

COURSE DETAIL

DOCUMENTARY CINEMA

Country

United Kingdom - England

Host Institution

King's College London

Program(s)

King's College London

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Film & Media Studies

UCEAP Course Number

152

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

DOCUMENTARY CINEMA

UCEAP Transcript Title

DOCUMENTARY CINEMA

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

The first films of the Skladanowsky brothers in Germany and the Lumières in France were documentaries: recordings of circus acts, workers leaving a factory, a train arriving at a station. This course examines the history of non-fiction filmmaking, or what has been termed reality-driven representation, from 1895 to the present. Students concentrate on landmark films from America, Russia, Britain and France to examine the different ways in which documentary filmmakers have engaged with contemporary society and asserted the truth value of cinema. Focusing on Robert Flahertys and Dziga Vertovs pioneering work in the 1920s, British Free Cinema of the 1950s, cinéma vérité and Direct Cinema of the 1960s, the essay film of the 1980s, and concluding with examples of contemporary practices (the recent work of Errol Morris and Werner Herzog, for example), political, social, and historical issues are addressed alongside more theoretical concerns.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

5AAQS240

Host Institution Course Title

DOCUMENTARY CINEMA

Host Institution Course Details

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/abroad/module-options/documentary-cinema>

Host Institution Campus

King's College London/ Strand Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Film Studies

Course Last Reviewed

2022-2023

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