COURSE DETAIL

FILMMAKING, ACTIVISM AND SOCIAL IMPACT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Country Denmark
Host Institution University of Copenhagen
Program(s) University of Copenhagen
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science International Studies Film & Media Studies
UCEAP Course Number 137
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title FILMMAKING, ACTIVISM AND SOCIAL IMPACT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
UCEAP Transcript Title FILMMAKING/INTL REL
UCEAP Quarter Units 12.00
UCEAP Semester Units

8.00

Course Description

This course explores the theoretical and practical intersections of filmmaking, social impact, and activism in international relations. It does so with a core focus on how filmmaking has been used to explore phenomena related to humanitarian issues globally, especially those linked to contexts of conflict, migration, and violence. Based on an interdisciplinary approach, the course delves into the rich scholarship of visuality across the social sciences, introducing that work both theoretically and practically in three main ways. First, the course engages with critical interdisciplinary perspectives on the role of visual media within contexts of violence through theoretical literature and audio-visual material. Second, it explores practical skills in visual research methodologies. As such, in this section of the course, students develop a short filmmaking project of their own. Workshop-format sessions are offered to develop the skills necessary to achieve this. Thematically, the course explores how filmmaking can illuminate questions concerning violence, humanitarianism, conflict, and migration in ways that connect local (i.e., Copenhagen) and global contexts. In addition, guest lectures inspire and connect students to experts in the field. Finally, the course reflects on broader questions, debates, and dilemmas that concern the use of filmmaking for social impact, activism, and/or political intervention. This ranges from the critical examination of storytelling techniques, ethical considerations, and the influence of the filmmakers situated gaze (i.e., positionality) on crafting visual narratives. The course engages these issues by collaboratively reflecting on the filmmaking project that each student develops in the preceding section of the course. Overall, this course provides a nuanced understanding of the transformative potential of filmmaking, alongside tools to navigate the many ethical challenges intrinsic to visual research.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
ASTK18450U

Host Institution Course Title
FILMMAKING, ACTIVISM AND SOCIAL IMPACT IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Host Institution Course Details
https://kurser.ku.dk/course/astk18450u/2024-2025

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Social Sciences

Host Institution Degree
Bachelor

Host Institution Department
Political Science

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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