iMovie & Final Cut Pro
Importing Video from
SD Card & HD Memory Camcorder
& Digital tape

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Notify Regina Conboy, 442-3608, rconboy@albany.edu if you intend to leave your movie on the Mac or it may be deleted. The IMC has portable hard drives for loan to store your project. In the IMC select the iMacs with Solid State Hard drives for lengthy video and HD video. These iMacs have red stickers on the top left corner.

Set Up the IMC’s Canon FS300/FS30/FS400 Camcorders
You may remove the card from the camcorder and use the card reader located on the iMacs or your computer. A card reader is available for loan. If you recorded to the camcorder’s built-in memory or if you leave the card in the camcorder to import into iMovie or Final Cut:

1- Connect the camcorder to the power supply. The camcorder port is located under a black flap, below the word “Access”. Plug the camcorder into an electrical outlet.
2- Connect the camcorder to the Mac using the USB cable. Turn on the camcorder.
3- Press the camera/play button on the camcorder.
4- Wait for computer and camcorder to recognize each other.
5- Open iMovie or Final Cut Pro.

Set Up the IMC’s Canon VIXIA HF R21 HD Memory Camcorder
If you recorded in MXP or FXP mode, video processing will be timely and the file sizes are very large. If you do not show the movie in High Definition we recommend that you convert the video clips to Standard Definition prior to importing. Request an SD card to put the converted video onto.

1- Put the SD card in Slot B and turn on the camcorder
2- Press the camera/play button
3- Select Copy
4- Select Convert HD > SD and follow the prompts
5- You may remove the card and use the card reader located on the iMacs or your computer. A card reader is available for loan.

If you recorded to the camcorder’s built-in memory or if you leave the card in the camcorder to import into iMovie or Final Cut:

1- Connect the camcorder to the power supply and plug the camcorder into an electrical outlet.
2- Connect camcorder to the Mac using the USB cable.
3- Turn on the camcorder button
4- Press the camera/play button on the camcorder
5- Wait for computer and camcorder to recognize each other.
6- Select the option “All for PC only”
7- Open iMovie or Final Cut Pro.

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Set up the IMC’s Vixia HF R32 HD Camcorder: MP4 video clips

MP4 recordings cannot be imported directly from the camcorder. If your footage is on the camcorder’s built-in memory and not an SD card you need to transfer the MP4 video clips to an SD card OR install the Canon Software on your computer. The software, SD cards and card readers are available for loan. The software may be downloaded; see note in camcorder bag.

All IMC Macs have card readers. You may remove the card and use the card reader located on the iMacs or your computer. If you are using the IMC you must transfer the mp4 files to an SD card. Canon software is not installed.

1- To transfer MP4 recordings from the camcorder to the SD Card insert an SD card and turn on the camcorder.
2- Press the camera/play button.
3- Select Edit then copy.
4- Remove the card and insert in card reader
5- Open iMovie or Final Cut Pro.

Set up the IMC’s Vixia HF R32 HD Camcorder: HD video clips

You may remove the card and use the card reader located on the iMacs or your computer. A card reader is available for loan. If you recorded to the camcorder’s built-in memory or if you leave the card in the camcorder to import to iMovie or Final Cut:

1- Connect the camcorder to the power supply and plug the camcorder into an electrical outlet.
2- Connect camcorder to the Mac using the USB cable.
3- Turn on the camcorder button
4- Press the camera/play button on the
5- Wait for computer and camcorder to recognize each other.
6- Open iMovie or Final Cut Pro.

Set up the IMC’s Digital Tape camcorder and then go to page 4

1 - To import footage from digital tape a firewire connection must be made. Borrow a cable from the IMC. In the IMC lab firewire cables are installed. Connect the camcorder to the Mac using the firewire cable. Turn on the camcorder
2- Put the camcorder in Play mode. Mute the volume on the camcorder.
3- Open iMovie or Final Cut Pro [do in this order or the application may not recognize the camcorder]
4- Click the Camera Import button in iMovie and Import Media in Final Cut

5- Use the application’s controllers to move, play and import the tape.
6- Select Import; the video clips will be stored in the Events folder in the IMC Public folder. The New Event name automatically defaults to the current date. We recommend that you name the Event something else. The video begins importing as it plays in real time. You will not be able to hear the movie. In iMovie Automatic: rewinds the tape and imports all content and rewinds again. Manual: You control what is imported, rewind, fast forward, etc. In Final Cut use the controllers to manually select what to import.
7- When complete, click Stop then Done in iMovie; select Stop Import in Final Cut.
8- iMovie creates thumbnails of the clips, displaying as a filmstrip. Drag tab to adjust the number of frames per thumbnail to display in the Events browser.

In Final Cut Select View> Event Browser as Filmstrip or As List.
**Importing from SD card and memory into iMovie**

1- **If using an SD Card Reader and not the camera**, how you import depends on the video file type. For example, if you are using the Canon FS300 with iMovie, you must follow the steps below: “If importing from the camcorder or a camera and some SD cards”. If you have the Canon HF R32 HD camcorder and created MP4 files, then Select File > Import > Movies in iMovie or Import > Media in Final Cut. The video clips are stored in the Events folder in the IMC Public folder. The New Event name automatically defaults to the current date. We recommend that you name the Event something else.

If importing from the camcorder, a camera and sometimes the SD card, be sure the card is inserted in the card reader or the camcorder is plugged in, utilizing power [not relying only on the battery and turned on before you open the application]. iMovie and Final Cut automatically create thumbnails.

If this does not occur click the Camera Import button in iMovie and Import Media in Final Cut

2- **iMovie** displays thumbnails of the video for you to select what to import. Default: All are selected; unselect those you do not want to import. Select **Import Checked**.

iMovie creates thumbnails of the video clips, displaying as a filmstrip. Drag tab to adjust the number of frames per thumbnail to display in the Events browser.

**Final Cut** views your clips as a filmstrip or by list. Select View> Event Browser as Filmstrip or As List. Or use the shortcuts:

Drag to adjust the number of frames per thumbnail to display.
**Creating the Project [the timeline/storyboard] to build and edit the new movie**

In iMovie select **File > New Project** from the top line menu iMovie. The Project saves automatically to the iMovie Projects folder located in the **IMC Public Folder**. In iMovie set the aspect ratio to **Standard, 4:3** if you did not record in Wide Screen.

In Final Cut click on the **Create New Project** icon. The Project saves automatically to the Final Cut Projects folder located in the **IMC Public Folder**.

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**Adding video from the Event Library** [Diagrams below from iMovie]

To build your movie, make selections from the Event Library and drag the footage into the New Project. To select an entire clip or multiple clips, hold down the shift key then click once on the clip. The clip will be outlined in yellow. To select a frame range, or part of clip, click on the clip and adjust the yellow outline to include roughly only the footage you will use in your project. Place the mouse in the middle of the clip and when it turns into a hand, drag the clip to the project by holding down on the mouse. Changes are automatically saved. iMovie and Final Cut do not create a new copy of the video for your project; the original video remains untouched in your library. **It is always best that all source material [Events, audio, images] reside on the same drive as the Project.**

The orange underline indicates video that you have used in your project.

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*last update 11/13*