COURSE SYLLABUS
Instructor: Sam Sanders
Office: off campus
Office Hours: (email to schedule) Zoom Friday 9-12pm
Email: Samantha.sanders@depaul.edu (best way to reach me)
Email will be answered within 24 hours, Saturday emails by Monday

Course Overview and Learning Goals

Course Website   D2L

Course Overview
This introductory course will explore documentary styles and techniques using a variety of modes and formats. You will create two short pieces along with writing and pitching your ideas to the class. Also, we should anticipate that changes may need to be made as the quarter unfolds. Those changes will be communicated as timely as possible, and I ask that we all stay flexible and responsive.

Learning Goals:
> By the end of this course, students will be able to:
- verbally pitch a compelling idea
- develop skills in conceptualizing, directing and editing short documentary pieces.
- understand and incorporate interview techniques, visualizing and shooting observational footage, and construct narratives through the integration of sound and images.

- PREREQUISITES: **FILM 110 OR FILM 111 OR FILM 102** or equivalent.

Required Textbook
Our textbook for the quarter is: Introduction to Documentary, Third Edition by: Bill Nichols
It is available online through the DePaul library.
Permalink: https://i-share-dpu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/01CARLI_DPU/8tvalj/cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780253026903

TECH NEEDS:
Equipment: https://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Student-Resources/Pages/Equipment-Centers.aspx

Computer: This class requires use of a computer that can handle editing software. Here is a link to the Laptop Loaner Program if you need assistance. https://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Student-Resources/Pages/Equipment-Centers.aspx

Hard Drive: This class requires the use of a hard drive. The hard drive capacity should have a minimum of 500gb and run at 7200rpm. USB3, USB-c, Thunderbolt (with adaptor), or FW 800 (with adaptor) connections are recommended.

Software: This class requires the use of Adobe Premiere or other editing software.

Assignments
Please note that late assignments will not be accepted without an explanation.
You must submit on time, even if you are not able to come to class on that day.

Assignment 1:   Day in the Life Project
Part 1_DITL Pitch and Pre-Production Package   15
Part 2_DITL Exported File   15

Assignment 2:   Archival Interview Project
Part 1_Archival Interview Pitch and Pre-Production Package   15
Part 2_Archival Interview Exported File   15

Feedback, Discussions and Participation   30
Attendance   10
Total Points   **100**

Grading: Assignment Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria will be posted in D2L
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, B indicates good work, C indicates satisfactory work, D indicates unsatisfactory work, and F is a failure to demonstrate an understanding of course concepts.

Week 1   Intro to class, assignments, structure

Introductions
Class fundamentals
Assignments
Equipment
Questions and Concerns
Questionnaire (in class)
For Week 2

To Read: Chapter 1 How Can We Define Documentary Film? Pg. 1-28

Week 2   The Nature of Documentary

Introduce: Defining documentary – Analyze shorts/clips
Equipment Center details (Sandy Gordon)
Pitching Ideas/ Creating a Pitch Deck/Criteria for a good pitch
Day In the Life Project group meetings
Assign: Assignment 1 Part 1: Pitch Deck
Uploaded to D2l>Submissions>Assignment 1 Pitch Deck **DUE: 4/11 11:59 PM**
Create Teams / Brainstorm ideas in small groups
Pitch Deck Presentation to class 4/12
READ: Chapter 6 "How Can We Differentiate Among Documentary Models and Modes? What are Poetic, Expository, and Reflexive Modes?"

Week 3   What is the Story?

Review: Reading – Documentary Modes
Watch In class: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5QMlIjSnt_E **Ten Meter Tower | NYT Op-Docs**
Present: Assignment 1 Part 1: Give Pitch Presentations to class
                   Teams break into Groups to discuss next steps
For Week 4:
To Read: Chapters 2 "Why Are Ethical Issues Central to Documentary Filmmaking?"
                   and 3 pg.29-68
                   Article - Create Free Account to read
                   https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/29/books/review/who-gets-to-tell-other-peoples-stories.html?mcubz=3&_r=1

Week 4   Philosophies of Approach

Discuss: Representation/Ethics. Oberservational/Verité
                   Introduce Project 2 – archival project -discuss Pitch Decks
Watch In class: https://vimeo.com/305536036 **Baby Brother**
Review: Reading
Update: Teams each give verbal update on Assignment 1
For Week 5:
To Read: Chapters 6 and 7 pgs. 104-158 Chapter 10 pg. 209-222

Week 5   The Interview

Discuss: Conducting an interview
                   Form teams for Project 2 – teams meet and discuss project
Review: Reading
                   Assignment 1: Day In the Life Class updates/ screen rough cuts
                   Lab time for production/post on projects
For Week 6:
Finish: Assignment 1 Exported file uploaded to D2l **DUE: 05/02 11:59 PM**
                   Assignment 2_Questionnaire **DUE: 05/02 11:59 PM (in Week 5 in D2l)**

Assign: Assignment 2: Archival + Voice Part 1: Idea, Pitch and Pitch Deck
                   Uploaded to D2l>Submissions>Assignment 2 Pitch Deck **DUE: 05/2 11:59 PM**

Week 6   What Gives Documentaries a Voice of Their Own?

Screen: Day in the Life films
Present: Present Pitch for Assignment 2
Watch In class: https://vimeo.com/305536036 **Baby Brother**
Watch In class: https://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000005676963/arctic-boyhood.html
                   Arctic Boyhood
Review: Assignment 1 Exported file
For Week 7:
To Do: Group Feedback on Assignment 1 Teams
                   Post Group Feedback to D2l>Submissions>Group Feedback **DUE: 05/10 11:59 PM**

Week 7   Working with Archival and structuring your narrative
Watch in class: https://vimeo.com/292537862 **My Dead Dad's Porno Tapes**
Present: Working with Archival

Week 8   Post Production in Documentary
Introduce: Doc Editing
For Week 9:
To Read: Chapter 8 pgs. 159-193

Week 9   Addressing Social and Political Issues in Documentaries
Screen: Rough Cuts Project 2
Review: Reading
         Work on Assignment 2
Due: **Upload Assignment 2 Exported file to D2l   DUE: 05/30 11:59 PM**

Week 10   Final Class – MANDATORY ATTENDANCE
To Do: Assignment 2: Class Presentations and feedback – **SCREEN FINE CUTS ARCHIVAL PROJECT**

COVID INFORMATION

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 You Are Sick
(5) participate in any required COVID-19 testing
(6) Frequent Hand Washing is recommended
(7) abide by the City of Chicago Emergency Travel Advisory
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).
https://resources.depaul.edu/coronavirus/resources/covid-19-reporting-protocol/Pages/default.aspx

> **CHANGES TO SYLLABUS**
> This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. Depending on the many variables outside of our control, the assignments projected for the term may require alteration or rescheduling. If a change occurs, it will be posted under Announcements in D2L. Please ensure that campus connect and D2L have your correct email address. Also, make sure you are receiving all notifications via D2L.

UNIVERSITY:
DePaul University will continue to update their COVID-19 Updates and Guidance page. Please visit that page for the most current information and a list of university FAQ.
CDM
For more specific questions about CDM, check out this page for current info: Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 & CDM.

TECHNICAL ISSUES If you're having any tech issues this quarter, please email scaavsupport@depaul.edu.

OUR CLASS
Course Policies
In addition to DePaul University course policies (see student handbook), the following special policies will apply to this course.

Attendance – Classes will consist of lecture, screenings and discussion. Attendance is mandatory unless otherwise stated.

Assignments – Assignments must be completed by the due date as indicated in the syllabus. Late work will not be accepted without prior consent of the instructor.

Screenings – Film screenings and assignment screening discussions are an integral part of the course participation grade. Selected films will be analyzed for specific conceptual and stylistic choices. We will apply the same standards to the analysis of group projects. Be open to be challenged and honest as there will be differing ideas and points of view expressed. These discussions are important in the development of your ability to collaborate.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism on assignments or cheating on exams are serious offenses and earn the student a failing grade for the class. This course will be subject to the academic integrity policy passed by faculty. More information can be found at http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/π

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.