Digital Lab iMovie Guide
Digital Lab
iMovie Importing Guide
Connect camera device to the computer. The device appears as a hard drive icon on the desktop.

iPhoto may open as a result of connecting the device. Quite iPhoto if this occurs.
The camera also appears in Finder under Devices.

Open iMovie on the dock by scrolling to and clicking on the iMovie icon.
A new window containing the iMovie workspace appears. Select the camera icon on the left of the screen to begin importing.
The import window appears and displays footage from the camera as well as a preview of a selected clip.

Select from the desired device the drop down menu next to Camera.
To import a specific selection of clips, toggle the switch at the bottom of the window from Automatic to Manual and select desired clip(s).
All clips are select for importing by default. For unwanted clip(s), deselect the check box(es) under the unwanted clip(s) or select Uncheck All.

The following is a guide to archiving footage. It is strongly recommended to save a copy of the camera’s contents on an external drive.
Select Archive All at the bottom of the window to save a backup copy of the camera's contents.

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Select the destination for saving the archived content in the new dialog. Select Create.
A new window indicates the progress of creating the new archive.

The archived contents appear in the chosen location as a folder.
From the File menu, select Camera Archive to import previously saved archived content.

A new window appears. Select the device and the desired folder. Select Import.
The name of the folder appears in the Camera drop down menu.
Next to Create new Event, enter a name for the event. Select Import.

Next to Save to select an external drive to create the event.
A progress bar appears under each clip during the import.

A new window appears indicating the completion of the import.
iMovie creates the event containing the imported footage in the external drive’s Event Library under the corresponding year.
An Event is a group of clips imported on a given day with a given name, while a Project is a series of instructions (enhancements, transitions, titles, etc.) for locally stored Events.

To create a new Project, select New Project under the File menu.
A new window appears. Select desired Theme. Select No Theme for greater creative control.
Next to name, enter Project title.

Next to Aspect Ratio, select Widescreen (16:9) or Standard (4:3). This depends on how the footage was captured. For example, footage captured in 4:3 will appear stretched to conform to a 16:9 aspect ratio.

Next to Frame Rate, select desired frame rate. 30 fps - NTSC works best for most Standard and HD video captured in North America. 25 fps - PAL works best for most Standard and HD video captured outside of North America. 24 fps - Cinema works best for footage captured with cameras capable of a wide range of frame rates, including 24 fps that mimic film frame rates.

For best results, use Frame Rate that best matches captured footage.

Check Automatically add to incorporate transitions between clips. Leave box unchecked for greater control.

Select Create.
The newly created Project appears in Finder under the selected location the for iMovie Projects folder.

The newly created Project also appears in the Project Library section.
Digital Lab
iMovie Exporting Guide
Select Export Movie in the Share drop down menu.
Next to Export As, enter desired file name.

Set the desired location for file export.

Next to Size to Export, select desired quality setting. For example, the setting Mobile will work best for mobile devices. However, if projecting or displaying final product, select highest quality option available. Please note: imported standard definition video will not be available in HD 720p or HD 1080p.

Select Export.
A new window appears indicating export progress.

Final movie appears in desired location with preview thumbnail.
To preview finished work, right-click on exported movie’s thumbnail and select Open With > QuickTime Player.

Please note: it is strongly recommended to view the finished piece under similar viewing conditions (lecture hall, classroom, mobile device, etc.) in order to review picture and sound quality.

Video will appear in new window. To playback in full screen, select the Full Screen icon.