

Project Year

2002

Project Team

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Project Title

An Interactive Introduction to Film

Audience

Undergraduate students enrolled in the *Interactive Introduction to Film* course in the fall of 2002.

Pedagogical Issue

In *Interactive Introduction to Film*, students use a standard text, *Film Art*, to gain an introduction to the philosophy and theory behind filmmaking techniques such as editing and lighting. However, the theories behind the techniques cannot be completely understood without visual examples. The text offers static images, but it fails to illustrate the full dimensions of the moving art form that is cinema. With Hitchcock's *The Birds*, for example, a film that offers a unique illustration of a key editing concept, the text discusses the sequence in question with stills taken from the film, rather than the actual moving images, and falls short of conveying the full power of the work.

Solution

The Technology Fellows and the team propose to build a website to complement and supplement the course text. Digitized film clips that correspond to chapters in the course text will enhance students' understanding of the concepts discussed in class. Film clips will be posted to the site before each weekly session to familiarize students with each film under study. The project, once completed, could be easily extended to other film classes, to enhance discussions.

Technologies Used

Web programming, JavaScript, Courseware (WebCT), Digital Video