

STUDENT HANDOUT: SHOTS AND CAMERA MOVEMENT

The shots you choose and how you compose them determine the quality of the films you make. The list below includes all of the basic camera shots and movements you will need to get started.

Basic Camera Shots

Extreme Wide Shot (EWS): panoramic vista or landscape; too large to discern characters.

[Image]

Wide Shot (WS): often used to establish a setting (establishing shot) by showing the subject's location. A wide shot can also be used to cover broad action involving several people in a large area.

[Image]

Medium Shot (MS): often used for basic conversation; a character's face and torso occupy some of the frame.

[Image]

Close-Up (CU): A close-up shot is often used in intense or intimate moments to depict emotion or to focus the viewer's attention on a small detail (e.g., the title of a book on a table or someone's face taking up most of the screen).

[Image]

Extreme Close-Up (ECU): An extreme close-up shot is used to show a high level of detail and is often so closely shot that you can only see a very small portion of the subject. (e.g., an eye, a hand, etc.)

Basic Camera Movement:

Tilt: Shifting the camera up or down

[Image]

Pan: Shifting the camera left or right

[Image]