

The March Film: A Major Production, by you

You have a month to create a 4 -5 minute film (*with an accompanying portfolio – info on calendar & more tomorrow*). Your film should be well planned, show what you have learned (*effective use of film language: narrative, mise en scene, cinematography, etc.*), and be the best film you can create within the given parameters. As a production team, you are using the month to create a polished and professional film. Use your knowledge; use your skills.

1. Determine a story to film.

Share your two recent screenplay ideas – or if those aren't your favorite, share two story ideas you have (former screenplays/new ideas...).

→ Even if you have already decided on a story to tell, I want you to please share your ideas with your new production group.

Discuss options with your group, do you have other ideas you haven't written about? Is there a short story you've read? A news item? An experimental piece you've been thinking about? Write it* and make a film!

→ Remember, you are not necessarily limited to using your group members as actors – if you can plan accordingly, you may be able to use peers not in your group/not in our class, etc.

→ If you have adult roles in your film, is there an adult you can get to play the part?

→ If your primary location isn't school, where can you film to make it more authentic/more genuine – and how could you make that happen?

* I assume you will make a film from a written screenplay, but you can choose to collaborate on a story idea and not use a screenplay. You would need to work hard to make this work, but it's doable – storyboarding would still be required.

Remember, you will have a month to make this film – you have learned how meaning is created not just with the story being told, but HOW it is told using film language. Think about this as you make your decisions -- show off what you have learned. Choose a story that can show off the strengths of your production members.

2. Decide each person's role. Director, Cinematographer, Sound Designer/Mixer, Screenwriter**, Editor

If it is best for the production, team members can share roles EXCEPT if you are testing for IB Film, IB Film testers have to be the only one in their role for the film.

→ and speaking of: IB Testers, choose a role that you can comment on throughout the production – this is not to say that you shouldn't be an editor because that role only comes into play at the end of the production -- because that's not true, but you may need to think hard about how your role is involved throughout the process (I have prompts that will help you with this)

** if screenplay is already written, this cannot be someone's only production role, they must take on an additional role

Some other things to make note of...

1) The **storyboard** must be completed before filming begins.

2) If someone is testing in your group you **CANNOT** use copyrighted **music** for this film (see [music copyright note](#), page 1 "Audio Material").

3) Here is the [official IB Production Film and Portfolio assignment](#) - if you are interested in looking it over (it is lengthy and I will go over it in the next few days and you will be assigned to read relevant parts).