

# COURSE DETAIL

## DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING THEORY AND PRACTICE

**Country**

United Kingdom - England

**Host Institution**

University of London, Queen Mary

**Program(s)**

Summer at Queen Mary London

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Film & Media Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

105

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

S

**UCEAP Official Title**

DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING THEORY AND PRACTICE

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

DOC FILM MAKING

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

6.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

4.00

### **Course Description**

This course offers students an opportunity to put theory into practice, cultivating a sense of the history and theory of documentary film alongside the chance to make their own short non-fiction film. The theory part of the course charts the historical development of documentary through the examination of films ranging from the early 20th century to the present day, with the focus on issues of truth, ethics, technique, and creativity. The practical part of the course supports them to create and complete their own short documentary film. Four key issues are central to the course: 1) locating the truth one wants to convey; 2) adherence to an ethical code during film production; 3) engaging with storytelling, exposition, visual, and structuring techniques, including considering how meaning is made in post-production, and 4) exploring creative formal approaches appropriate to the film.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

English

### **Host Institution Course Number**

SUM506E

### **Host Institution Course Title**

DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING THEORY AND PRACTICE

### **Host Institution Course Details**

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/summer-school/what-can-i-study/modules/documentary-film-...>

### **Host Institution Campus**

### **Host Institution Faculty**

School of Arts

### **Host Institution Degree**

**Host Institution Department**

**Course Last Reviewed**

2025-2026

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