



Module Specification

Documentary Films: Diversity of Forms

Version: 2023-24, v1.0, 07 Jun 2023

Contents

Module Specification	1
Part 1: Information	2
Part 2: Description	2
Part 3: Teaching and learning methods	3
Part 4: Assessment.....	5
Part 5: Contributes towards	6

Part 1: Information

Module title: Documentary Films: Diversity of Forms

Module code: UALB5X-45-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 45

ECTS credit rating: 22.5

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Field: Lens and Moving Image

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module explores key aspects of the documentary form to provide both a theoretical and practical understanding of the relationship between film content and language.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Students are asked to explore the wide range of documentary modes, adopting distinct approaches in their own creative work. The module will

also address the particular creative challenges, constraints and opportunities of the short film form, and how recent technical advances have given rise to new forms of expression in interactive and immersive documentary.

By investigating the development of the documentary form, students learn how the historical development of non-fiction film language serves to inform their own creative and practical decision-making. From this foundation the module then explores how the key aspects of narrative character and place relate to film language and process.

Outline syllabus: Modes of representation and the documentary filmmaker's relationship with the real

Historical approaches to the documentary form

Interactive and immersive documentary: alternative technological and audience perspectives

Creative implications of theoretical approaches to documentary

Practical skills in short form documentary filmmaking

Short documentary production

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Seminars and lectures developing an understanding of the theoretical foundations of documentary filmmaking will be dovetailed with both tutor-led classes and workshops to develop technical knowledge and practical skills.

Practical exercises will embed the basic principles of photography, lighting, sound recording and editing.

Integrating classroom and studio learning, the module will explore the technical, practical and creative aspects of different filming languages and techniques.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Students will be able to express and demonstrate how the evolution of documentary filmmaking and the development of alternative historical approaches to the form relate to their own creative decision-making.

MO2 Students will be able to demonstrate through theoretical and practical means their appreciation of the importance of narrative, character and place to film form and language in the context of non-fiction;

MO3 Students will be able to demonstrate through practice how their creative choices relate to the technical and practical aspects of documentary filmmaking.

MO4 Students will be able to recognise and evaluate the particular opportunities available through interactive and immersive documentary techniques.

MO5 Students will be able to demonstrate through practice the basic principles of photography, lighting, sound and editing in the context of documentary shooting.

MO6 Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the connection between documentary idea and expression in both audio-visual and written form.

Hours to be allocated: 450

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 354 hours

Face-to-face learning = 96 hours

Total = 450

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

<http://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk/lists/32671E0B-6803-9964-E4B3-1774A5072F44.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The module is assessed with the production of three short documentary films or scenes (2-3 mins each) applying diverse documentary approaches and forms in order to best tell and express the story, character and emotions of their subjects (60%), and through a Reflective Report analysing and evaluating the diversity of documentary forms in relation to the student's film projects (40%).

Assessment tasks:

Reflective Piece (First Sit)

Description: Reflective Report analysing and evaluating the diversity of documentary forms within their short filmed projects (3000 words).

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Practical Skills Assessment (First Sit)

Description: Short documentary film or scenes applying diverse documentary approaches and forms (6 minutes)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Reflective Piece (Resit)

Description: Reflective Report analysing and evaluating the diversity of documentary forms within their short filmed projects (3000 words).

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Practical Skills Assessment (Resit)

Description: Short documentary film or scenes applying diverse documentary approaches and forms (6 minutes)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Screen Production (Documentary) [Bower] MA 2023-24