

FILM A265: DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION

Item	Value
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	12/06/2023
Top Code	061220 - Film Production
Units	3 Total Units
Hours	90 Total Hours (Lecture Hours 36; Lab Hours 54)
Total Outside of Class Hours	0
Course Credit Status	Credit: Degree Applicable (D)
Material Fee	No
Basic Skills	Not Basic Skills (N)
Repeatable	No
Open Entry/Open Exit	No
Grading Policy	Standard Letter (S)

Course Description

An advanced production class focused on the creation of field production and documentary storytelling. Topics include on-location video and field production, lighting, camera, sound and editing. Students will function as producers, directors, crew and editors. Projects will include equipment tests, a mini-documentary and a short documentary intended for use in portfolio. PREREQUISITE: FILM A110. Transfer Credit: CSU.

Course Level Student Learning Outcome(s)

1. Demonstrate proficiency in studio, field and on-location camera lighting techniques.
2. Participate in the production of short documentaries.
3. Identify and utilize key components of the production and post production process

Course Objectives

- 1. Discuss the differences and technical approaches to field production vs. studio production.
- 2. Demonstrate the ability to use special audio techniques to capture sound under challenging conditions.
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to light under different location conditions, both indoors and outdoors.
- 4. Write a detailed script rundown including TV interview questions.
- 5. Direct a standard on-location TV interview.
- 6. Complete a location survey report.
- 7. Demonstrate editing ability for either a documentary, informational or news story.
- 8. Discuss the role of industrial videos in the business sector.
- 9. Identify different styles of documentaries.
- 10. Differentiate the unique style of shooting and selling news stories.
- 11. Function as a production crew member in camera, sound, and lighting capacities.
- 12. Identify film/TV industry jobs and what is expected of graduating students.

Lecture Content

Production Techniques: Field / On-Location Studio Advanced camera operations: Understanding and adjusting manual settings High Resolution cameras Location sound recording techniques Sibillance Wind noise Background noise Boom microphones Wired and Wireless microphones Location lighting techniques/challenges Location directing techniques Script development unique to documentaries, informational and news Writing questions for on-camera interviews Working with on-camera talent: Subjects Performers Narrators Spokespersons Elements of a location survey: Location drawings Power needs and sources Load in/out availability Special equipment need Parking and restroom facilities Food service availability or alternatives Editing techniques for documentary The production crew roles and responsibilities: Above The Line Below The Line On-location gathering/continuity Story and shooting techniques unique to dramatic production Cinematic technique Lighting technique Story and recording techniques unique to documentary Capturing action Coverage

Lab Content

Apply Production Techniques: Field / On-Location Studio Utilize advanced camcorder operations: Execute advanced camera operations. High Resolution cameras. Apply location sound recording techniques Demonstrate location lighting techniques. Develop scripts, documentaries and informational projects. Distribution planning for film festivals or other outlets.

Method(s) of Instruction

- Lecture (02)
- DE Live Online Lecture (02S)
- DE Online Lecture (02X)
- Lab (04)
- DE Live Online Lab (04S)
- DE Online Lab (04X)

Instructional Techniques

Lecture/Discussions Equipment demonstrations Screenings of sample projects Viewing of instructional videos Critique of student projects

Reading Assignments

Trade journals/publications (6 hours) and selected handouts (10 hours)

Writing Assignments

Project treatments, (16 hours) script development, (24 hours)

Out-of-class Assignments

Project treatments and development (16 hours) and prep research for trade journal reports (4 hours) Project participation in pre-production, production and post-production (42 hours)

Demonstration of Critical Thinking

Camera test Video terminology quiz Informational/news video Writing assignments Production crew assignments Written test Final video project Participation in class/lab

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration

This class features writing assignments in a variety of styles and formats. The student will demonstrate proficiency in the use of video production equipment, location sound, lighting and digital post-production editing in order to complete assignments. Students will demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving skills through

production development, on-location production techniques, and by working through production and post-production problems.

Eligible Disciplines

Broadcasting technology (film making/video, media production, radio/TV): Any bachelor's degree and two years of professional experience, or any associate degree and six years of professional experience.

Textbooks Resources

1. Required BERNARD, S., C.,. DOCUMENTARY STORYTELLING, 5th ed. Routledge, 2022 Legacy Textbook Transfer Data: ISBN: 1032267291 2. Required Anthony Q. Artis. THE SHUT UP AND SHOOT DOCUMENTARY GUIDE, 2ND ed. TAYLOR FRANCIS, 2015

Other Resources

1. Handouts will be provided by the instructor.