

# DaVinci Resolve Color Grading Course Syllabus - IRIS Academy

## Module 1: Introduction to Color Grading

Role of a colorist in filmmaking  
Understanding color grading vs. color correction  
DaVinci Resolve overview (pages, UI, workflow)  
Setting up a grading project

## Module 2: Color Science & Theory

Color models: RGB, YRGB, HSL  
Bit depth, gamma, gamut & codecs  
Understanding scopes: waveform, parade, vectorscope, histogram  
Color psychology in storytelling

## Module 3: Resolve Fundamentals

Media import & project settings  
Working with timelines  
Primary color correction (exposure, contrast, white balance)  
Using lift, gamma, gain controls

## Module 4: Secondary Corrections

Qualifiers (HSL, RGB) for selective adjustments  
Power windows & tracking  
Keying & masking for skin tones, skies, objects  
Isolation & relighting

## Module 5: Advanced Grading Tools

Curves (custom, hue vs hue, hue vs sat, hue vs lum)  
Color warper & HDR grading panel  
Look-up tables (LUTs): technical vs creative LUTs  
Noise reduction & sharpening

## Module 6: Creative Looks

Film emulation & cinematic looks  
Day-for-night & bleach bypass effects  
Matching shots across a sequence  
Creating mood with contrast, saturation & tonality

### Module 7: Workflow Integration

Collaboration with editors & DPs  
Color-managed workflows (ACES, DaVinci YRGB Color Managed)  
Round-tripping from Premiere or Final Cut  
Working with RAW formats (ARRI, RED, BRAW)

### Module 8: Advanced Projects

Grading different genres (ads, music videos, documentaries, feature films)  
Skin tone perfection techniques  
Matching multi-camera footage  
VFX plates & green screen integration

### Module 9: Deliverables

Rendering formats for cinema, TV, OTT, and web  
Color space conversions (Rec.709, Rec.2020, HDR)  
Export presets for different platforms  
Archiving projects & LUTs

### Module 10: Final Project

Students grade a full short film/commercial/music video  
Peer review & group critique  
Portfolio showreel preparation