

## Color Grading and Finishing with DaVinci Resolve 101

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### Course Summary

#### Description

In this three-day course, you'll get a thorough overview of the interface, tools, features, and production flow for DaVinci Resolve. The course is an ideal combination of instructor-led demonstration and hands-on practice to introduce you to DaVinci Resolve software, a revolutionary 64-bit Color Correction application. This class will teach students how to view the world of color correction from the perspective of a colorist. Students will learn the foundations of contrast and color balance and quickly begin to explore that many professional features Resolve has to offer in the postproduction workflow. Students will understand how to balance, create continuity, and develop styles and looks which bring mood and tone to moving images and the storyline.

#### Topics

##### Color Correcting a DaVinci Resolve Timeline

- Balancing Footage
- Creating Color Continuity
- Correcting and Enhancing Isolated Areas

##### Managing Nodes and Grades

- Importing an XML Timeline
- Synching an offline Reference
- Conforming a Timeline
- Associating HQ Footage with a Timeline for Online Workflows

##### Optimizing the Grading Workflow

- Adjusting Image Properties
- Using Groups in the Grading Workflow
- Setting up RAW Projects
- Delivering Projects

#### Audience

This course is designed for anyone who'd like to become familiar with DaVinci Resolve software and its use in post-production.

#### Prerequisites

Students should possess a knowledge of OS X and basic computer navigation, as well as basic design/drafting procedures and terminology.

#### Duration

Three days

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### Course Outline

#### Color Correcting a DaVinci Resolve Timeline

##### I. *Balancing Footage*

- A. Opening a Resolve Archive
- B. Setting up Project Backups
- C. Maximizing the Dynamic Range
- D. Understanding the Grading Workflow
- E. Setting Tonal Range and Contrast
- F. Balancing Colors
- G. Understanding Log Controls and Primaries Wheels
- H. Exploring a Color Managed Workflow

##### II. *Creating Color Continuity*

- A. Building a shot-matching Strategy
- B. Organizing Shots Using Flags and Filters
- C. Applying Shot match
- D. Matching Shots Using Stills
- E. Comparing and Matching Shots Manually

##### III. *Correcting and Enhancing Isolated Areas*

- A. Controlling the Viewer's Eye
- B. Sharpening Key Elements
- C. Tracking Obscured Objects
- D. Fixing Overcast Skies
- E. Warping Colors to a Target
- F. Enhancing Skin Tones with Face Refinement
- G. Adjusting Skin Tones Manually

#### Managing Nodes and Grades

##### IV. *Conforming from and XML Timeline*

- A. Importing an XML Timeline
- B. Synching an offline Reference
- C. Conforming a Timeline
- D. Associating HQ Footage with a Timeline for Online Workflows

##### V. *Mastering the Node Pipeline*

- A. Understanding Node-based Compositing
- B. Understanding the Importance of Node Order
- C. Creating Separate Processing pipelines with a Parallel Mixer Node
- D. Visualizing Mixer Nodes
- E. Compositing Effects with the Layer Mixer Node

##### VI. *Managing Grades Across Clips and Timelines*

- A. Working with Local Versions
- B. Appending Grades and Nodes
- C. Using Shared Nodes across Multiple Clips

- D. Saving Grades for other Projects
- E. Copying Timeline Grades using ColorTrace
- F. Copying Grades using the Timelines Album

#### Optimizing the Grading Workflow

##### VII. *Adjusting Image Properties*

- A. Preparing Media using Scene Cut Detection
- B. Understanding Timeline Resolution and Sizing Palette Modes
- C. Using Keyframing
- D. Applying Noise Reduction
- E. Optimizing Performance with Render Cache

##### VIII. *Using Groups in the Grading Workflow*

- A. Creating a Group
- B. Applying Base Grades a Pre-clip Group Level
- C. Making Clip-specific Adjustments at the Clip Group Level
- D. Creating a Unifying Look using the Post-Clip Group Level
- E. Applying Timeline Level Grades

##### IX. *Setting up RAW Projects*

- A. Adjusting RAW Settings at the Project Level
- B. Adjusting RAW Settings at the Clip Level
- C. Color Correcting with RAW Through Resolve Color Management
- D. Setting up a Render Cache for RAW Media Project

##### X. *Delivering Projects*

- A. Using Lightbox to Check Timeline Prior to Delivery
- B. Understanding the Render Workflow and Presets
- C. Creating Custom Renders and Saving Presets
- D. Configuring a Timeline for Digital Cinema
- E. Rendering a DCP
- F. Using Commercial Workflow to Export Versions
- G. Exploring Advanced Render Settings