

## Multicamera Editing

### Class Notes

Luisa C. Winters

Video Trainers

<http://www.videotrainers.com> (410) 672-5200



**CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR**  
Premiere®

### Multicamera Editing

**Get your video into the computer** - Capture your video into the computer. This should not be done through batch capturing, but capture the whole tape instead (good and bad footage). The reason behind this is that you will need to sync your footage only once. Also, please make sure that the stop button is never hit during the actual recording of the event; this will make life much, much easier!

**Try not to stop the camera during the recording process** -Let's assume that you will be editing a 3-camera seminar. For your raw footage you should have 3 clips that are as long or longer than the seminar itself was. Of course, sometimes, when you are recording longer events, it is impossible to fit everything onto one MiniDV tape, so it becomes necessary to change tapes in the middle. Make sure that all your cameras don't do it at the same time, and that the important audio that is happening at the moment will be covered by another recording device. Also, if there are parts that you know you will be cutting out (like change of speaker, or change of slides, etc), try to make your tape changes in here

**Add all the audio you have** - So now you have 3 clips, which are in Premiere's Timeline, one on top of the other. If you have any audio tracks that have important audio in both channels, you might want to separate these into mono tracks. To do that, select the file on the Project Window and then go under Clip > Audio Options > Breakout to Mono clips, and Premier Pro will create 2 separate tracks, both mono that will contain the audio channels that you need to complete the project. Place these newly created audio tracks right under the original video track so that it remains in sync with the video file that it came from.

**Sync these clips** - Now we need to sync these files, which we'll do by using markers. Double-click on the first video file, and it will open in the Source Monitor Window, go to a point in the seminar that you will easily be able to find in all 3 video files. Once you get there, place an unnumbered marker in here - you place an unnumbered marker by clicking on the marker icon right under the Source Monitor Window. Double click on the second clip and scroll until you get to the exact same place, and place an unnumbered marker here as well - do the same thing with the third clip. Now, all of your clips should have a marker in roughly the same place. Move the clips so that the markers are one right on top of the other (in the same time spot).

Now we need to fine-tune this so that the clips are *really* in sync (what we did before was to get the close enough). You can expand the audio tracks and move the clips left or right until the audio waveforms are one on top of another, perfectly in sync. You'll be able to easily sync through the waveforms even if your audio came from different sources and you have different levels. To move your clip left or right by one frame press the Keyboard shortcut "ALT + ." or "ALT + ,".

The whole syncing process shouldn't take longer than 30-40 seconds, even when working with 3 cameras. If you need to sync a tape-change, then it will take a little bit longer, but not too much longer.

To sync audio from a minidisk recorder or other source, use the same technique already discussed. To sync audio that originated from one of the AVIs that you are currently using in the Timeline, all you need to do is to place this audio right under the source AVI, and make sure that it is in the EXACT time position as its parent clip. Easy!

Up to this point you should have: all your clips on the timeline, all the audio clips on the timeline; all the clips (including all the audio) should be in sync.

**Make the clips small** - Select the top clip on the Timeline (you select it by clicking it) and now click on the main screen in the Program Monitor Window. This will give you access to the Motion Controls for this clip – you'll see the control points. All you need to do is click on one of the corners and adjust the size as you wish. Make this clip a lot smaller and position it on the top left side of the screen.

Select the second clips and do the same thing, except this time you should position the clip on the top right hand side of the screen. Do the same thing with the third clip and position on the bottom part of the screen. Position all of these clips so that they do not overlap and you can see all of them at the same time.

**Play the Timeline** -Press the space bar to play the Timeline, and as it plays, you'll be able to see all 3 cameras. When you want to go from one camera to the next, you should place an unnumbered marker in that position. Placing an unnumbered marker is really easy - press the \* key located above the numeric pad (not the one above the 8). Go through the whole seminar this way, playing it real time, and pressing the \* key every time you want to go from one tape to the other. Don't worry if you make a mistake, you can easily use the "undo" function (CONTROL +z) or you can adjust the edit later on with the different edit tools. You are not really deleting anything at this point; all you are doing is adding markers.

**Lock the Audio Tracks** -Before we cut any video, we need to lock the audio tracks (all of them). Click on the little square that is next to the loudspeaker icon and a little padlock should show. This means that the track is locked. To further remind us that the track is locked, there will be little thin diagonal lines running all across the track. Lock all of the audio tracks.

### **Create shortcuts**

Now we need to create some shortcuts. Go to Edit >Keyboard Customization and expand the “Marker” command (click on the little triangle to the left of the name). Expand “Go to Sequence Marker” and select “Next”. Assign any keyboard shortcut you wish for this function – I use F12. Select something that you’ll remember. Collapse the “Marker” item and expand the “Sequence” item. Select the item called “Razor at Current Time Indicator” and select a shortcut for this as well. I use the / that shares the same key with the “?” – don’t use the slash above the ENTER key!

Save your shortcuts and give them the name “Multi-camera Editing”

### **Chop-Chop**

It is time to cut! Fortunately this is fun (at least for me!). Click on the Timeline and go to the beginning of the video. Press (alternating) the “F12” key and then the “/” key over and over until all on the markers have a cut right on them. You’ll be done with the stage in no time at all, in fact, even the longest ceremony shouldn’t take you any more than 1 minute.

### **Delete clips**

Go through the seminar and delete portions of the clips that you know you won’t use, so that only one clip per section is left. Drag these clips to track 1 in the Timeline (if you wish).

### **Resize the Clips**

You have all of these clips, but they are all small, throughout the whole seminar. Select one of them, and then go to the Effect Controls Window, and click on the reset button, you’ll see that now this clip is the size and in the position that it should be. Click on the name Motion Controls for this particular clip, and copy (CONTROL +c). Click on the Timeline and select all of the clips (CONTROL +a), and then paste the Motion Controls Setting (CONTROL +v). Now you’ll see that all of the clips are back to the size they should be.

### **What about the audio?**

Let’s unlock the audio, and for this click on the same icon that you clicked to lock it. Now you’ll notice that the diagonal lines disappeared. All ceremonies that I have videotaped have distinct sections to them, welcome remarks, readings, music vows, etc. Usually the audio source that we use for each one of these sections is different. All you need to do is cut the audio clips at the point where you need to switch from one audio source to another, and delete the audio clips that you do not need. This should be really easy if you named your clips or tracks appropriately. You can drag all the audio clips onto one track, if you wish, but remember that in Premiere Pro you cannot have mono and stereo clips “living” in the same track. So, if you have both mono and stereo clips you will have to have at least 2 audio tracks.

### **Transitions**

If you would like to add transitions between your clips, now is the time to do so. You can add video and audio transitions really quickly by using the Shortcuts to add the Default Transitions (both audio and Video). Place the CTI (Current Time Indicator) at the

beginning of the Timeline and press the shortcut “PAGE DOWN” on your keyboard. This will take you to the next edit point. To add the default video transition press “CONTROL + d”, and to add the default audio transition press” CONTROL + SHIFT + d”. You can go pretty quickly through the whole ceremony adding transitions.

*Luisa Winters has been in the professional videography industry for 15 years. Her Premiere Pro Training DVDs can be found on her website [www.videotrainers.com](http://www.videotrainers.com)*

**Luisa Winters** has been in the professional videography industry for 15 years. A multiple award winning videographer / editor, Luisa believes videographers should attend her workshops because they will add editing techniques to their repertoire that they likely have never thought of before. She will give tips to make editing much more productive, faster, and far more inventive.

An accomplished videographer, editor, 3D animator and graphics designer, her 3D animations of the Naval Academy logo have been seen on PBS as well as in private video productions. She has created and edited scores of video projects for dozens of corporate, government, and educational, commercial and private clients. Since 1999, Luisa has conducted training sessions and master classes for Adobe Premiere Pro, which have helped thousands of videographers learn and master Adobe Premiere and other Adobe software programs.

Luisa has been a featured instructor at training workshops all over the US, Central and South America- She has given workshops in the following cities:

- Baltimore, MD
- Annapolis, MD
- Washington, DC
- Philadelphia, PA
- Boston, MA
- San Francisco, CA
- Sacramento, CA
- San Diego, CA
- Dulles, VA
- Fairfax, VA
- Orlando, FL
- Chicago, IL
- New York, NY
- Las Vegas, NV
- Los Angeles, CA
- San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- Buenos Aires, Argentina

Luisa is a Johns Hopkins University Graduate and is fluent in both English and Spanish.

Luisa's contact information:

[www.videotrainers.com](http://www.videotrainers.com)  
[luisa@videotrainers.com](mailto:luisa@videotrainers.com)  
(410) 672-5200