

AMC and JNN students explored the depths of multimedia and production.

Pre-production, production, post-production, repeat—this was the routine for the students of the Academy of Multimedia and Communications. These students learned about a new age of film-making and technology. The academy included four years of learning the ins and outs of writing, filming, and editing.

During the first year of the class, students studied the basics of film-making and editing. They learned how to make scripts for various types of film projects and how to move into production. This process included smaller film projects that were due throughout the term. Examples of these projects were music videos, short films centered around one editing technique, and 42-hour film challenges. This course satisfied many students' desires to dig deeper into the art of film-making and opened doors for them in their future endeavors. "I joined the academy in hopes to obtain a new skill set to help me in my future career, whatever that may be," Gabby Newman (10) said.

Some students also gained more camera experience by attending school sporting events. The Academy included a live stream team that would cover these sporting events and compose "hype videos" with their footage. Students, faculty, and even parents could then view these hype videos online and get excited for upcoming pep rallies and games. This Academy also tied into the Broadcast Journalism class. Students in this class spent the majority of their time working to produce three-minute segments that appeared in monthly episodes of "The Central" on the Jagur News Network. This network's monthly uploads included information about the upcoming weeks and what was going on at the school.

With all of this hard work came great friendships. These students felt that they were apart of something larger than themselves; the fact that they all felt so strongly about the same thing allowed them to be very close. "This class is really great and it is something I definitely want to do as a career. I have made amazing friends in JNN; they are super helpful and the camaraderie between all of us is so positive and motivating," Bella Alimot (11) said.

This year, a few students in the Academy had the opportunity to fly to New York to attend the All American High School Film Festival. The team participated in the 3-day Film Invitational which consisted of 10 weeks of pre-production back at home and then a quick 2 and a half days of production and post-production in the Big Apple. The guidelines were simple; they had to create a film that followed the prompt "The Art Of ...". The team produced a film called "The Art of Revenge." "I learned a lot throughout this whole trip. I had never done something like this before and I now have a better idea on how I would better plan ahead of time for another trip like this," Ryan Ricchetti (12) said.

These programs truly had something to offer for anyone looking to learn more about modern day media. Freshmen learned the basics of editing, sophomores built on their skills in production, and juniors and seniors planned for potential careers in multimedia. An opportunity had not been offered quite like this before, and students involved were very thankful for this experience.