS of a person in the same outdoor environment as 7, in the shade
9. Your choice, find something interesting to record with the camera, make a note as to WHY you chose to record this particular scene with the camera
10. If you are running ahead of time, don't come back to the classroom early, record additional video clips, experiment, have some fun!

When you return to the classroom, transfer the files from the camera to your team's designated folder in our class folder on our shared media drive. Include the camera log you created using the paper form provided which you will hand in along with the files as a PDF, JPG, or PNG file. NOTE: If you are remote or performing a make-up activity, place folders in the designated folder within the Camera Workshop folder in our shared drive.