

Lesson Plan

How to White Balance

Project Summary

Each time a camera is turned on, the coloring needs to be adjusted. By adjusting the white balance you are telling the camera what white should look like, thus affecting the intensity of all colors. In this task, students will demonstrate an understanding of proper white balancing by recording shots that are improperly and properly white balanced.

Every camera is different in its operation and features. Determine from the operating instructions provided with your camera, what steps are necessary to manually white balance your camera. You can also search for video tutorials online to help you if needed.

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to answer these questions: Why is it necessary to white balance your camera? When is it necessary to white balance your camera? How can you tell if your camera is white balanced?

- Total Lesson Time - 1 Hour
- Standards: STN F3.3
- Subject/Pathway/Industry
 - A/V Technology & Film Career Pathway (CTE)
 - Broadcast Journalism

Performance Objectives

PRE-PRODUCTION GOALS

1. Students will determine site location for each shot.
2. Students will storyboard each identified shot to demonstrate proper framing.
3. Students will determine the necessary equipment needed to record the given shots.



PRODUCTION GOALS

1. Students will interpret and record each given shot using the rule of thirds, a stabilized camera approach, a background that is not distracting and proper framing of the given shot.
2. Student will record each shot with improper and proper white balancing.

POST-PRODUCTION GOALS

1. Students will review all shots and determine what shots meet the given criteria.
2. Students will label all shots.

Resources & Equipment

1. White Balance Worksheet (See below)
2. Computer
3. Overhead projector
4. Camera kit
5. Tripod

Assessment

[White Balance Rubric](#)

Contact

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How to White Balance a Camera

Each time a camera is turned on the coloring will need to be adjusted. By adjusting the white balance you are telling the camera what white should look like. In this task, students will demonstrate an understanding of proper white balancing by recording shots that are improperly white balanced and properly white balanced. Make sure to shoot with purpose! The camera operator should note when the recording counter begins and record a few seconds more than is needed.

Record the following shots with improper white balance, then record the same shot after manually white balancing the camera.

1. Medium shot of a student, outdoors on a sunny day by the flagpole.
2. Long shot of a student, outdoors on a sunny day on the athletic field.
3. Long shot of a student, in the school gymnasium.
4. Medium shot of a student, in a classroom.
5. Long shot of a student, reading in the library.

Rubric

How to White Balance a Camera

Group _____ Period _____

Shot/ Description	Camera Stabilization (2pts)	Head Room & Lead Room (2pts)	Improper White Balance (2pts)	Proper White Balance (2pts)	Angle & Framing (2pts)	Total points
Shot 1 MS of a student, outdoors on a sunny day by the flagpole.						
Shot 2 LS of a student, outdoors on a sunny day on the athletic field.						
Shot 3 LS of a student, in the school gymnasium.						
Shot 4 MS of a student, in a classroom.						
Shot 5 LS of a student, reading in the library.						
TOTALS						

ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK
