Focal Press hears your call for dynamic teaching tools and invites your participation as we build and refine FilmSkills, a subscription-based online filmmaking resource. Bring the film industry to life for your students and support your teaching. FilmSkills presents a multimedia experience that engages visual learners like film and video students. When complete, it will cover the entire range of filmmaking and contain:

- Hundreds of videos featuring working film professionals and academic experts
- Downloadable tools (raw footage, budget forms, etc.)
- Companion text from Focal Press books
- Instructor resources (tests, quizzes, PowerPoint presentations)
- Social media features allowing you to add your insights to the conversation
A Look Inside FilmSkills

By 2011, FilmSkills will include over 100 multimedia modules on all aspects of filmmaking technique. Each module includes video, text, and multimedia resources.

- Dynamic, live-action videos including demos, examples, and interviews with dozens of film industry professionals
- Complementary text from Focal Press books
- Advice and contributions from other subscribers
- Additional tools and downloads

content from focal press books
Range of Topics

In 2011, FilmSkills will have content on the entire range of filmmaking. Students can subscribe to the whole site or just to a particular subject area.

**DEVELOPMENT**
- Producing
  - The Studio System
  - Choosing the Project
  - Working with an Attorney
  - Basic Film Legalese
  - Deal Memos and Contracts
  - Packaging a Movie
  - Fundraising
  - The Business Plan
  - Shooting Shorts
  - Shooting Pilots
  - Agents and Managers

**WRITING**
- Script Writing
  - Story Structure
  - Developing the Idea
  - Treatments and Outlines
  - Creating Characters
  - Dialogue and Backstory
  - The First Draft
  - Rewriting
  - Marketing the Script

**PRE-PRODUCTION**
- Scheduling and Budgeting
  - Breaking Down the Script
  - Budgeting
  - Scheduling Part 1
  - Scheduling Part 2
  - Insurance
- Casting the Roles
  - Finding Actors
  - Auditions
  - Callbacks
  - Working with Local Celebrities

**LOCATIONS**
- Location Scouting
- Working on Location
- Community Relations
- Film Commissions

**The Crew**
- The Producers
- The Directors
- The Camera Department
- The Electric Department
- The Grip Department
- The Art Department

**Directing the Story**
- The Visual Story
- Storyboarding
- Coverage
- Blocking
- Directing the Elements

**Production Design**
- Working with a Production Designer
- Building Sets
- Set Dressing
- Props
- Wardrobe
- Hair and Make-Up

**PRODUCTION**
- Directing Actors
  - Rehearsing Actors
  - How to Direct Actors
  - Working with Actors on Set
  - Working with Extras
- Lens and Camera
  - Basic Camera Techniques
  - Introduction to Lenses
  - The Art of Focus
  - Exposure
  - The Zone System
  - Power of Focal Length
  - Back Focus
  - Marco Focus
  - Gain
  - Shutter Speed
  - Lens Care

**Advanced Lighting Techniques**
- Cinematography Techniques
  - Working with the Cinematographer
  - Cinematographer/Director Relationship
  - Shooting Green Screen
  - Framing and Composition
  - Calibrating a Production Monitor
  - Using a Clapboard
  - The Filmmaker's Toolkit

**Grip and Rigging**
- Using Dolly and Track
- C-Stands
- Stands
- Basic Rigging Gear
- The Grip's Toolkit

**POST-PRODUCTION**
- Editing
  - Working with the Editor
  - Concepts of Editing
  - Data Management and Workflow
  - The Assembly Cut
  - Test Screenings
  - Shooting Pick-Ups
  - The Rough Cut
  - The Fine Cut
  - Online Editing and Color Timing
  - Editing a Dialogue Scene
  - Editing Action

**Audio and Music**
- Mixing the Audio
- Scoring the Scene

**DISTRIBUTION**
- Domestic Markets
- Foreign Markets
- Film Festivals
- Creating a Poster
- Creating a Website
- Editing a Trailer
- Working with Sales Agents
- Self-Distribution
- Promotions and Marketing
The Highest Caliber of Contributors

Many working industry professionals have contributed to FilmSkills. They have graciously shared their personal knowledge, experiences and wisdom from years in the entertainment industry. These include:

- Stephen Skrovan, Executive Producer, Everybody Loves Raymond
- David Stump, ASC, Academy-Award-winning cinematographer
- Anne Marie Gillen, Executive Producer, Fried Green Tomatoes
- Bruce Block, Producer, What Women Want, The Parent Trap, Father of the Bride
- Harry C. Box, Camera Operator, Heroes, Brothers and Sisters, Everybody Hates Chris; Author, The Set Technician’s Lighting Handbook
- Larry Jordan, Editing Guru, Independent Filmmaker
- Mark Sawicki, Visual Effects Supervisor, The 40-Year-Old Virgin, From Hell, Phone Booth; Author, Filming the Fantastic
- Lori Jane Coleman, Editor, Beverly Hills 90210, Picket Fences, The Practice, Dawson’s Creek
- Charles Rose, Cinematographer, Trafficking, Dreamers
- Dan Riffel, Gaffer, Iron Man, G.I. Joe, The Mummy, Hancock, Spiderman 3, X-Men: Last Stand
- Judy Irola, A.S.C., Chair USC Cinematography Department
- Diana Friedberg, Editor, Renegade, The Simple Life, Dog Whisperer
- Blain Brown, Cinematographer, Author, Cinematography: Theory and Practice
- Laura Beth Love, Cinematographer
- John Coldiron, Emmy-winning Colorist
- Barry Zettlin, Editor, Bionic Woman, The Mole, The Bachelor
- Jody Brockway, Producer, NBC
- Dennis Marrell, Script Supervisor, Near Life, Fear House
- Guy Shalem, Executive Producer/Director, Lovespring International
- Keith Coene, Production Manager, The States
- Johanna Jensen, 1st Assistant Director, Law & Order, Northern Exposure
- Robert T. Noll, Writer
- Ron Sill, Gaffer, Rags to Riches, Mike Hammer
- John Gresch, Vice President of Lighting, ARRI
- Robert “Cass” McEntee, Construction Coordinator, The Tracy Ullman Show, Roswell, Felicity

JASON TOMARIC — FilmSkills creator and Focal Press author

Fourteen-time Emmy, Telly, and CINE award-winning filmmaker Jason J. Tomaric got his start producing an ultra low-budget independent film in Ohio that got picked up for distribution. He is now a Los Angeles-based director and cinematographer who has shot four features, dozens of national television commercials, and numerous documentaries in over 20 countries. He has taught at leading film schools such as UCLA and New York Film Academy and is bringing high-caliber multimedia filmmaking education to the web at FilmSkills.com.