



MMCC3012

Screen Production: Documentary Filmmaking

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Karen Pearlman

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Contact via karen.pearlman@mq.edu.au

10 Hadenfeld Ave (10HA) room 193H

Tuesdays 1 to 2 pm

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above including MAS213 or MMCC2013

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The special focus of this unit is documentary as a mode of screen storytelling. Students encounter different modes and forms of documentary production and analyse the impact of the strategies used to shoot and compose them. Students practice core documentary making skills such as observation, interview, image composition, dramatisations and structuring stories. Through practical work, students address a range of artistic choices available in representing the real. By engaging with the opportunities this unit offers, students can produce work suitable for their professional portfolios and for entry into film festivals.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: synthesise practical, technical and conceptual skills through the research, development and collaborative realisation of creative non-fiction screen production.

ULO2: develop and implement strategic creative and technical pathways towards the production of non-fiction screen works.

ULO3: analyse technical and creative strategies through a critical appraisal of non-fiction

screen works.

ULO4: evaluate critically one's own and other's creative screen works.

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

All assignments of this unit are aligned to the standards outlined in the Macquarie University Assessment Policy (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment>). Marking rubric for each of the assignments is available on the iLearn. Students are expected to read the rubric before working on the assignment.

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply - two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date - and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (including weekends) after the original submission deadline, No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments - eg quizzes, online tests.

MMCCS Session Re-mark Application: <http://www.mq.edu.au/pubstatic/public/download/?id=167914>

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Readings for this unit will be available electronically through Leganto (on ilearn)

Technologies/resources required:

Students will be required to use their own computers for development of documentary proposals, and may also use their own cameras (including phones) and computers for the video essay assignments. AVID editing software is preferred for screen productions at MQ and students may download a version for free from AVID here: <https://my.avid.com/get/media-composer-first>. For

the Video Essay task students may also access the AVID systems available in the screen culture lab (10HA 149) by negotiation with their convenor or the screen production professional technical staff.

Documentary productions **must** be shot using the provided Macquarie University cameras. Training on the use of these cameras will be provided in workshops, and technical staff may be available for supplementary demonstration of particular features of the cameras by appointment. Bookings for cameras, lights, tripods, etc., must be made by the person performing the role of producer on each team, via email to the unit's technical manager, at least one week in advance of use date.

Documentary productions must be edited on the provided AVID software on site. Technical staff may be available for supplementary demonstrations of particular features of the software by appointment. Bookings for editing suites should be made by the person performing the role of producer on each team, via email to the unit's technical manager, one week in advance of use date.

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

There is only one lecture for MMCC3012, on Monday the 24th of Feb at 10. It is NOT recorded or streamed. The lecture is not optional: it delivers important content. Students who elect to not attend the lecture will miss out on unit content, and do so at their own risk.

Workshops are on Mondays or Tuesdays (depending on the group in which you are enrolled).

There are five x 3-hour workshops. These are in weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. In them you will gain hands on experience with cameras, lighting, and other gear.

There are four x 2-hour workshops. these are in week 8, 10, 11 and 12. These post production workshops provide hands on experience and work in progress feedback on documentary shooting, editing and/or sound design.

Workshops in this unit are an opportunity for you to further develop skills and apply them to your own practices. In workshops, you will have the opportunity to ask for assistance from your tutor, and work on communication, collaboration and responding to a brief. Not attending workshops will jeopardise your performance in this unit. Your reflective journal will be expected to include thoughts on what you have learned in each workshop and how you will apply it.

The lecture and workshops are primarily held in the screen studio (10HA-189). Closed toe shoes are required for all workshops and all work in the studio.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.