

Towards a Video College

Antioch/Baltimore is developing into a change-oriented, alternative institution totally permeated by the use of and experimentation with video. We have become an active experimental support system for all courses and concerns of the new Antioch/Baltimore BA program.

Since the BA program is project centered and community based, the video faculty is able to serve as consultants to students and community groups. When students and faculty in various departments develop courses, projects, or contracts, a video component is frequently included. This type of continuous, inter-disciplinary input provides a reality production context and, oftentimes, for advanced students, paying jobs in video projects while working towards a BA degree . . . Students have the freedom to design and explore new communications models and practices with the support of not only a video faculty, but faculty in social research and in the arts . . .

Video Theater (with theater arts, music, photography)

A weekly theater experiment employing theater games, video projections, multiple monitors, SEG, actors as catalysts, VTR time and space control etc., to provide a video-mediated communications environment.

Self and Group Processing (with psychology and social work skills)

Continuing experiments to refine the use of video in group dynamics. Much in-house use of VTR to record and critique interview techniques, psychodrama situations, and group interactions. Current projects include a marijuana seminar using VTR to compare "straight" and "stoned" sessions. A VTR history is being kept of the process of the Antioch College education experiment in Baltimore.

Alternative Media (with journalism)

Production: Preparation and distribution of a Baltimore "newsreel" made up of edited clups from all the longer tapes produced at the Antioch center. Special segments are also prepared strictly for newsreel play-back. Mobile guerilla play-back sessions are held in the community. Completed "product" tapes are prepared for alternative distribution (Mayday Collective, Urban Survival, etc.)

Community Communications (with Social Strategies)

Work with individuals and groups in the community (Model Cities, YMCA, Youth Councils, Street Clubs, Jaycees, etc.) to design appropriate communications models for action programs. The tapes are useful in the community and feedback into Antioch as raw material for courses and seminars. This two-way flow of expertise and information has worked well. Many of the community resource persons who have worked with us on taping projects have joined the program and continue in the dual role of BA candidate and community communications specialist.

Research: Cable Television task force is studying the policy and production issues with an emphasis on community access. An Institute of Press and Public Policy is forming which will oversee watchdog projects designed to make local media more responsive and responsible to its consumers.

Distribution: We are exploring an active local (Baltimore-Washington) distribution mechanism with linkages to other alternative distribution systems.

