

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Documentary Theory and Practice
2	Module Credits	40
3	Module Level	4
4	Module Code	MED4169

5 Module Overview

In this module you will explore the development of the film and television documentary by critically investigating the medium through a range of lectures, readings and screenings, and applying this to produce your own short documentary. We will consider different genres of documentary, such as direct cinema, mockumentary, investigative, ethnographic, docu-soap, experimental, docu-drama, reconstruction and the music documentary, as well as some of the contemporary issues facing documentary film makers. We will engage with a variety of academic debates that relate to the documentary, which include realism, representation, ethics and ideology, and the social, political, economic and technological contexts in which documentary can be critically located.

We also explore the processes of documentary practice, where you will have the opportunity to evidence your understanding of the form of documentary by making short documentaries in groups and by yourself. From this activity, and instruction from teaching staff, you will be able to develop vital transferable skills such as script writing, storyboarding, researching and archive work, filming, post-production, and distribution.

6 Indicative Content

The module will consist of a weekly lecture and seminar/workshop, while weekly screenings are integrated into teaching times and assessment tasks.

7	Me	Module Learning Outcomes		
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:			
	1	Outline the history and development of documentary film making in relation to their social,		
		cultural, economic, political and technological contexts.		
	2	Evaluate the codes, conventions and contexts for your documentary practice, presenting		
		your work in a professional manner.		
	3	Apply your understanding of the documentary form through the practice of making a short		
		documentary.		

8	Module Asse	essment			
Learning					
Outcome					
		Coursework	Exam	In-Person	
1, 2, 3		X			



9 Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities				
Learning Activities	Hours			
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	30			
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	130			
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	40			
Total Study Hours:	200			