

**Danish School of Media and Journalism**  
**TV and Media Production**  
**Course description**  
**Fall 2018**

**Immersive Documentary**

**3. Semester**

**Duration:** 6 weeks (10 ECTS points)

Historically, the core of both the feature journalism and documentary genres is the ambition to make viewers engage in or immerse themselves into compelling stories from the real world. The Immersive Documentary course will explore this strive for immersion as expressed in both "flat screen" documentaries and audiovisual features and in new technological formats such as 360-degree video and VR.

On the practical level the objective of the course is to take students audiovisual storytelling skills to an advanced level. Students will work with the dramaturgic tools of the documentary and feature journalism genres when it comes to structure, character development and storytelling mode, and they will investigate the dramaturgic challenges when working with 360-degree video and VR.

Furthermore, the course will train students story planning skills both concerning pre- and postproduction.

On the technical side the course will encompass workshops and hands on instruction in visual planning, shooting and editing, sound work and colour grading and students will be offered an introduction to working with 360-degree video.

**Tools**

The following tools will be used in the tuition:

Video examples; theoretical literature; dramaturgic and storytelling models; tools for definition/identification of characters; practical work with camera, sound and editing for 2D as well as 3D video.

**Methods**

The following methods will be used:

Theoretical reading; lectures by tutor; master classes with external documentary film makers; technical workshops; group wise technical supervision and guidance; exercises; analyses of video examples; team work; assignments in the field encompassing research and video production; mutual guidance and feedback between students.

**Learning goals**

Students should be able to:

- Understand and reflect on the documentary genre and its development through time.
- Enter into group processes.
- Know, understand and use expressive modes of the documentary genre.
- Know, understand and use different dramaturgic and storytelling models.
- Plan, shoot and edit documentary productions with a duration up to 8 minutes.
- Understand and work with sound completion and colour grading.

- Understand the principles of working with 360-degree video. (Production in 360-degree will be optional).
- Reflect on their own performances and productions, and those of fellow students.
- Give and receive guidance to and from fellow students during a production process.
- Give and receive feed-back to and from fellow students and tutors in a competent and respectful way.

**Literature:**

Sheeila Curran Bernard: "Documentary Storytelling, Creative Nonfiction on Screen", Focal Press, Taylor and Francis Group, Third edition (2011).

Steensen, Steen: "Back to the feature: online journalism as innovation, transformation and practice." PhD diss., University of Oslo (2010), p. 131 – 145.

Nichols, Bill: "Introduction to Documentary", Indiana University Press. Second edition (2010), p. 142-171

Nichols, Bill: "Engaging Cinema", W.W Norton & Company, Inc. First Edition (2010), p. 106-130

"Documentary and Cognitive Theory: Narrative, Emotion and Memory"  
Bondebjerg, I. (2014).. Media and Communication, 2(1), 13-22.

**Duty to attend:**

Attendance at lectures/tuition and participation in teamwork is compulsory.

**Assessment:**

Students will receive a grade at the fulfilment of the course. Assessment is internal, and grades will be given on the basis of delivered assignments and on student's participation in tuition. The course must be passed, in order to participate in the 3. semester exam.

