Here’s some very basic information about using iMovie. The screen is usually divided into two parts: the top half of the screen displays your finished production which is referred to as your “Project” and the bottom half of the screen is mainly devoted to your raw footage that you’ll use for your production which is referred to as the “Event.”

Creating a project

After you open iMovie, the first thing you want to do is create a new “Project.” Each “project” will be a separate production. The project is how your finished, edited production will look. You can have one project for your entire projection, or you could have individual projects for each person’s part of the group project, and then later put these all together into one project.

To create a new project, click on File on the tool bar at the top of the screen, and then click on the option “New Project.” Then, assign a name for the project and click on “Create.”
All of the projects that you have created will be listed under “Project Library” which is a button on the left side, near the middle of the screen. To retrieve a particular project, click on “Project Library,” and then a list of your projects will appear. Click on the project that you want.

**Creating an event**

You will also need to create an “Event.” Each event is the raw, unedited material that you plan to use in your production. An event can include YouTube videos, video that you have shot with a camera, video that you’ve recorded using the camera on your computer or still images.

You can put all of your raw material in one Event, or you can have multiple events organized however you want. To create a new event, click on File on the tool bar at the top of the screen, and then click on the option “New Event.” Then, a blank space will be created under the “Event Library” on the left hand, lower half of the screen. You type in the name of your new event there, such as “still images for project,” “video interviews” or “YouTube about race.” Then, anytime you add new raw material, you can add it to a particular event. (If you don’t give a specific name to an event when you add new stuff, iMovie will just create a new event titled with the date it was created.)

Then, when you want to return to the material for that event, just click on that specific event under “Event Library,” and the material in that event will be displayed in the lower right side of the screen.
**Video using camera on your computer**
You can also use video from your Mac’s built-in camera. To record new video for that, click on the button with the picture of a camera on the tool bar in the middle of the screen, all the way on the left hand side. Once you click on this, a screen will open up with a picture of your computer’s video camera. Click on the button “Capture,” and then a small screen will appear asking you to name the event for this video: once again, you can either select an event you’ve already created, or give it a new name. Then, start recording your video. Once you are done, click on stop. And then click on “Done.” That video will then be available under that event name in the event library.

**Using Flip Video Camera with iMovie**
You can use a Flip video camera to create content for your iMovie. First, turn the video camera on pushing the button on the side of the camera. It will display a picture that the camera sees. You can zoom in or zoom out using the up and down arrows above the big red button. To start recording, press the red button, and then to stop press the red button again. You can have several recordings in a sequence. Then, when you are done, you can import that video into iMovie. To do this, press down on the triangle shaped and pull it down. The USB plug should then pop up. Then, just plug this into a USB port on your computer. Now, import the video into iMovie by going to the tool bar at the top and clicking on “File” and then “Import”, then click on “Movies”. A screen will appear asking what you want to import. On this screen, on the top left, under the heading, “Devices”, click “Flip Video.” Click on the folder “DCIM” and then click on the folder “100VIDEO,” select an “Event” name, and then clip “Import.” All of the video you shot will now be imported.

**Editing your project: assembling video and images**
Now once you have raw footage to use for your video, you want to start selecting portions of this material for your final project. Simply select an “Event” that you want to work with so that the images and video for that event are displayed in the lower right part of the screen. Select a part of the video that you want to include in your project by moving the mouse to the start of the section you want. Then, clip and drag however much of the video you want to include in your project. This should be highlighted on the screen. Then, drag it to the top part of the screen in the “Project” area, and drop the section wherever you want to put it in your project. You can rearrange material however you want just by clicking and dragging sections back and forth. You can also delete sections by highlighting them, and then pressing the delete button.
**Voice over narration**

You can add voice over narration to portions of the video in your Project. Using the mouse highlight the part of the video where you want to add a voice over. Then, click on the button with a picture of a microphone on the tool bar in the middle of the screen. When you are ready to record your voice, just click on the highlighted video clip. Once you have completed your voice over, it will appear in your Project with a purple stripe that is alongside the portion of the video where you will hear it.

**Adding titles to your production**

You can also add titles to your video clips. To do this, click on the little button with a “T” on the tool bar in the middle of the screen, near the right hand side. This will bring up a selection of titles. Highlight the portion of video in your Project where you want to add titles. Then, click on the style of titles that you want like “Centered” and then drag that style over on top of the video section where you want the titles. You can select different fonts, sizes and colors for your titles by clicking on “Show Fonts” that is at the top left hand side of the image displayed. The titles will appear as a blue stripe above the video section where those titles will be displayed.

**Still images from iPhoto**

You can add still images to your production. To do this, you need to use another Mac program, “iPhoto.” Grab images that you want from Internet sites (doing a search for visual images from Google seems to work pretty well.) Then, save those images to iPhoto. Those saved images from iPhoto will then appear in iMovie when you click on the button with the picture of a camera on the toolbar in the middle of the screen, near the right hand side. To use any of these images in your production, just click on the image
you want, and then drag it to the place where you want the image in your Project. You can then click on the small blue button on the actual photo in your Project to make adjustments to how long you want the image to appear, and if you want to crop the picture at all.

**Music from iTunes**

You can also add music to your project by making use of iTunes. Any music that you have loaded into iTunes on your computer will appear in iMovie. Click on the button with the musical symbol, and then you’ll have access to your iTunes library. Find the selection you want and highlight it. Then, drag that song to the point in your Project where you want the music to start playing. The music will be displayed in a green stripe below the section of the video where it will play. Click on the little green and white button on that green strip where the music is playing to make adjustments for how long you want the music to play, and what part of the song you want to play.

**Adding transitions**

You can add different kinds of transitions like dissolves and wipes clicking on the button on the tool bar in the middle of the screen near the right side that has a picture that looks like an hourglass. That will bring up the transition tool bar. Just pick a transition that you’d like to use between two different video clips, and then drag that kind of transition to the point in your Project where you want to include that transition. Once you’ve created the transition, it will be visible as a little hourglass figure where you have inserted the transition in your project. You can make adjustments like how long you want the transition to last by clicking on the little blue button that appears when you put the cursor over the hourglass symbol where the transition is in your Project.

**Saving and storing your production on a DVD**

When you are finished with your production and ready to show it, you can save it in various ways by clicking on the “Share” tab on the tool bar at the top of the screen. I would like you to save it on a DVD so we can easily show it in class. You will need to buy a blank recordable DVD with the format “DVD-R.” When you are ready to record your production to a DVD, open iMovie and open the Project that you want to record.
Click on “Share”, and then click on “iDVD”. iDVD is a program on a Mac that lets you record video material to a DVD.

A box will appear that says “Preparing Project” and it will take a few minutes to load the production. Once it has finished loading, iDVD will automatically open. A screen will appear with a list of projects that you can record on a DVD—the project that you have selected from iMovie will automatically be highlighted. If it isn’t, go ahead and click on the name of your project so that it is highlighted. Insert the blank DVD-R into the computer. Then, click on the Iris symbol on the tool bar at the bottom of the open box. Your production will then record on the DVD. (You can do more fancy things with iDVD to create a sharp looking opening menu for your DVD, but that’s not necessary for this: all you need is to have the production saved on the DVD.) Then, make sure the DVD plays on a TV and computer, and bring it to class to play for the class session when your project is scheduled to be shown. Give me the DVD at the end of class.

**A more detailed instruction manual**

Now, this is just a very basic introduction to iMovie for the purposes of this project. You can consult the instructions manual for iTunes here that has much more detailed instructions: [http://manuals.info.apple.com/en/iMovie_08_Getting_Started.pdf](http://manuals.info.apple.com/en/iMovie_08_Getting_Started.pdf)