

VIDEO STORYTELLING | ONLINE COURSE

Gear Guide: Required Equipment & Software

To fully participate in this course, the following equipment & software is either required or strongly recommended. We suggest you practice with all equipment to become familiar with it before starting the course.

- **Computer**
 - **Adobe Premiere Pro Software**
 - **External Hard Drive**
 - **Video Camera or Smartphone**
 - **Headphones**
 - **Microphones**
 - **Tripod & Mounts**
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Computer

All participants must have a computer or laptop for use during this course. Your computer must meet the minimum technical specifications outlined on the [Adobe Premiere help page](#). If in doubt please reach out to Adobe directly.

Note: *It is recommended that you verify you are able to operate Premiere Pro on your computer before enrolling.*

Adobe Premiere Pro Software

A subscription to Adobe Premiere Creative Cloud for a period of 5 weeks is required to participate in this course.

Information on how to purchase a subscription for one month is found here: [Adobe Premiere Pro Software](#). You will begin using this editing software during the **second week of the six-week course**. Keep this in mind when purchasing the license.



External Hard Drive

We highly recommend working off an external hard drive when editing in Adobe Premiere Pro. The external hard drive offers you flexibility and avoids slow down due to large files bogging down your computer's hard drive.



A few portable, bus-powered options with at least 1TB of storage are the [SAMSUNG T5 Portable SSD](#), or for faster transfer times the [SAMSUNG T7 Portable SSD](#). Evaluate your projects and editorial workflow prior to purchase to assure the equipment meets your needs.

Video Camera or Smartphone

You have a choice of several options for filming during the course. If you have your own video equipment, please feel free to use it. To allow everyone to participate in this course, we'll be showing you how to film video and record quality audio with a smartphone using the native apps and the basics with FilMiC Pro.

iPhone or Android smartphones offer the ability to record high definition video. Even professional video content creators are using their mobile phones to shoot video.



Headphones

We suggest good quality stereo headphones that connect directly to your laptop and the video camera or smartphone. You'll find many options available—we like the [Sony MDR7506](#), or the less expensive, but equally as popular: [Senal SMH-1000](#). Headphones are especially important when editing video.



Microphones

A microphone is suggested for audio gathering, in-person interviews, and collecting ambient and characteristic sounds.

Remember choosing the right microphone is a personal choice and one that you will want to feel comfortable setting up and using. Many options are available.

For interviews with a smartphone, a wireless or wired lavalier microphone works well. The [MOVO LV 1](#) lapel lavalier offers good quality audio and includes a 20 ft cable, to allow for an interview where the subject is further from the camera.

The adapter, [MOVO TCB1](#) is needed to monitor audio with headphones.

Note: Headphone monitoring works with apps such as FilmPro, but generally not in the phone's native app.



For a wireless option, the [MOVO WMX-1](#) wireless lav system works with most smartphones and DSLRs, and includes everything needed to record quality interviews or audio with a lapel mic.

For iPhones with lighting ports, try the [MOVO EDGE-Di](#) wireless lavalier system.

When using a smartphone to collect audio, you'll want to have an option for collecting ambient or characteristic sound while filming b-roll. The [MOVO VXR-10](#), a shotgun microphone, plugs directly into your iOS or Android mobile device, or DSLR.



Note: It might seem like all jacks/plugs are the same, but there are at least four different varieties of 3.5 mm plugs and jacks—each with its own purpose and application. You can tell them apart using the number of rings visible on the plug. Most microphones made for smartphone use come with a plug that has three rings or an adaptor. Check carefully when choosing microphones for your model smartphone.

FilMiC Pro

To properly record and monitor audio interviews with a smartphone, you'll need an app. The native camera app on smartphones does not allow for monitoring audio with headphones during the interview or to visually monitor audio levels. There are several apps for smartphones that allow for audio monitoring, however, [FilMiC Pro](#) is the only one we've found that works with both Android and iOS.



For the purposes of this course, we'll be using a portion of the features available with this app. Novice videographers find this app a bit overwhelming, so we'll be focusing on how to record and monitor audio during an interview with the FilMiC Pro basic settings.

Tripod & Mounts

While a tripod is not required for this course, it is highly recommended if you plan to continue to shoot video with your smartphone or for that matter any video camera. Tripods and mounts are instrumental in securing high quality stable shots.

As a start choose a grip, glif or **mount** that attaches to the smartphone and then to the tripod. Depending on the mount you choose, the mount can be used alone to stabilize the shot or with a tripod. A highly versatile mount is the [MOVO PR-3](#) smart grip. This handy device comes with a handheld grip that easily detaches to allow for mounting to a tripod.



The MOVO MV-T5 tripod is a lightweight, easily transportable **tripod** for use with the smartphone. This tripod offers a secure attachment to the smart grip.



Another good **tripod** option is the [MOVO MV-T1](#). This smaller tripod can also be used as a comfortable ergonomic handheld grip.



Final Note

There are many available options for equipment on the market. The best choice is the accessory or equipment that works best for you. We've chosen a few that offer the user quality at a reasonable price. To explore the MOVO products in detail go to <https://www.movophoto.com/> and use code BERKELEY for free shipping and other offers.

Lastly: Products listed are not endorsements of said company or product and are for informational purposes only.