FTMA M104: INTRODUCTION TO DOCUMENTARY STUDIES

Originator

lsnowden

Co-Contributor(s)

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College

Moorpark College

Discipline (CB01A)

FTMA - Film, Television, Media Arts

Course Number (CB01B)

M104

Course Title (CB02)

Introduction to Documentary Studies

Banner/Short Title

Intro to Documentary Studies

Credit Type

Credit

Start Term

Fall 2020

Formerly

HUM M17, FILM M15

Catalog Course Description

Introduces documentary cinema and media through a formal, historical, social and political perspective. Focuses on analysis of various types of domestic and international documentary films with a wide range of subject matter.

Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)

0612.00 - Film Studies (including combined film/video)

Course Credit Status (CB04)

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

SAM Priority Code (CB09)

E - Non-Occupational

Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

Course Classification Status (CB11)

Y - Credit Course

Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)
N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)
Y - Not Applicable

Course Noncredit Category (CB22)
Y - Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)
Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

Course Program Status (CB24)
1 - Program Applicable

General Education Status (CB25)
Y - Not Applicable

Support Course Status (CB26)
N - Course is not a support course

Field trips
Will not be required

Grading method
Letter Graded

Alternate grading methods
Student Option- Letter/Pass
Pass/No Pass Grading

Does this course require an instructional materials fee?
No

Repeatable for Credit
No

Is this course part of a family?
No

Units and Hours

Carnegie Unit Override
No

In-Class

Lecture
Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours
52.5
Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours
52.5

Activity
Minimum Contact/In-Class Activity Hours
0
Maximum Contact/In-Class Activity Hours
0

Laboratory
Minimum Contact/In-Class Laboratory Hours
0

Maximum Contact/In-Class Laboratory Hours
0

Total in-Class

Total in-Class
Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours
52.5
Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours
52.5

Outside-of-Class

Internship/Cooperative Work Experience

Paid
Minimum Paid Internship/Cooperative Work Experience Hours
0
Maximum Paid Internship/Cooperative Work Experience Hours
0

Unpaid
Minimum Unpaid Internship/Cooperative Work Experience Hours
0
Maximum Unpaid Internship/Cooperative Work Experience Hours
0

Total Outside-of-Class

Total Outside-of-Class
Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours
105
Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours
105

Total Student Learning

Total Student Learning
Total Minimum Student Learning Hours
157.5
Total Maximum Student Learning Hours
157.5

Minimum Units (CB07)
3
Maximum Units (CB06)
3

Advisories on Recommended Preparation
FTMA M101

Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	analyze a documentary film or films in relation to periods, styles, genres, and movements by using film terminology.
2	differentiate the theories and styles of documentary filmmakers within film history from the 1890s to the present.
3	apply stylistic film analysis to historical periods of documentary film history.

Course Objectives

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	identify, evaluate, and analyze documentary films according to mode, style and voice.
2	analyze documentary films using the technical and critical terms of cinema.
3	describe and analyze the social and political trends relative to documentary films and the ethical issues in filmmaking.
4	apply principles of critical evaluation and interpretation to documentary films.
5	relate movements in documentary film by making comparisons of mode, style, and voice in relation to the representation of social and political issues.
6	identify, explain and analyze the interrelatedness of social movements and documentary films in cultural context.
7	identify and evaluate technological and presentational trends in non-fiction films and "reality" genres.
8	research and appraise the popular and critical reactions to non-fiction and documentary films in cultural context.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content

- **10% - Definitions and Introduction to Concepts**
  - Definition of documentary
  - Fiction vs. non-fiction
  - Relationship between filmmakers, subjects, and audiences
- **5% - Docu-Drama**
  - "Reality" shows
  - Mockumentaries
  - Citizen journalism
  - YouTube
  - Auto-ethnography
- **10% - Treatment of Social and Political Issues I**
  - People as victims and/or agents
  - National identity and the nation-state with particular attention to propaganda films of: the Soviets, Depression Era, WWII and wartime propaganda of the 20th-21st centuries
- **10% - Treatment of Social and Political Issues II**
  - Forms of identity
  - Politics of identity
  - Social/political issues of conservation and the environment
  - Representation of racial, ethnic, and sexual minorities
- **5% - Genres**
  - Direct cinema
  - Cinema-verite
  - Socio-political issues
- **30% - Modes of Documentary**
  - Poetic and expository
  - Observational and participatory
  - Reflexive and performative
- **5% - Beginning of Documentaries**
  - 1920s
  - Poetic experimentation, rhetoric and oration
- **10% - Voice in Documentary Film**
  - Arrangement, delivery invention, memory, style
- **15% - Ethics of Documentary Filmmaking**
  - Issues of representation
  - Reproduction of reality
  - Filmmaker as political activist, explorer, historian, artist

Laboratory or Activity Content

None.

Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):
Written expression

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):
Classroom Discussion
Essay exams
Group projects
Individual projects
Oral analysis/critiques
Objective exams
Oral presentations
Other (specify)
Projects
Participation
Quizzes
Reports/Papers/Journals
Reports/papers
Research papers

Other
In-class worksheet and discussion about the distinction between "documentary activism" and "propaganda."

Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course
Audio-visual presentations
Computer-aided presentations
Collaborative group work
Class activities
Class discussions
Distance Education
Group discussions
Guest speakers
Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis
Internet research
Lecture
Small group activities

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:
  • Leading group discussions and using PowerPoint presentations to explain concepts of the course.

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments
  • Critical analysis of a documentary (or several) with close attention and discussion given to influences and biases through cinematic form.
  • Creation of a documentary film "treatment" or proposal, addressing mode and style.

Critical Thinking Assignments
  • Critical discussion and written exercise analyzing the ethical issues in representation of non-fiction/"reality."
  • Critical analysis of a documentary with close attention and discussion given to influences and biases within the film.

Reading Assignments
  • Articles from *Studies in Documentary Film* journal.
  • Readings in the textbook and selected film reviews/essays.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments
- Screening and narrative analysis of contemporary ethnographic video (TV news, YouTube, etc.).
- Analysis of screenings at theaters, TV/cable/Internet and festivals.

Articulation

Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
CSU East Bay	COMM 2600	Documentary Film Studies	4

Equivalent Courses at other CCCs

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Sacramento City College	ENGLT 404	Documentary Film Studies	3
Santa Barbara City College	FS 121	Documentary Film	3

District General Education

A. Natural Sciences

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences

C. Humanities

C1. Fine/Performing Arts
Approved

C2. Humanities
Approved

D. Language and Rationality

E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology

F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies

Course is CSU transferable
Yes

CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:
F'2007

CSU GE-Breadth

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

Area C: Arts and Humanities

C1 Arts: Arts, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater
Approved

C2 Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English
Approved

Area D: Social Sciences

Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:

UC TCA

UC TCA
Approved

IGETC

Area 1: English Communication

Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning

Area 3: Arts and Humanities

Area 3A: Arts
Approved

Area 3B: Humanities
Approved

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

Textbooks and Lab Manuals
Resource Type
Textbook

Classic Textbook
Yes

Description
Nichols, B. (2017). *Introduction to documentary*(3rd ed.). Indiana UP.

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
Spence, L., and Navarro, V. (2010). *Crafting truth: Documentary form and meaning*. Rutgers UP.

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
Aufderheide, P. (2007). D*ocumentary film: A very short introduction*. Oxford UP.

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
McLane, B. (2012). *A new history of the documentary film,*(2nd ed.). Continuum International.

Library Resources

Assignments requiring library resources

Research, using the Library's print, audio-visual and on-line resources, in preparation for the writing of essays, research papers and oral presentations.

Sufficient Library Resources exist

Yes

Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

Research and write a paper arguing which documentary filmmaking genre has the most accurate representation of reality. Use examples from films to illustrate your argument and how it was dealt with.

Distance Education Addendum

Definitions

Distance Education Modalities

Hybrid (51–99% online)
Hybrid (1–50% online)
100% Online

Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Discussion Forums will be used to disseminate coursewide information and facilitate ongoing collaborative course work. Students may also use the Discussion Forums to solicit help from the instructor and other students. Discussions may also be graded encouraging students to participate in the class.
E-mail	Email is a tool primarily used for course-wide updates and individual student contact. Students and the instructor can privately contact each other with questions, concerns.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	The instructor can provide text, presentation slides, audio/visual material, assignment examples, tutorials (which may be live or recorded), and links to supplemental publications, articles, and websites.

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
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Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	The instructor can provide text, presentation slides, audio/visual material, assignment examples, tutorials (which may be live or recorded), and links to supplemental publications, articles, and websites.

100% online Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Discussion Forums will be used to disseminate coursewide information and facilitate ongoing collaborative course work. Students may also use the Discussion Forums to solicit help from the instructor and other students. Discussions may also be graded encouraging students to participate in the class.
E-mail	Email is a tool primarily used for course-wide updates and individual student contact. Students and the instructor can privately contact each other with questions, concerns.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	The instructor can provide text, presentation slides, audio/visual material, assignment examples, tutorials (which may be live or recorded), and links to supplemental publications, articles, and websites.

Examinations

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality
Online

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality
Online

Primary Minimum Qualification
FILM STUDIES

Review and Approval Dates

Department Chair
08/29/19

Dean
09/05/19

Technical Review
09/05/19

Curriculum Committee
09/17/19

DTRW-I
MM/DD/YYYY

Curriculum Committee
MM/DD/YYYY

Board
MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO
MM/DD/YYYY

Control Number
CCC000459517

DOE/accreditation approval date
MM/DD/YYYY