

COURSE OUTLINE		
TERM: Effective Fall 2018	COURSE NO: FILM 308	
INSTRUCTOR:	COURSE TITLE: Documentary Cinema Arts	
OFFICE: LOCAL: E-MAIL: @capilanou.ca	SECTION NO(S):	CREDITS: 3.0
OFFICE HOURS:		
COURSE WEBSITE:		

Capilano University acknowledges with respect the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, Sechelt, and Tsleil-Waututh people on whose territories our campuses are located.

COURSE FORMAT

Three hours of classroom/lab instruction, plus an additional hour delivered through on-line or other activities for 15 weeks, including a final exam.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

45 credits of 100 - level or higher coursework.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course explores what a documentary is, the history of documentary film, the techniques used by documentary filmmakers to tell their stories, and how documentary films are developed, produced, and distributed. Students will also develop their own story ideas and direct and shoot a live-action short "in camera" documentary as they establish a basic foundation in documentary cinema arts.

COURSE NOTE

FILM 308 is an approved Culture and Creative Expression course for Cap Core requirements.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXT: Barnouw, Erik. *Documentary: A History of the Non-Fiction Film*: Oxford University Press

REQUIRED RESOURCES: Students are required to purchase or provide a video-capable camera for film exercises.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Understand what a documentary is and what distinguishes it from other film genres;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of documentary history;
3. Apply various storytelling techniques used by documentary filmmakers;
4. Employ the general roles and responsibilities of Producer, Director, Writer, Cinematographer, and Editor on a documentary film;
5. Describe the challenges of Development, Production, Post-Production, and Distribution for a documentary filmmaker;
6. Create and develop a story idea for a documentary film;
7. Direct and shoot a short documentary film.

CAP CORE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this Culture and Creative Expression course, students will be able to do the following:

1. Engage in creative processes including conception, investigation, execution, and ongoing critical analysis;
2. Identify, analyze, and critique the elements of a form of expression using its specific vocabulary;
3. Explain or demonstrate the connection between various events, ideas, traditions, and belief systems and the modes in which they are artistically or culturally expressed;
4. Interpret diverse forms of creative expression from different perspectives (e.g. artistic, historical, Indigenous, literary, scientific, philosophical).

COURSE CONTENT

WEEKS 1-13

Week 1: Introduction

Introduction to the course of study

What is a documentary?

Premise and discovery

Documentary storytelling

The role of research in documentary filmmaking

Assignment 1: Tell a story in 24-frames (10%)

Week 2: Historical Origins and The Art of Producing

Historical origins of documentary

Lumiere and the first non-fiction film

The producer's role in documentary filmmaking

The flow of production for a documentary. Review assignment 1 story ideas

Review assignment 1 story ideas

Week 3: The Art of Directing

Assignment 1 due and class presentations

What a documentary director does and how they do it

Assignment 2: Oral presentation on documentary storytelling (15%)

Week 4: The Art of Directing - Continued

The art of interview

Robert Flaherty *Nanook of the North*

Why Nanook is so important

Flaherty controversies

Review assignment: 2 film ideas

Week 5: Assignment 2 Class presentations

Assignment 2 due and class presentations

Assignment 3: Short documentary production 1 (10%)

Week 6: Vertov and Grierson

Dziga Vertov and *Man With A Movie Camera*

John Grierson and social issue documentary

Music and documentary storytelling

Week 7: Assignment 3 Class Presentations

Assignment 3 due and class presentations

The role of the cinematographer and editor

Assignment 4: Essay on a documentary filmmaker (10%)

Week 8: Nature Documentaries

The art of making wildlife and nature films

Leni Riefenstahl and the Third Reich

Week 9: Cinema Verite: The Art of Capturing Reality

Cinema Verite and Direct Cinema

Assignment 4 due

Assignment 5: Short documentary 2 (15%)

Week 10: Case Study

Analysis and discussion of a 'special' documentary selected by the class

Film festivals for documentaries

Review assignment 5 story ideas

Week 11: Documentary Distribution and New Forms of Storytelling

Distribution and finding a documentary distributor

Hybrid and Self-distribution

New forms of documentary and the future

Week 12: Assignment 5 – Class Presentations

Assignment 5 due and class presentations

Week 13: Final Exam and Final Discussion**Course conclusion and final remarks****Weeks 14 - 15****Final Exam****EVALUATION PROFILE**

EVALUATION PROFILE	
Assignments	60%
Final Exam (25%)and In-class Quizzes (5%)	30%
Participation and Attendance	10%
Total	100

ASSIGNMENTS	
Assignment 1: Tell a Story in 24 frames	10%
Assignment 2: Oral Presentation on Documentary Storytelling	15%
Assignment 3: Short Documentary Production	10%
Assignment 4: Essay on Documentary Maker	10%
Assignment 5: Story Ideas – Class Presentation	15%
Total:	60

GRADING PROFILE

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D = 50-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	F = 0-49
A- = 80-84	B- = 70-72	C- = 60-62	

Incomplete Grades

Grades of Incomplete “I” are assigned only in exceptional circumstances when a student requests extra time to complete their coursework. Such agreements are made only at the request of the student, who is responsible to determine from the instructor the outstanding requirements of the course.

Late Assignments

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date listed. If you anticipate handing in an assignment late, please consult with your instructor beforehand.

Missed Exams/Quizzes/Labs etc

Make-up exams, quizzes and/or tests are given at the discretion of the instructor. They are generally given only in medical emergencies or severe personal crises. Some missed labs or other activities may not be able to be accommodated. Please consult with your instructor.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken daily and will form part of the final grade (See Evaluation Profile). When students are absent from class, they are still responsible for the material covered during their absence, including announcements, assigned readings and hand-outs.

Participation/Professional Behaviour

The grade for class participation is based on both the frequency and the quality of students' comments, questions and observations, with the emphasis on quality. The quality is determined by, among other things, the relevance, insight and clarity of remarks.

Students are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude and behaviour towards their work, fellow-students, and their instructor. Students should demonstrate reliability, respect for and co-operation with colleagues. A willingness to work calmly and courteously under difficult conditions as well as a determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines is necessary in this course. Students should have respect for equipment and systems, and a constructive response to criticism.

English Usage

Students are expected to proofread all written work for any grammatical, spelling and stylistic errors. Instructors may deduct marks for incorrect grammar and spelling in written assignments.

Electronic Devices

Students may use electronic devices during class for note-taking only.

On-line Communication

Outside of the classroom, instructors will (if necessary) communicate with students using either their official Capilano University email or Moodle; please check both regularly. Official communication between Capilano University and students is delivered to students' Capilano University email addresses only.

UNIVERSITY OPERATIONAL DETAILS**Tools for Success**

Many services are available to support student success for Capilano University students. A central navigation point for all services can be found at: <http://www.capilanou.ca/services/>

Capilano University Security: download the [CapU Mobile Safety App](#)**Policy Statement (S2009-06)**

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grade), Student Conduct, Academic Integrity, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

Academic Integrity (S2017-05)

Any instance of academic dishonesty or breach of the standards of academic integrity is serious and students will be held accountable for their actions, whether acting alone or in a group. See policy S2017-05 for more information: <http://www.capilanou.ca/about/governance/policies/Policies/>

Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances, are prohibited and will be handled in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity Procedures.

Academic dishonesty is any act that breaches one or more of the principles of academic integrity. Acts of academic dishonesty may include but are not limited to the following types:

Cheating: Using or providing unauthorized aids, assistance or materials while preparing or completing assessments, or when completing practical work (in clinical, practicum, or lab settings), including but not limited to the following:

- Copying or attempting to copy the work of another during an assessment;
- Communicating work to another student during an examination;
- Using unauthorized aids, notes, or electronic devices or means during an examination;
- Unauthorized possession of an assessment or answer key; and/or,
- Submitting of a substantially similar assessment by two or more students, except in the case where such submission is specifically authorized by the instructor.

Fraud: Creation or use of falsified documents.

Misuse or misrepresentation of sources: Presenting source material in such a way as to distort its original purpose or implication(s); misattributing words, ideas, etc. to someone other than the original source; misrepresenting or manipulating research findings or data; and/or suppressing aspects of findings or data in order to present conclusions in a light other than the research, taken as a whole, would support.

Plagiarism: Presenting or submitting, as one's own work, the research, words, ideas, artistic imagery, arguments, calculations, illustrations, or diagrams of another person or persons without explicit or accurate citation or credit.

Self-Plagiarism: Submitting one's own work for credit in more than one course without the permission of the instructors, or re-submitting work, in whole or in part, for which credit has already been granted without permission of the instructors.

Prohibited Conduct: The following are examples of other conduct specifically prohibited:

- Taking unauthorized possession of the work of another student (for example, intercepting and removing such work from a photocopier or printer, or collecting the graded work of another student from a stack of papers);
- Falsifying one's own and/or other students' attendance in a course;
- Impersonating or allowing the impersonation of an individual;
- Modifying a graded assessment then submitting it for re-grading; or,
- Assisting or attempting to assist another person to commit any breach of academic integrity.

Sexual Violence and Misconduct

All Members of the University Community have the right to work, teach and study in an environment that is free from all forms of sexual violence and misconduct. Policy B401 defines sexual assault as follows:

Sexual assault is any form of sexual contact that occurs without ongoing and freely given consent, including the threat of sexual contact without consent. Sexual assault can be committed by a stranger, someone known to the survivor or an intimate partner.

Safety and security at the University are a priority and any form of sexual violence and misconduct will not be tolerated or condoned. The University expects all Students and Members of the University Community to abide by all laws and University policies, including [B.401 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Policy](#) and [B.401.1 Sexual Violence and Misconduct Procedure](#).

Emergencies: Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the emergency policies where appropriate and the emergency procedures posted on the wall of the classroom.

DEPARTMENT OR PROGRAM OPERATIONAL DETAILS

STUDIO/FILMING DISCIPLINE:

Students must be dressed appropriately. Wet and cold weather requires waterproof and warm clothing. Students are required to wear work clothes for technical and production sessions. Clothing may be subjected to dirt, paint and dust. Sturdy shoes are a must. No food or beverages are allowed on set during production activities and during technical classes. Disruptive students will be asked to leave.