

Fall 2021 | Thursday 1:30 – 4:45 pm | LL107
Lecture

Instructor: Dana Kupper (she/her)

Office: CDM 460

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

Office hours: Thursday 11:15- 1:15pm (before 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

Academic Calendar <https://academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>

(Be sure to search for 2021-2022 Academic Year)

Monday September 6, 2021	Labor Day - University officially closed
Wednesday September 8, 2021	Begin Autumn Quarter 2021 All Classes
Tuesday September 14, 2021	11:59 PM Deadline to add classes to AQ2021 schedule
Tuesday September 21, 2021	Last Day to drop AQ2021 classes with no penalty (100% refund of tuition if applicable and no grade on transcript)
Tuesday September 21, 2021	Last day to select pass/fail option for AQ2021 classes
Wednesday September 22, 2021	Grades of "W" assigned for AQ2021 classes dropped on or after
Tuesday September 28, 2021	Last day to select auditor status for AQ2021 classes
Wednesday October 6, 2021	Begin AQ2021 optional mid-term exam week
Tuesday October 12, 2021	End AQ2021 optional mid-term week
Tuesday October 26, 2021	Last day to withdraw from AQ2021 classes
Tuesday November 16, 2021	End AQ2021 Day & Evening Classes
Wednesday November 17, 2021	Begin AQ2021 Day & Evening Final Exams
Tuesday November 23, 2021	End AQ2021 Day & Evening Final Exams
Tuesday November 23, 2021	End of Autumn Quarter 2021
Thursday November 25, 2021	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Friday November 26, 2021	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Saturday November 27, 2021	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Sunday November 28, 2021	Thanksgiving Holiday - University officially closed
Thursday December 2, 2021	"IN" grades issued Autumn 2020 lapse to "F"
Thursday December 2, 2021	"R" grades issued Autumn 2020 lapse to "F"
Thursday December 2, 2021	Grades Due: Autumn Quarter 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

Class Attendance and Participation	40%
Out of Class Assignments	45%
Final Project	15%

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. Attendance is mandatory. An absence is defined as not showing up for class, or arriving more than 15 minutes late, or missing any 15-minute period during class time. I take attendance every class. If you arrive less than 15 minutes late, and do not sign in, make sure you let me know you are present so I do not mark you absent. Any absences will result in a reduction of the attendance/participation grade. Anyone who misses 3 classes will automatically drop a letter grade. Anyone who misses 4 classes will automatically fail. However, if you are legitimately sick, please stay home. Please email me at dkupper@depaul.edu if you are going to miss class.

Class Participation— Along with showing up, you are expected to join in class discussions, critique other people’s work, and participate in workshops. You’ll notice that a portion of your grade are the “in class” exercises. If you miss the class, you get a 0. You can do a make-up assignment but it will be out of class, and won’t be as much fun than if you just showed up to class.

Assignments and Exercises –Assignments must be handed in on time. Late assignments will be accepted on teacher discretion only. If an assignment is turned in late, it will be reduced by one letter grade per day for the first two days. After that it will receive a failing grade. Do not use class time to finalize your projects. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. If you do not arrive on time with your completed project it will be considered late.

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 will 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>

COVID considerations -- Keeping our DePaul community safe is of utmost importance in the pandemic. Students, faculty and staff are expected to (1) wear a mask as required at all times while indoors on campus; (2) refrain from eating and drinking in classrooms; (3) keep current with their COVID-19 vaccinations or exemptions; (4) stay home if sick; (5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing; (6) complete the online Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus training; and (7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory. By doing these things, we are Taking Care of DePaul, Together. The recommendations may change as local, state, and federal guidelines evolve. Students who do not abide by the mask requirement may be subject to the student conduct process and will be referred to the Dean of Students Office. Students who have a medical reason for not complying with any requirements should register with DePaul's Center for Student with Disabilities (CSD).

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

Course Calendar Fall 2021 – Documentary Cinematography

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

Week	Date	Subject	Exercise	Assign	Due
1	09/09	Intro to course "The Day Starts" "The Big Idea" "Rivers and Tide" clip	"Undercover dance"	Bring your own cameras next week 3 minute film	
2	09/16	Camera Basics "Who Talks" exercise Watch "Artic Boyhood"	Camera Basics "Who Talks"	"Odd Shots"	3 minute film
3	09/23	Operating Watch "Odd Shots" Watch "Tears Teacher"	Set Up Operating / Game	"The Day Starts"	"Odd Shots"
4	09/30	Covering the Event with Intent What is good "B" roll? Watch "What if He Falls?" Communicating with the Camera	Communicating with the camera		
5	10/07	Shoot "People Study" footage Watch "The Day Starts"	Shoot "People study" Watch uncut example footage		"The Day Starts"
6	10/14	How to cover a scene Watch "5 Girls" scenes Watch "Election Day" scene Watch "The Day Starts"			
7	10/21	Interview / light kits On Location Interview Watch Events Assign Final Project	Interview demo "Window Light" exercise On Location Interview	Interview stills Final Project	
8	10/28	Look at "window light" exercise and Interview stills Mission Statement/ Identity videos Case Study -- Essence			"Window Light" exercise Interview stills
9	11/04	Catch Up day			
10	11/11	Watch Final Projects			Final Project
	11/18	No Class			