

## 2. Camera Settings, Angles, and Shots....and how to use them

*We're operating in a world where one good video can lead to a massive social following; where a massive social following can drive programming decisions; and where programming can be dynamically created by a user..." Mike Henry*

The screenshot shows a video player interface. The main video area displays a man smiling, with a play button overlay. The video title is "Week 2 Intro to Camera Angles, Shots & Settings". To the left is a course navigation menu with items like "COURSE WELCOME", "1. Intro to Video Production", "2. Camera Settings, Angles, and Shots....and how to use them", "INTRO", "VIDEO: Camera Angles and Shots for Filmmakers", "VIDEO: Best DSLR Settings for Video", "HANDS ON EXPERIENCE", "5 MINUTE LESSON SUMMARY", "3. Shooting an Interview", and "4. Professional Video Editing in Premiere Pro pt1". To the right of the video, there are "Watch later" and "Share" buttons, and a list of bullet points for camera settings: "Set Aperture (Start with f/2.8 for Wide, Full & Closeup Shots", "Set ISO (Adjust to keep ISO at 800 or less)", "Set White Balance with a white piece of paper", "Set Aperture (Start with f/2.8 for Wide, Full & Closeup Shots", "Set ISO (Adjust to keep ISO at 800 or less)", "Set White Balance with a white piece of paper". Below the video, there is a "30-15 MINUTE LESSON INTRODUCTION" section with text: "Review the previous week's topics and answer any questions from students who watched the recommended videos." and "Play the Video lessons for the group and answer any questions that immediately arise." and "Allow the groups to split to multiple areas around the BRTTC and have them attempt to ten 15-second clips of one of their team members doing what they enjoy. Here are some ideas!" and "30 second Shot List Ideas: Remember to get a variety of Wide, Full & Closeup Shots, as well as variety in camera Angles (High, Low, Overhead, Centered, etc). For variety, get extras of any of the other shot styles learned about in the videos (Point of View, Insert Shots, Cutaways, etc). Keep your". At the bottom right, there is a "COMPLETE & CONTINUE" button.

### INTRODUCTION

One of the key differences between a professional and an amateur is the tools they use, and their knowledge of how to use them.

In this weeks class, let's dive a bit deeper into understanding 2 things.

1. The types of Camera Angles and Shots that make up most TV and Film
2. The main settings on our camera, and how to use them to get a consistently great image.

Once you understand how to use camera settings like Shutter Speed, Aperature and ISO and White Balance, you'll be far more consistently able to get the exact shot you want to tell your story.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

*From this lesson, students will be able to:*

- *Shoot a variety of camera angles (High, Low, Overhead, etc).*
- *Shoot a variety of shots including Wide, Full & Closeup Shots*
- *Setup the camera resolution & frame rate (choose 1080p 30 for your Resolution & Framerate)*



- *Setup Shutter speed (Double the frame rate...or 60 fps)*
- *Set Aperature (Start with the lowest f stop value to blur the background)*
- *Set ISO (Adjust to keep ISO at 800 or less)*
- *Set White Balance with a white piece of paper*

## **10-15 MINUTE LESSON INTRODUCTION**

Review the previous weeks topics and answer any questions from students who watched the recommended videos.

Play the Video lessons for the group and answer any questions that immediately arise.

Allow the groups to split to multiple areas around the BBTC and have them attempt to ten 15 second clips of one of their team members doing what they enjoy. Here are some ideas!

**15 second Shot List Ideas:** Remember to get a variety of Wide, Full & Closeup Shots, as well as variety in camera Angles (high, Low, Overhead, Canted, etc). For variety, get extras of any of the other shot styles learned about in the videos (Point of View, Insert Shots, Cutaways, etc). Keep your shots <10 seconds apiece.

- One or more students playing an instrument
- Making music in the studio,
- Designing a poster in Photoshop
- Working with the 3d printer
- Setting up the video lighting
- Using a camera

For each shot, have them take turns setting the Shutter speed, Aperature and ISO to get a well balanced, stable shot.

At the end, bring your cameras to the teacher for safe keeping and we will use this footage in future weeks.

## **TEACHING TIPS**

*Production days can be a lot of fun for students as they run around shooting and capturing various ideas and takes.*

*Move around to the different groups, seeing who might be stuck on an issue or need help executing an idea.*

*The key is to make it fun, so they want to dive deeper into production techniques.*

### **VIDEO: Camera Angles and Shots for Filmmakers**



### **HANDS ON EXPERIENCE**

Have the students work in their groups in the studio or lab until the last 5 minutes. Have them go through each of the steps demonstrated in the video, including:

- *Choose a Location*
- *Learn what Lighting you have*

- *Setup Your Tripod (Be Level)*
- *Mount their camera*
- *Setup your camera*
- *Setup frame rate*
- *Setup Shutter speed*
- *Set Aperature (Lowest to blur background)*
- *Set ISO (Adjust to keep ISO at 800 or less)*
- *Set White Balance*

## **5 MINUTE LESSON SUMMARY**

Briefly review the concepts camera settings. Ask the students to point out something they discovered or learned that is different from their experience shooting with other cameras.

Encourage their efforts and point out any elements that they created that get a response from the rest of the class.

Assign the students to watch any recommended before the next class meeting, and come to class with one question prepared about a concept they didn't understand.