COURSE DETAIL

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING
Country Singapore
Host Institution Nanyang Technological University
Program(s) Nanyang Technological University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Film & Media Studies
UCEAP Course Number 125
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING
UCEAP Transcript Title DOCMNTRY FILMMAKING
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units 3.00

Course Description

This course consists of a series of lectures, film viewings and workshops, and explores the different genres and practices of the cinematic non-fiction film form. Topics include a brief history and theory of the documentary as political propaganda, investigative essay, personal journal, and cinema verité observation, through the study of documentary auteurs. Students develop an understanding of the ethical precepts and an appreciation of the aesthetics and intellectual rigor of the documentary form. Through practice, students learn the fundamentals of documentary filmmaking. Students develop the ability to identify, conceptualize and research a topic, negotiate access to characters or events, manage a production through efficient budgeting and scheduling, and create a short non-fiction cinematic narrative with coherent artistic vision and intellectual purpose. Students create a documentary film project working in groups of two, where teams write, shoot, direct and edit a video documentary no more than 60 minutes of video per group with the finished film at 4-6 minutes long, complete with titles and credits. This includes oral pitches. The films are to be submitted as self-contained MOV files. Continuous assessment components include both written and studio-based exercises.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
DF5001

Host Institution Course Title
DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING

Host Institution Course Details
https://wis.ntu.edu.sg/webexe/owa/aus_subj_cont.main

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
School of Art, Design and Media

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department
Course Last Reviewed 2025-2026

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