## **iMovie TIPS**

- Spend time with your students discussing and experimenting with filming techniques: minimizing movement and shaking (hold still!); making use of broad vs. narrow angles (zooming in and out; close range vs. distance; avoiding "talking heads"); maintaining eye contact with the camera; previewing video clips before importing to computer from Flipcam; previewing "Event" video clips before dragging into "Project;" previewing finished movie before exporting to desktop. In other words, LOOK AT YOUR STUFF.
- Encourage students to *re-film a segment* if they make a mistake, as opposed to trying to "edit out" mistakes (this makes it too choppy).
- Direct students to *film away from other students*. Flipcam picks up background noises all too well, which can distract from the video.
- Direct students to *delete all previous video* before beginning to film; otherwise, this unwanted video will upload to the computer along with the desired video clips.
- Direct students to *learn/memorize their parts* when speaking in a movie. Watching a student read information is extremely boring.
- Explain the need to *take it seriously*, and for students not to distract one another while filming. "Students joking around" on film does not make for a compelling movie.
- Edit *music and sound effects* carefully. While effects add a lot of personality, sound works BEST for segments in which people are *not talking*, and/or during transitions. Example: if students are filming experimental trials. If sound IS added for talking segments, teach the students to select the "Ducking" option under the "Audio" tab of the Inspector Button. This will automatically lower the background sound when someone is talking in the film.