

Spring 21 | Thursday 1:30 – 4:45 | **ZOOM LINK <https://depaul.zoom.us/j/92950169314>**

Instructor: Dana Kupper (she/her)

Office: CDM 460

Phone: (O) 312-362-1304

(C) 773-297-6272

Email: dkupper@depaul.edu (If urgent text me ^ - otherwise emails will be answered by the next day.)

Office hours: Thursday 11:45- 1:15 (before class) or after class or by appointment (best)

Course Description and Prerequisites

This course focuses on the language, practice and art of visual storytelling in the documentary form. Students will examine the cinematographer's role in the ideation, shooting and editing of non-fiction film content. Through a series of screenings, lectures, experiential exercises, and class discussions, students will better understand the history and practice of cinematography as it pertains to story, character and structure - all through the prism of documentary. PREREQUISITE(S): None

DePaul CDM Important Dates •

Academic Calendar <https://academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx> (Be sure to search for 2020-2021

Academic Year)

Saturday March 27, 2021	Begin SQ2021 Classes
Friday April 2, 2021	Good Friday - University officially closed
Saturday April 3, 2021	Easter Holiday - University officially closed
Sunday April 4, 2021	Easter Holiday - University officially closed
Monday April 5, 2021	Last day to add classes to SQ2021 schedule
Friday April 9, 2021	Last day to drop SQ2021 classes with no penalty (100% refund of tuition if applicable and no grade on transcript)
Saturday April 10, 2021	Grades of "W" assigned for SQ2021 classes dropped on or after this day
Monday April 12, 2021	Last day to select pass/fail option for SQ2021 classes
Friday April 16, 2021	Last day to select auditor status for SQ2021 classes
Thursday April 29, 2021	Begin AQ2021 registration
Friday May 14, 2021	Last day to withdraw from SQ2021 classes
Monday May 31, 2021	Memorial Day - University officially closed
Friday June 4, 2021	End SQ2021 Day & Evening Classes
Saturday June 5, 2021	Begin SQ2021 Day & Evening Final Exams
Friday June 11, 2021	END SPRING QUARTER 2021
Friday June 11, 2021	End SQ2021 Day & Evening Final Exams
Friday June 18, 2021	GRADES DUE: SPRING 2021

Textbooks and printed resources

Handouts: As assigned on D2L

Learning and Performance Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

- Explain and interpret the documentary visualization process (Ideation, Preproduction, Production and Post Production) and the key role documentary cinematography plays in each phase of that process
- Apply and exhibit their understanding of key cinematographic concepts from several subgenres of documentary (interviews, cinema vérité, observational, agitprop, social justice, biographical, etc.), having completed a series of camera exercises on each throughout the semester
- Demonstrate their ability to work alone or with a very small crew to create high quality footage that effectively tells a non-fiction story
- Utilize their knowledge and practice of documentary cinematography to professionally and effectively communicate and formulate non-fiction visual images with collaborators - including directors, producers, editors and sound recordists - on any documentary film.

Software needed to complete assignments:

Editing platform-Final Cut Pro, Premiere Pro, or Avid

Quicktime

Word processing program

Grading

Out of Class exercises	75%
Discussion participation	5%
Frame.io participation	10%
Final Project	10%

A = 100-93	A- = 92-90	B+ = 89-88	B = 87-83	B- = 82-80			
C+ = 79-78	C = 77-73	C- = 72-70	D+ = 69-68	D = 67-63	D- = 62-60	F = 59-0.	

A indicates excellence (all assignments are graded excellent and submitted on time), B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D indicates unsatisfactory work, and F is a failure to demonstrate an understanding of course concepts

Requesting an incomplete grade:

An incomplete grade may only be assigned to a student if the student has experienced an extenuating circumstance near the end of the term, the student is in good standing in the class, and the request is made in advance. This being said it is solely up to the discretion of the instructor to grant an incomplete.

Attendance – Classes will consist of lecture, screenings, discussion, and creative exercises.

Class Participation— Along with showing up, you are expected to join in class discussions, critique other people’s work, and participate in workshops.

Written Assignments: Must be typed.

Digital Assignments: All assignments handed in digitally must have a slate with your name and title of assignment.

Critiques: Due to the large size of our class, and the limited class time, not everyone’s work will get a full review during class. If you’d like more feedback, arrange to discuss your work with me during my office hours. We will view and discuss everyone’s final project during the last class.

Emergency Plan. An emergency can occur at any time, suddenly and without warning. Proper planning is essential to minimize the impact of any emergency on the university community, operations and facilities. The following link provides detailed information on Emergency Evacuation and Fire Alarm safety: <https://resources.depaul.edu/emergency-plan/emergency-evacuation/Pages/Evacuation.aspx>. The University will use the DPU Alert to announce school closing or other emergencies. In the event of an emergency evacuation, the primary outdoor assembly area for CDM will be Grant Park (Southeast corner of Jackson and Michigan Ave).

Online Course Evaluations - Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student’s identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Students complete the evaluation online in [CampusConnect](#).

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism This course will be subject to the university’s academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>. If you have any questions be sure to consult with your professor.

Academic Policies All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>

Students with Disabilities Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at: csd@depaul.edu, **Lewis Center 1420, 25 East Jackson Blvd**

Phone number: (312)362-8002 Fax: (312)362-6544 TTY: (773)325.7296

Equipment- The Canon XF205 can be used for in class assignments. To complete out of class assignments, the students will have access to the Canon XF205 camera packages, or you may use any camera of your choosing. Reserve your equipment really far in advance. There is a high demand for the equipment at this school, and you do not want to be left shooting with your second choice camera.

Preferred Name & Gender Pronouns

Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, culture, religion, politics, sexual orientation, gender, gender variance, and nationalities. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the quarter so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. Please also note that students may choose to identify within the University community with a preferred first name that differs from their legal name and may also update their gender. The preferred first name will appear in University related systems and documents except where the use of the legal name is necessitated or required by University business or legal need. For more information and instructions on how to do so, please see the Student Preferred Name and Gender Policy at <http://policies.depaul.edu/policy/policy.aspx?pid=332>

Refer to the [DePaul SCA Student Handbook](#) for policies and rules.

Course Calendar Spring 2021 – Documentary Cinematography

Changes to Syllabus - This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be addressed during class, and posted under News in D2L.

Week	Date	Subject	Assign	Due
1	4/1	Intro to course Handheld tips	3 minute film	
2	4/8	Camera Basics Operating	Odd Shots	3 minute film
3	4/15	Communicating with the camera Storytelling with Images	The Day Starts	Odd Shots
4	4/22	Covering the Event Watch uncut example footage	How To	The Day Starts
5	4/29	How to cover a scene		
6	5/6	Interview / light kits On Location Interview	"Interview" Lighting Observation	How To
7	5/13	Mission Statement/ Identity videos Case Study – Essence What is good b-roll?		"Interview" Lighting Observation
8	5/20	How to prep for a doc shoot, tips and tricks	Final Project	
9	5/27	Verité Scenes		
10	6/3	Wrap up – Careers in Documentary Possible Guest Speaker		Final Project
	6/10	No Class		