

**DC 370 AND DC 396**  
**BOLLYWOOD AND BEYOND: DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING IN MUMBAI**  
**MUMBAI, INDIA**  
**FALL AND WINTER INTERSESSION, 2017**

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**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

Bollywood Film Production is a three-week intensive documentary filmmaking program based in Mumbai, the hub of Hindi Cinema and the capital of the largest film industry in the world. This practical course will introduce DePaul students to the cultural context, style and business of Hindi Cinema while giving them the opportunity to incorporate this knowledge into their own media project.

Students will work collaboratively with Indian film professionals in either an introductory or advanced level film workshop at Whistling Woods International (<http://www.whistlingwoods.net/>) and have the opportunity to implement their technical and cultural learning into a creative project over the course of the visit. Studio tours, film screenings, dance and theater performances will round out students' understanding of Bollywood film.

Finally, students will also get a chance to visit the Taj Mahal in Agra, and explore some of the famous forts of Jaipur in Rajasthan. This course fulfills your JYEL requirement.

**EL LEARNING GOALS (QUOTED FROM EL):**

Students will:

- apply particular concepts from readings, lectures, etc. to an analysis of lived experiences in the settings provided by the course;
- use the experiences provided by the course to construct and articulate the impact of their experience on their understanding of course content;
- demonstrate an understanding of the ethics appropriate to their experiential placement;
- use their new understanding to make decisions and solve problems related to the course, whether at the setting provided by the course, or in other assignments;

**ADDITIONAL LEARNING GOALS:**

Students will:

- plan and execute a visually compelling photo roman or film;
- demonstrate media literacy by approaching filmmaking as professionals on a team, individual creators and audience members;
- explain how social and historical issues such as the partitioning of India, the role of women, the caste system or religion impact daily life in India and become part of a cultural conversation through film.

**REQUIRED SUMMER READINGS:**

*The Beautiful and the Damned* by Siddhartha Deb  
*Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katharine Boo

Additional recommended reading:

*English, August* by Upamanyu Chatterjee  
*India: A Million Mutinies Now* by V. S. Naipaul

**REQUIRED SUMMER VIEWING:**

*Rang de Basanti* by Rakesh Omprakash Mehra  
*The Lunchbox* by Ritesh Batra  
*3 Idiots* by Rajkumar Hirani  
*Lagaan* by Ashutosh Gowariker

\*\*1 additional film of your choice. Plenty are available on Netflix, iTunes, YouTube or from libraries\*\*

Suggested films:

*Sholay* By Ramesh Sippy  
*A Wednesday* By Neeraj Pandey  
*Swades* by Ashutosh Gowariker  
*Peepli Live* by Anusha Rizvi and Mahmood Farooqui  
*Mission Kashmir* Vidhu Vinod Chopra  
*Bombay Summer* Joseph Mathew  
*Dhobi Ghat* by Kiran Rao  
*Margarita with a Straw* by Shonali Bose  
*Dhoom 3* (filmed in Chicago) by Vijay Krishna Acharya

Suggested filmmakers:**Contemporary:**

Anurag Kashyap  
 Vishal Bharadwaj  
 Farhan Akhtar  
 Zoya Akhtar  
 Aparna Sen  
 Rituparno Ghosh  
 Mani Ratnam  
 Adoor Gopalakrishnan

Deepa Mehta (Canada)

Mira Nair (US)

**Older:**

Raj Kapoor  
 Guru Dutt  
 Satyajit Ray  
 Ritwik Ghatak  
 Hrishikesh Mukherjee  
 Bimal Roy

Additional materials will be provided` by the professors

**RECOMMENDED:**

- *Rough Guide India*, travel guide 10/16  
<http://www.roughguides.com/destinations/asia/india/>
- *Lonely Planet India*, travel guide (new edition 10/15)  
<http://lonelyplanetindia.com/>

**EQUIPMENT:**

- A digital camera for individual creative projects is required. It does not have to be fancy or expensive.
- Advanced equipment (cameras, computers, software) for the workshops will be provided by DePaul University. Canon XF205.
- Journal (type and size of your choosing) for field notes and reflection

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Students reside at the Grand Hometel Malad, Mumbai  
<http://www.grandhometel.com/> We will travel as a group to and from the campus each day. Amenities at the hotel include gym, medical services and breakfast. There is a pool, but we do not recommend its use.

In Jaipur we will be staying at the Holiday Inn Centre:

<http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/gb/en/jaipur/jaicc/hoteldetail>

In Agra we will be staying at the Four Points by Sheraton:

<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/fourpoints/index.html>

**GRADING:**

Grades and written feedback will be given for each assignment. Every assignment should be submitted to D2L by the due date and named under the following convention:

LastName\_FirstName\_AssignmentName

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Summer Assignment Essay              | 10%   |
| Essay on Expectations and Goals      | 10%   |
| Visa secured                         | (P/F) |
| Vox Pop                              | 10%   |
| Observational Exercise               | 10%   |
| Final Essay                          | 10%   |
| Workshop Participation & Assignments | 40%   |
| Final Creative Assignment            | 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.

## SYLLABUS

### REQUIRED PRE-TRAVEL MEETINGS

#### SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> – Overview and ORIENTATION

Assignments – Expectations

Watch shorts docs and discuss– *Amar*, *Commodity City*

**Due:** Summer Assignment Essay

**Assignment:** Expectations essay & Visa Application

**Screen before next class:** Documentary Lecture

#### SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> – DOCUMENTARY

Camera & Sound Exercise

Observations

**Due:** Expectations essay uploaded to d2l

**Assignment:** Questions, Develop Group Ideas

Observational Exercise

- Observational Exercise Project Sheet due on D2l on 9/28
- Plan to shoot Observational Exercise between 9/29 and 10/6

#### OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> – DOCUMENTARY

Study Abroad Information with Dominique Brown

Logistics

#### OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup> CULTURE AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Observational Films

Key Cultural Concepts

**Due:** Observational Films & Proof of Visa application

**Reading:** Lonely Planet History and Culture

**Assignment:** Vox Pops (upload project sheet to D2L during class)

- Plan to shoot Vox Pops between 10/20 and 10/27

#### NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>

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Indian Food for Dinner

Last Minute Travel Prep

Group Rules

**Due:** Vox Pops

## TRAVEL BREAKDOWN

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>11/25 SAT</b>       | <b>LEAVE FOR INDIA</b>   |
| <b>11/26 SUN</b>       | <b>ARRIVE IN INDIA</b> Late Sunday night or early Monday morning.                            |
| <b>11/27 MON</b>       | <b>INTRODUCTION TO WHISTLING WOODS.</b>  |
| <b>11/28 TUES</b>      | Cultural Aspects of Bollywood  |
| <b>11/29 – 12/8</b>    | <b>WORKSHOPS BEGIN.</b><br>Eight-day workshops in Documentary or Photography. Details below. |
| <b>12/2 &amp; 12/3</b> | EXPLORE MUMBAI   |
| <b>12/9</b>            | EXPLORE MUMBAI   |
| <b>12/10</b>           | Fly to Jaipur.   |
| <b>12/10 – 12/15</b>   | Agra / Jaipur.   |
| <b>12/15 FRI</b>       | Morning - Return to Mumbai.  |
| <b>12/16 FRI</b>       | Mumbai Souvenirs / Shopping.   |
| <b>12/17 SUN</b>       | Return to Chicago  |
| <b>1/5/18 FRI</b>      | <b>FINAL ESSAYS DUE</b>  |
| <b>1/25/18 THURS</b>   | <b>FINAL FILMS AND NGO FILMS DUE</b>   |
| <b>1/26/18 FRI</b>     | <b>SCREENING: FINAL DOCUMENTARIES, PHOTO ESSAYS, AND CREATIVE</b>                            |

## COURSE POLICIES:

In addition to the DePaul University and Study Abroad policies (see student handbook), the following policies apply to this course:

**CONTENT CHANGES** – We have made every attempt to This syllabus may be amended as the course proceeds. You will be notified of all changes.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES** – Students are responsible for meeting the expectations in the syllabus and adhering to the expectations set for the group. Communication is key to student safety and the enjoyment of all participants.

Please inform the Program Directors immediately if you are ill or encounter a problem. Clear communication is essential to a positive experience.

In India students have a curfew of midnight. Failure to adhere to the group rules, lack of participation or breaking curfew will result in immediate dismissal from the program and a grade of 'F' in both classes.

**HANDOUT & ASSIGNMENT COPIES** – Handout and assignment copies are available on [d2l.depaul.edu](http://d2l.depaul.edu)

**READING ASSIGNMENTS** – Assigned readings are required. End of discussion.

**OPTIONAL VS REQUIRED EVENTS** – All pre- and post-trip meetings on DPU campus are mandatory. Participation in all group functions, workshop sessions and excursions is mandatory. Occasionally we will offer the option to participate in other events such as film screenings, meals, etc. Participation in such events is welcome, but not required. Please ask if you are unsure of an event's attendance requirement.

**DEADLINES** – Late assignments will not be accepted for grading. You will not be eligible for an 'A' in the class unless you turn in all assignments on time and attend all mandatory events.

**INCOMPLETES** – No incompletes will be given.