

CUNY Interactive Faculty: Curated Examples of Noteworthy Video for Teaching Digital Journalism

[Click Here: Final Cut Pro X Video Storytelling Best Practices Digital Guide](#)

Characteristics of Online Video

Modular or chapterized

[NYTimes: Year at War](#) - This feature combines reporter-produced videos, with soldier dispatches and profiles. The videos are all short, but some “moments” are only 15-30 seconds long.

[A Day With the Body Collectors](#) - The story of Mexico’s war on drugs is told through 1-4 minute vignettes

[The Third Presidential Debate](#) - The 2012 debate is neatly divided into video by topic. It is paired with reporter fact checking and a scrolling transcript.

Documentary, Mixed Media

[Driftless in Iowa](#) - This documentary about a Midwestern farm is told through 4-6 minute vignettes. It is one of many excellent video features on [Mediastorm](#).

[Behind the Veil](#) - In this Globe and Mail documentary site about women in Kandahar, short video interviews appear screen size, overlaid by the site navigation.

[Welcome to Pinepoint](#) - A multimedia documentary about one man’s hometown, this site features many creative video clips, mixed with a range of other media.

[Frontline: Bush’s War](#) - This site features a video timeline.

Raw, Non-narrated

[Under One Roof](#) - Raw footage of the three floors show the daily life of a multigenerational household.

[Fashion Week in NYC](#)

[Spaghetti Fight on the Subway](#) - Gawker features a “food” fight on the train.

Collaborative, crowdsourced, user-generated

[CNN iReporters](#) - Users contributed Japan earthquake videos

[Johnny Cash Project](#) - Users create and submit a frame of this Johnny Cash video.

[How Your Pets Keep You Healthy](#) - It has gotten much easier to ask users to submit videos. Here the NYTimes features some charming pets.

[Eternal Moonwalk](#) - Contributors from all over the globe send in their best moonwalk.

Interactive

[Arte.tv Prison Valley](#) - This is a multimedia feature about the prison system in Colorado. You are invited to sign in and then are free to interactively explore the scenes from the story.

[Obama Campaign Video](#) - Not journalism, this feature allows you to personalize a get-out-the-vote video.

[What Type Are You?](#) - Here, users interact with a psychoanalyst who picks the perfect font for their personality type.

Geo-tagged

[On the Run in NYC](#) - Users can click along a map to view video of the marathon’s route.

[Moscow-Vladivostok: virtual journey](#) - A Google map site that lets you travel the Trans Siberian Railway and even provides a soundtrack options.

Point of View

[Bear 71](#) - In this story about the Canadian grizzly, viewers can follow the movements of Bear 71 and watch other viewers.

[Inside a disaster – pick your perspective](#) - In this video about the earthquake in Haiti, viewers can choose to see the situation from three different points of view.

Social media mashups

[Take this Lollipop](#) - An “Interactive Live Action Facebook Connect experience,” this site takes your posts and weaves them into a horror-stalking video. Not journalism, but an interesting use of technology.

[Sour Mirror](#) - This is the antidote to the dystopic lollipop video -- some cheerful Japanese musicians take your social media info and work it into their performance.

Chronology/Continuity

[A Year in New York](#)

[Everyone](#) - This film group says they “play with the lines between documentary, fiction and experimental cinema to craft films that focus on concepts and feelings above all else.” Here is one of their productions, [Words](#)

Man on the street, profiles

[Atlantic – Think Again: “Is Google Making Us Stupid?”](#)

[Washington Post: On Being](#)

Vidcasts

Traditional print organizations like the Times and WSJ are creating daily newscasts.

NYT: [Timecast](#)

WSJ: [NewsHub](#)

Live streaming

[Chile miners rescue](#) - This gripping story featured a 24/7 live streaming feed.

Animated and annotated

[Good magazine: Big Money Ballers](#) - GOOD magazine has a handful of clever animated shorts.

[National Geographic: Most Typical Person in the World](#)

[Interrupted Lives](#)

[Stump Interrupted](#) - Pop-up bubbles and illustrations are used to fact-check and comment on speeches of politicians.

Point-counterpoint, Q&A interviews, advice

[NYTimes: Another Stimulus Package?](#) - A video version of the pro vs. con

Slate: [Busted by a Tracking Device](#) - Dear Prudence dishes out advice for the digital age.

Good general resources for web video:

[NYT Lens blog item on must see videos](#)

[Kobre Guide](#) to the World's Best Videojournalism

[MediaStorm](#) (including Emmy-nominated pieces for 2010 - [link](#))

Usage stats

[The State of Online Video](#) (Pew, 2010)

[New numbers: Online video makes big gains](#) (Poynter, May 2010)

Specific short examples:

[A Shout at the Minors](#) (NYT) great example of putting you on the scene with no narration and compressing time. A different take on something that could have been quite a boring daybook piece.

[Governor Mark Sanford Says He Understands Calls for Resignation](#) (YouTube; shot with FlipCam by AP reporter)

[NYPD Attacks Cyclist - Critical Mass Rally](#) (YouTube) (raw video)

[Sydney Hit By Red Dust Storm: Raw Video](#) (Current TV) (raw video)

[Flying Trikes](#) (Spokesman-Review)

[Last Call: A Tokyo Neighborhood in Transition](#) (WaPo) -- good example of presenting a series of short videos thematically

[On Tour with "Love"](#) (WaPo)

[The House That Jessy Built](#) (NYT)

[Iranians Protest in New York](#) (NYT)

[Seattle Biker Chicks](#) (Seattle Times)

[Divas Hold a Lock Party](#) (NYT The Local - Ft. Greene)

[Common Craft: Stock Markets in Plain English](#) (example of how-to genre of videos)

[HowCast.com](#) - how to do anything!

[U Street Jubilation](#) (WaPo) - showing action)

[SceneIn](#) (WaPo) - showing sense of place

[Common Ground](#) ([MediaStorm](#)) - Showing sense of place

[Alamo Dustoffs](#) ([San Antonio Express-News](#)) - 1st minute showing process/compression, skilled use of stills with video

[Shark fisherman](#) (St. Pete Times) - Showing character, emotion

[Dancing dog](#) - showing cute critters

Selection from [Beyond the sideline](#) (Portland Oregonian)

Week eight clip -- Nice twist of cliché of street sign as establishing shot [Snail Bonanza - World Snail Racing Championships on Vimeo](#)

VoxPop & Interview

[Fifty People, One Question](#) -- [Post Secret](#)

Similar student example - [Dreams deferred, oakland north. What keeps rockridge up at night](#)

[OnBeing](#) -- Washington Post's striking video interview feature - in many ways it breaks the rules for web video (only the subject with no b-roll, jump cuts, etc.)

[iPhone Crap Apps](#) -- Wall Street Journal's great use of recorded Skype Video interviews (When your budget constrains your travel).

Good Non-Narrated Video

[Fashion Week in New York City \(Washington Post\)](#) - Interesting example of non-narrative scene setter, with no story, no IDs, but plenty of action, vox-pops, music soundtrack, time-lapse, etc.

[Bottoming Out](#) (Las Vegas Sun). Good illustration of how the subject can help tell the story, not just with voiceover narration, but also with self-generated video

[Saving the Dead \(more\)](#) ((Washington Post) Movement, nat sound, letting the story breathe.

[The Insights of Angels](#) (From a Bob Sacha workshop, shot in 2 days, completed in 4 days)

[Autism: A Weighty Diagnosis](#) (Roanoke Times)

[Prison Valley](#) (Produced by Arte.tv)

Recession Proof Artist: (NYTimes) Living the dream of an artist on \$12,000/year. Simple video story that humanizes a number; great illustration of shooting sequences by NYT's Jigar Mehta. Good example of use of angles, compression (bread making @ 1:47).

[Music As Therapy by Will Yurman](#) - from a staffer at the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle who does stills, video and audio slideshows and does all of them very well

High-Quality Video

Brilliant shooting and cutting for a profile...you can never have enough images of reality (a.k.a. B roll). Shot entirely with Canon 5d and 7d still cameras on HD video mode> Shinya Kimura by Henrick Hansen

><http://vimeo.com/13159991>

Ready! Steady! Slow! a real world situation: Rii Schroer shot this story by herself, drove 2.5 hours back to London, edited it and had it up on the London Sunday Times website in less than 24 hours...nice simple graphics too

<http://vimeo.com/13437386>

“[Apple of my eye](#)” -- Example of shooting with iPhone 4. Example of 180 rule. Example of cutting to action.

Good Narrated Web Video

[Life On Hold - Coming of Age in the Recession](#) (Tennessean.com)

[Behind the Veil](#) (The Globe & Mail)

Notable Work by Alums

Odd Jobs: [A Doctor Whose Patients Have Fins](#) (WSJ video by Mariana Keller):

Odd Jobs: [Gum Buster Clears Chewed Goo From Sidewalks](#) (WSJ video by Mariana Keller):

Tips on Strong Openings

[Opening Your Videos -- How Not to Lose Viewers](#) (Colin Mulvany's "Mastering Multimedia" blog)

[The First Rule of Video Storytelling](#) (Michael Rosenblum -- “Do not save the good stuff for later, because there *is* no later”)

[The Art of the Opening](#) (Richard Koci Hernandez - it's a great presentation on opening with a sense of place, mystery, drama, humor - though its 30-plus minutes long it's worth a watch)

[Change from Within: Three Stories from New Orleans](#) - Example of opening with a sense of place, 1st 30 seconds

[Airsick](#), [Mediastorm](#) & [Beyond the sideline](#) Week six clip -- Example of opening with sense of drama, mystery

Tips on Transitions

L Cuts & J Cuts:

- [The Insights of Angels](#): Produced out of workshop run by

Bob Sacha. Note opening sound of birds & dog continuing under interview (L cut); note sounds of "patty cake" under interview (J cut)

Fade In/Out

- [Marlboro Marine](#) (MediaStorm/Luis Sinco) -- See fades at approx. 1:00

Dissolves:

- [Inner Hound](#) (dissolve at around 0:50 - a humorous example showing both passage of time and movement in space; shot by Eric Olsen, NYT.com).
- [Interrupted Lives](#) (dissolves @ 0:50 - a good example showing the connection between one idea and another, i.e. Iranian protests-->voting-->crackdown, by Richard Koci Hernandez, formerly SF Chronicle, now UC Berkeley J School)

Jump cuts (Avoid if you want to preserve sense of continuity.)

- [OnBeing](#) (WaPo) (see "Angel" and many others)

More Tips

- [How to fail at online video](#): Tongue-in-cheek guide on "how to do it wrong" by Glen Canning at VideoJournalist.ca (Hat tip to Berkeley J School)

From Bob Sacha

[Cutting Through the Competition](#) by David Stephenson, nice example of video shot with the Canon 5d Mark II digital still camera and secondary sound recording.

[Last Minutes With Oden](#) Oden's struggle with Cancer comes to an end.

Beautifully done video story filled with mood and emotion & shot with a Canon 7d still camera.

[Recession Proof Artist](#): living the dream of an artist on \$12,000/year. Simple video story that humanizes a number; great illustration of shooting sequences by NYT Jigar Mehta

[Twilight in New Orleans](#), by Jim LoScalzo. Brilliant use of ambient sound and

moody images plus a simple narrative arc to show what remains after Katrina.
[Scene-In DC](#): Nice style reporting by Washington Post's Alexandra Garcia who hit the street's of DC to see what people wear and why. Episode1, "Dupont Circle" has a narrative arc and nice use of ambient sound.

[A Life Alone | Soul of Athens 2009](#) - Beautiful, sad piece that combines still photography and video

Here are some videos that were Online Journalism Association award nominees in 2009:

Online Video Journalism, Small Site

[Journey to Remember](#) (AARP Bulletin Today)

[What Will Happen to Andy?](#) (AARP Bulletin Today)

[Driftless: Stories from Iowa](#) (Danny Wilcox Frazier, Produced by MediaStorm)

[No Snitching, No Suspects](#) (Hank Wilson)

Online Video Journalism, Large Site

ESPN.com, [You Tube Baby](#)

Slate V, [The Power Recap](#)

Washington Post Digital, [Fashion Week in New York City](#)

Washington Post Digital, [Seeds of Peace](#)

Some NYTimes examples of non-traditional video use:

FLIPPED (explainer) <http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/business/2009-private-equity/index.html>

DEEPWATER (infographics animation)

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2010/06/21/us/20100621-bop.html>

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/08/10/business/economy/20090813-pointcounter-stimulus.html>

MULTIGENERATIONAL

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/09/25/nyregion/201108-generational-family-home.html>

PRESIDENT (with scrolling links) <http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/politics/2008-election-overview/>

SPEECH (interactive transcript)

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/01/20/us/politics/20090120_INAUGURAL_ANALYSIS.html

MOMENTS (video-photos) <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/world/battalion.html#NYT/Moments/1>

Also not nyt, but:

<http://www.insidedisaster.com/experience/Main.html> (an interactive game)

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-gangviolence-html.0.6290501.htmlstory> (just very good)

See What Others are Doing, and Trade Critiques:

<http://www.findingtheframe.com/> - See what other amateur and pro news video storytellers are doing, and submit news and feature video pieces and get critique from other video storytellers

http://www.vimeo.com/forum:vimeo_projects - Take up a project (video in a minute, NY Stories, etc.) to see what others are doing, practice a video technique, take up a challenge, get comments, etc.

<http://Vimeo.com/groups/videostorytelling> = Tutorial videos, example videos, and discussion on the subject of video storytelling for journalists.

CUNY Video Wiki of Video Examples (Most of the same examples as on this page):

http://wiki.journalism.cuny.edu/w/page/14300704/video_examples

vsw.journalism.cuny.edu

- (Klynt, Popcorn Maker, 3WDOC, Conductr, Storyplanet, Galahad and Zeega)

Main Tools

- Mozilla popcorn: <http://mozillapopcorn.org/maker/>
 - EXAMPLE OF NEWS USE: [NPR Popup Politics](#), [PBS News Hour Ad Libs](#)
- [Youtube editor](#): mashing up creative commons video with student video, annotating videos
- 4 Cool Ways to Create Quick Animated Demo Videos = [@PowToon](#) [@XtraNormal](#) [@GoAnimate](#) [@MrWideo](#) <http://bit.ly/Tm7kBp>
 - EXAMPLES OF NEWS USE
 - StoryCorps: <http://docnowmedia.com/animated-journalism/>
 - Powtoon animation on Facebook metrics: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikbC6e3TZb8>
 - Also see:
 - http://www.time.com/time/video/player/0,32068,651061440001_2039502,00.html
 - <http://journalists.org/2012/02/09/why-motion-graphics-can-make-for-animated-explainers/>