

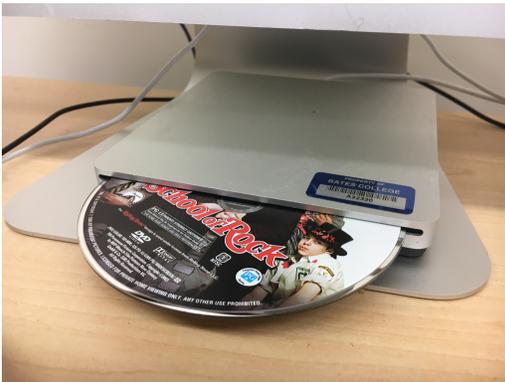
Using Handbrake to Reformat DVD Clips

While copying or ripping DVDs has negative connotations, academics engaged in the critique of media often “reformat” portions of DVD video to an easily editable format – they then use this footage to highlight and support their arguments. As long as you follow the guidelines of reformatting (that is, changing the format so that you can edit the media for academic critique) you are operating legally. The minute you rip or copy a video file to share with others outside the purpose of academic critique, you are possibly breaking the law. Keep this in mind as you proceed.

At Bates, we use software called **Handbrake** to reformat DVD video for editing in **Final Cut X**. **This Help Sheet Guide addresses the use of Handbrake to reformat clips.**

Let’s Get Started.

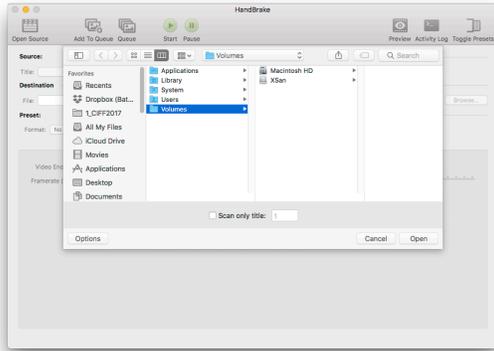
Insert the DVD you need to reformat.



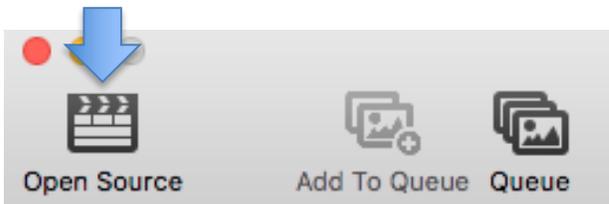
Open Handbrake from **Applications>Handbrake**



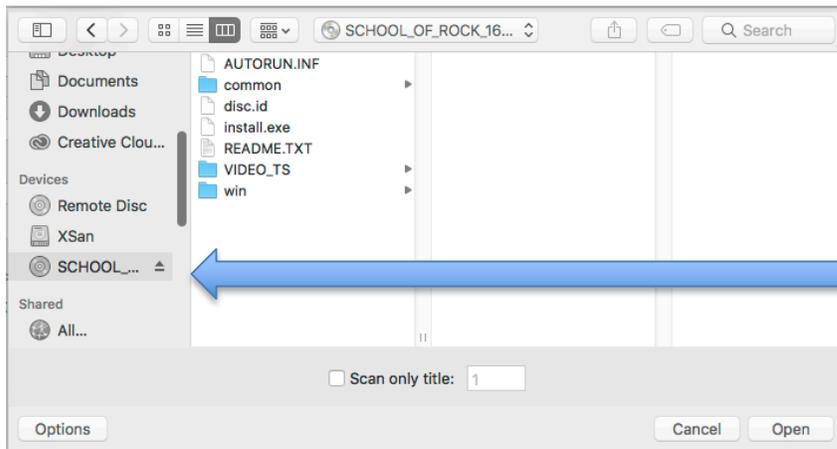
The first time you open Handbrake, it will ask you for your “Source”.



If it doesn't ask you when you open the application – or if you want to rip from a DVD you just loaded - select your source by clicking the “Source” button on the main interface top left corner.

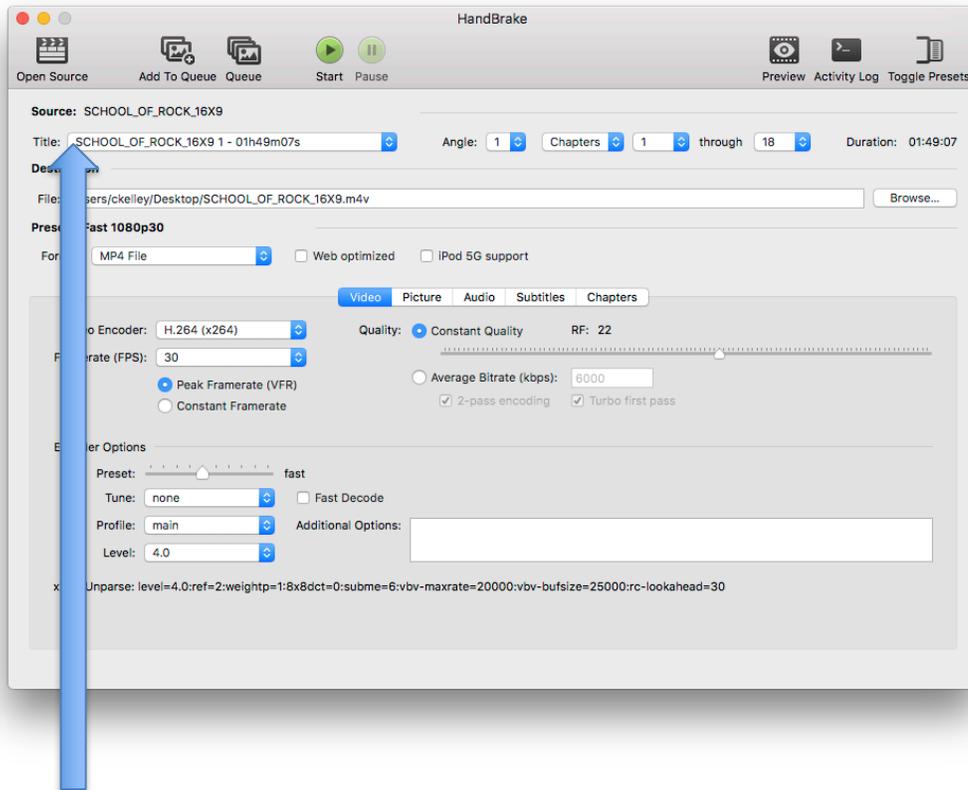


Select the DVD you wish to reformat. DO NOT select any folders inside the disc.



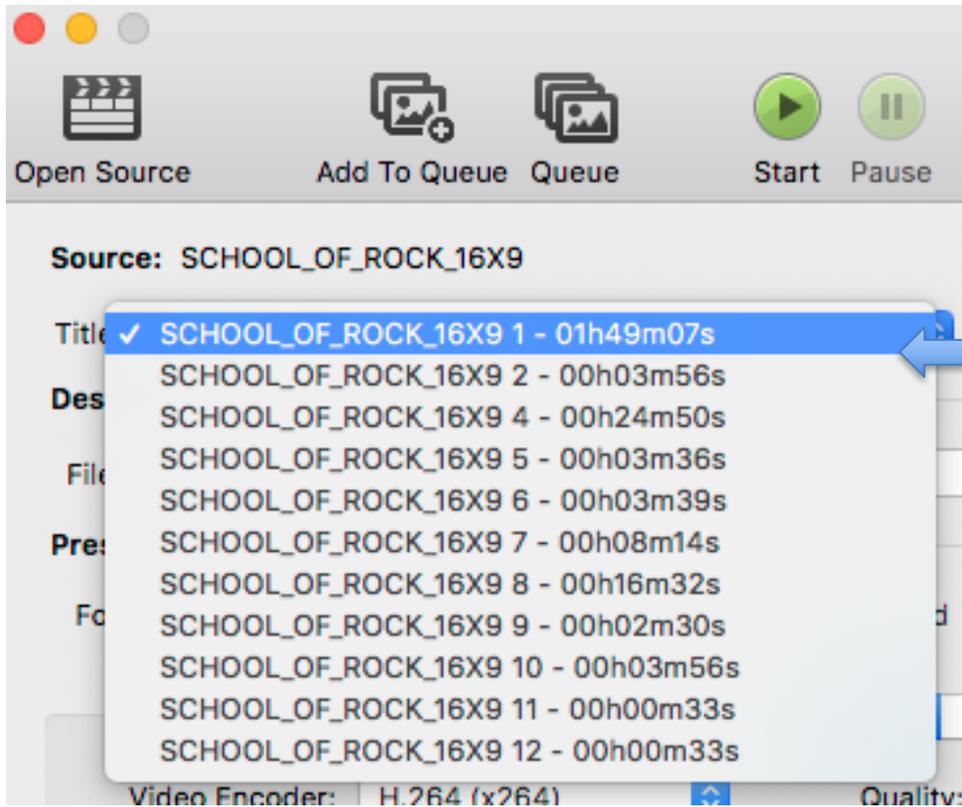
This DVD has been selected.

Handbrake will begin scanning the disc. This process can take a few minutes.



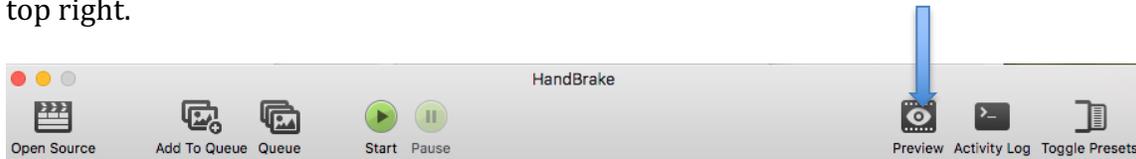
Just under Source you'll notice a menu labeled "Title". DVDs are broken up into titles (e.g. Both the main "feature" and each DVD extra are considered "Titles"), so you'll want to select the Title you want to reformat.

HINT: Handbrake gives you the total length of each title in hours, minutes and seconds (00h00m00s).
The longest title is usually the main feature.



In this example, our DVD contains 12 titles. This title, at 1h 49m 07s is by far the longest, so it's a good bet it's the main title, or feature, on this DVD. You can double check this in DVD player. See the end of this help sheet for details.

To ensure you've chosen the correct title, click the "Preview Window" button on the top right.

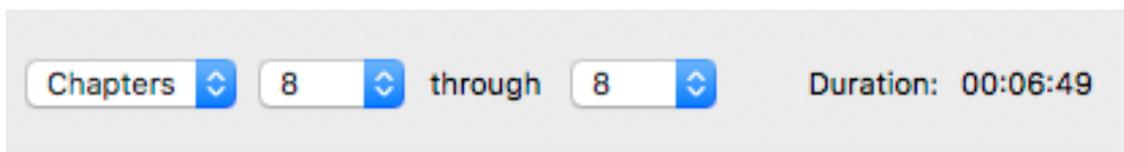


Once you're certain you've selected the correct title, you need to select the chapters you need to reformat.

→ *How Do I Know Which Chapters to Select? See page 7 of this document.*



For example, if I wanted to reformat Title 1, Chapter 8, I would select Title 1 and Chapters 8 through 8.

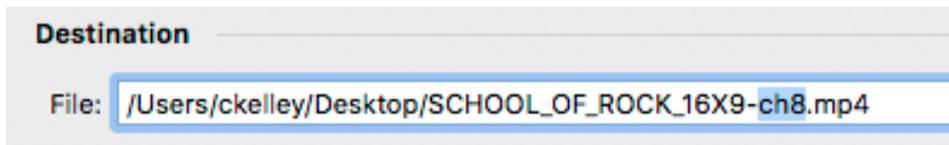


We're almost done!

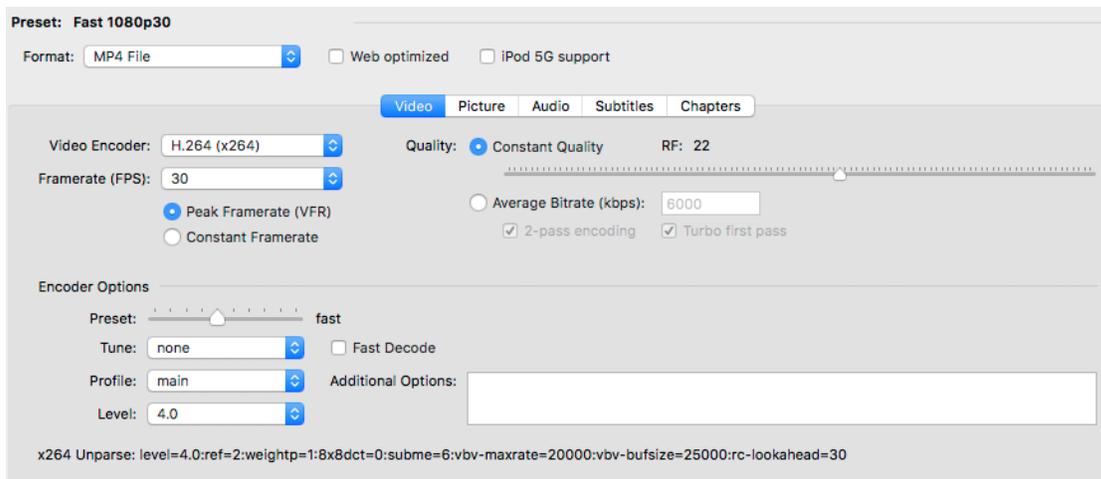
Next, select the **Destination** for your reformatted media.
You'll want this destination to be somewhere you can easily find.



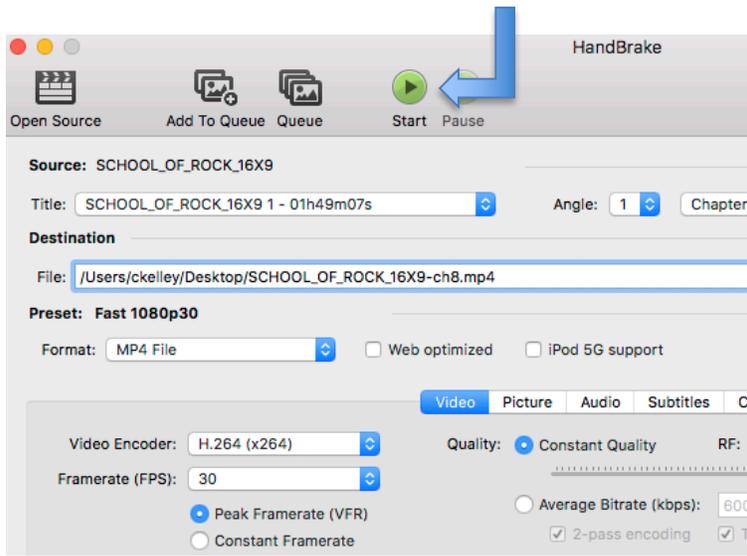
If you're reformatting multiple chapters from the same disc, this is also a good time to rename your file something that will easily differentiate it from the other chapters you plan to reformat.



Now double check that your Format is set to MP4 and that your "Video Codec" is set to H264. *This is the default setting, so you should be all set! If not, simply select the correct settings.* Your default preset may vary from disc to disc, but so long as format and video encoder are correct, you'll be fine.



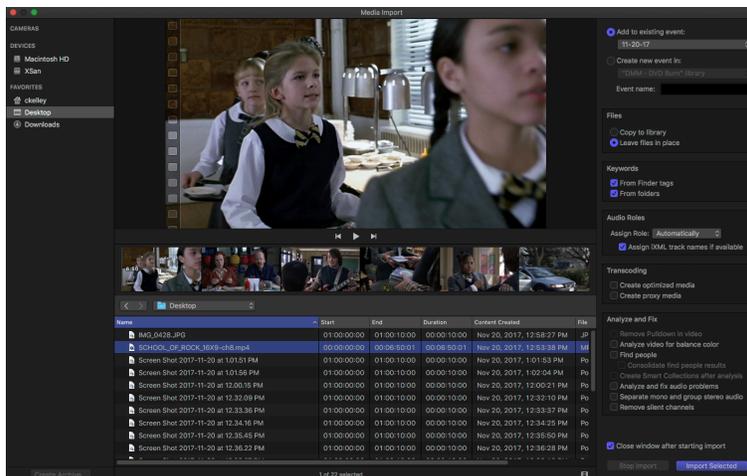
Now click **start** to begin the reformatting/encoding process.



When you're finished...



You can load your finished file directly into Final Cut X for editing.



Appendix A: How Do I Know Which Chapters to Select (using the Apple DVD Player)?

Open up the DVD Player app (it may open by default when you first insert the DVD).



Using the DVD Player, navigate to the beginning of the scene you need to reformat.



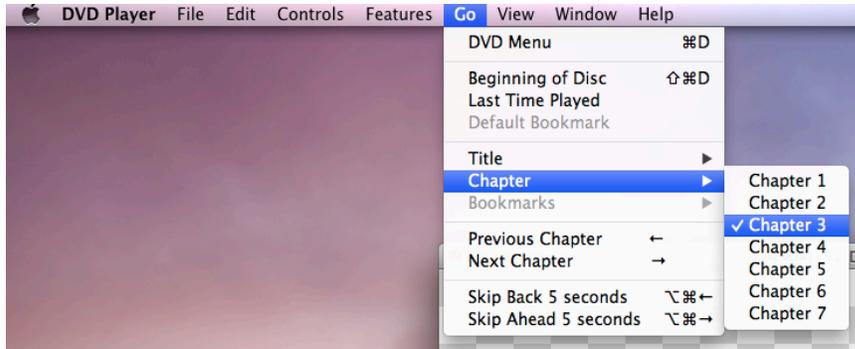
Clicking and dragging this little gray diamond is a helpful way of navigating when you're not exactly sure where a particular scene occurs.

Pause the DVD player.



PAUSE button.

In the top menu bar, go to **Go > Chapter**.



The Chapter number that has a checkmark next to it is the Chapter you are currently viewing.

Next, go to the END of the scene you need to reformat. Pause playback.

Again, go to **Go > Chapter**. As before, the chapter number that has a checkmark next to it is the Chapter you are currently viewing.

- ➔ It is not uncommon to find that your scene both begins and ends in the same chapter. However, it is always good practice to check the Chapter numbers at both the beginning and end of the scene as a failsafe.
- ➔ Notice that you can also confirm “Title” using these same steps.

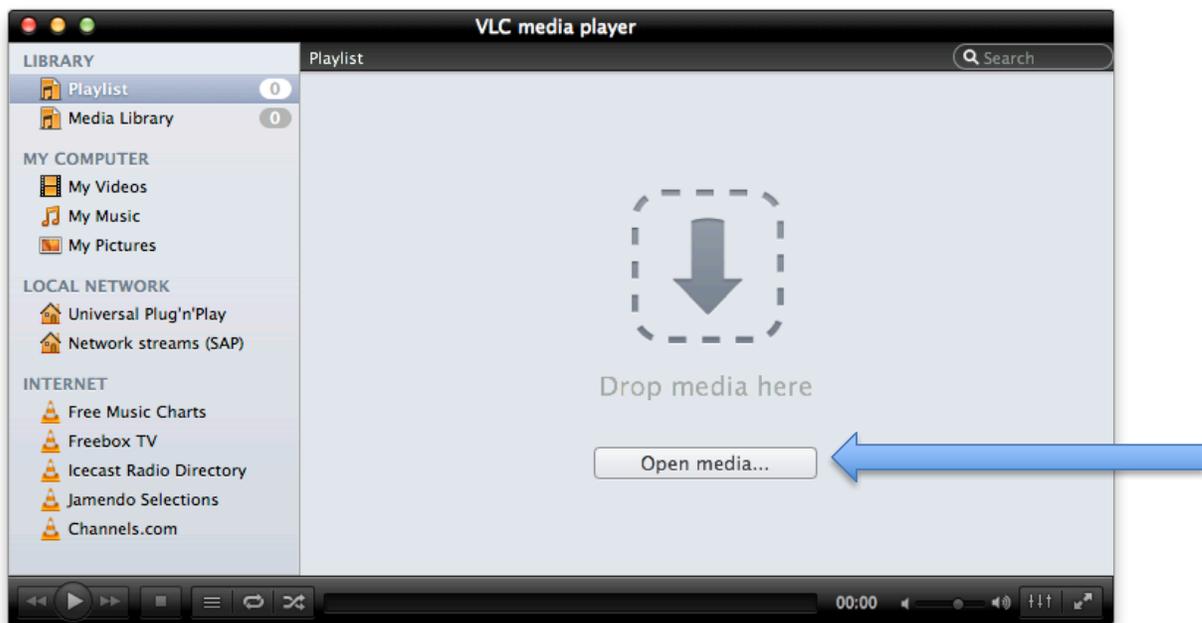
Appendix B: How Do I Know Which Chapters to Select (using VLC)?

In certain Mac labs at Bates, the default DVD Player is an app called “VLC”.
~~Sometimes~~ ***oftentimes*** you may not know which chapter or title you need to select. No worries – this tutorial will guide you through using VLC to get the relevant info.

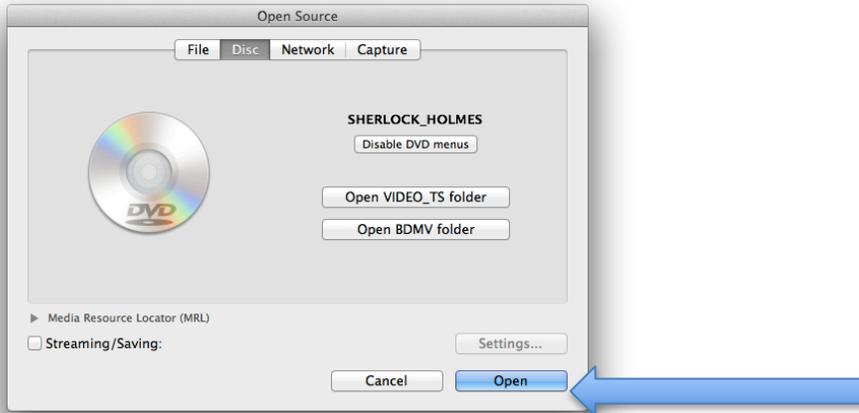
Open up the VLC Player app (it may open by default when you first insert the DVD).



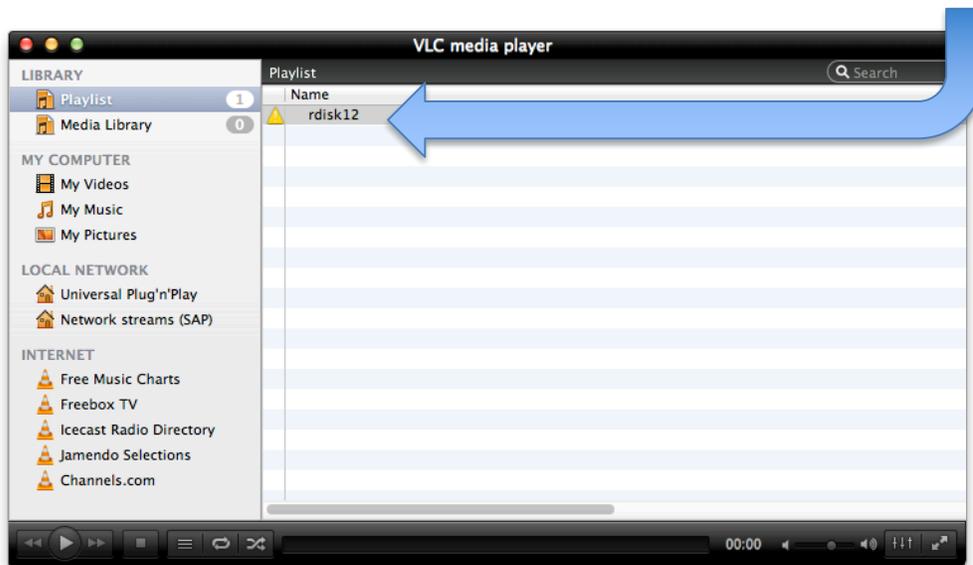
If VLC hasn't opened your DVD by default, click the “Open media...” button.



Select the “Disc” tab and click “Open”.



Your DVD will appear in the “Playlist” often with a weird title like “rdisk12”.



Press the **Play** button to begin playing your DVD.



Using the VLC Player, navigate to the beginning of the scene you need to reformat.



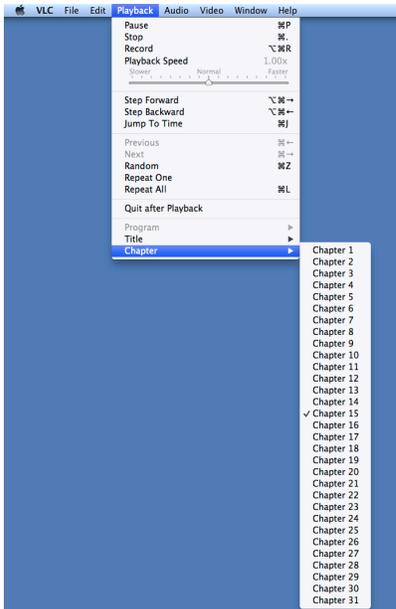
I find clicking and dragging this little gray diamond to be a helpful way of navigating when I'm not exactly sure where a particular scene occurs.

Pause the VLC player.



PAUSE button.

In the top menu bar, go to **Playback > Chapter**.



The Chapter number that has a checkmark next to it is the Chapter you are currently viewing.

Next, go to the END of the scene you need to reformat. Pause playback.

Again, go to **Playback > Chapter**. As before, the chapter number that has a checkmark next to it is the Chapter you are currently viewing.

- ➔ It is not uncommon to find that your scene both begins and ends in the same chapter. However, it is always good practice to check the Chapter numbers at both the beginning and end of the scene as a failsafe.
- ➔ Notice that you can also confirm "Title" using these same steps.
- ➔ Also: VLC is not quite as smart as the Mac DVD Player, so it can be fooled into looking at "ghost titles" – all the while playing back your DVD as though all is

normal. Always make sure your selected “title” is the correct length prior to selecting your chapters.

