

# Editing a News Package with LumaFusion

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## Objective:

Students will learn the process of filming and editing a news package in order to strengthen their storytelling and media literacy skills.

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## Materials:

- iPhone, iPad, Chromebook, or Android phone/tablet with LumaFusion app downloaded
- Recording equipment (Phone for filming, microphones, tripods)

DURATION: 5-6 CLASS PERIODS (ADJUSTABLE BASED ON CLASS PACE AND ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT)

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## Day 1: Introduction to News Packages

- Begin with a discussion: what is the purpose and elements of a news packages in journalism?
- Show examples of news packages emphasizing different elements such as interviews, b-roll footage, narration, and graphics as well as the angle the journalist has taken on the story? What are the possible other angles?
- **News Package Example:**  
Distinctly Michigan- a series of news packages by mobile filmmaker and University of Michigan Journalism Professor, Mike Castellucci.
- Discuss the typical structure of a news package: introduction, body (including interviews and b-roll), and conclusion. NBCUniverstiy
- Introduce the assignment: a group of 4-6 students will select a news topic within the school and conduct research, film interviews and b-roll for a news package.

## Day 2: Research and Scripting

- Guide students in choosing a news topic relevant to their community or interests. Encourage them to select a topic with multiple angles for comprehensive coverage.
- Possible examples for news packages that can be filmed in an high school:
  - \* Cafeteria lunch: Delicious or Disgusting?
  - \* Phones use in the classroom: better or worse for learning outcomes?
  - \* Homework: Necessary for learning or busywork?
- Provide instruction on conducting effective research, brainstorm possible interviewees, how to fact-check, and gather multimedia elements (images, videos, statistics).
- Demonstrate how to write a script for a news package, focusing on clarity, conciseness, and engaging storytelling. Emphasize the importance of maintaining journalistic integrity and avoiding bias.

## Day 3: Filming and Interview Techniques

- Introduce basic principles of filming, including framing, lighting, and sound quality. Provide hands-on demonstrations using recording equipment.
- Discuss interview techniques, such as preparing questions in advance, active listening, and encouraging interviewees to speak naturally. Brainstorm where to interview subjects, ie... sit down interview vs. interviewing someone in line to get their cafeteria lunch.
- Allow students time to practice filming b-roll footage and conducting interviews in pairs or small groups. Provide feedback and guidance as needed.

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## Day 4: Introduction to Editing in LumaFusion

- Provide a brief overview of the video editing software being used in class. Be sure students know the basic functions such as importing media, cutting and arranging clips, and adding transitions.

Watch the following tutorials together in the classroom or have them watch and practice at home.

[Starting a LumaFusion project](#)

[Shooting to Edit\]](#)

[Organizing your Media in LumaFusion](#)

[How to edit an Interview in LumaFusion](#)

[Sharing Projects Between Devices and Two Editors](#)

[Using Picture-in-Picture Editing in LumaFusion](#)

[LumaFusion Academy](#) (Students can access all these tutorials during their edit.)

- Guide students in organizing their footage and creating a rough cut of their news package. Emphasize the importance of pacing, clarity, and visual appeal.
- Allow time for peer review and feedback sessions: Is the story clear? Engaging? This can be done in small groups or as a class.

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## Day 5: Review and Assessment

- Encourage students to make necessary revisions based on feedback and finalize their news packages for presentation—perhaps for a bigger audience outside the classroom.
- Students will be assessed based on the quality and completeness of their news packages, including, clarity of storytelling. Additionally, students can provide self-assessments reflecting on their learning process.

**\*Additional lesson plan idea:** Break the news package teams into two smaller groups. Have each smaller group create a DIFFERENT edit of the news package, taking a new angle on the story, using the same media.