

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DP3011
Course Title	Documentary Practices
Pre-requisites	DN1012 Black and White Film Photography <u>OR</u> DP2000 Photo Imaging I: Black & White Film Photography <u>OR</u> DP2001 Digital Photography
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours studio contact

Course Aims

In this course you will combine practice and theory of documentary photography as you investigate the documentary role of the photograph today. You will explore alternative ways of seeing, recording and understanding the events and situations that shape the world in which we live in through new documentary photography approaches. You will examine the history of documentary as a distinct aspect of photographic practice, and apply this learning in the ideation and production of a documentary project. This learning will form the foundation for further, more advanced studies and projects in the field of documentary photography.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Apply research, field work, and a range of methods in contemporary documentary photography to produce a collected body of work.
2. Develop a workflow specific to your own artistic practice in response to a format of documentary photography.
3. Apply a range of approaches and production methods to the process and final production of an intended photographic series.
4. Present, evaluate and reflect on the effectiveness of a documentary photographic work that communicates a concept and situation.
5. Constructively discuss and critique concepts, research findings, formats, techniques and media employed by peers in documentary photography

Course Content

In this class you will learn about the history of documentary as a distinct aspect of photographic practice, and the various forms and types of documentary with key examples of works and photographers. You will then apply this knowledge in the ideation and production of a documentary project, practicing and developing essential practical and conceptual skills.

This course will be introducing five key components across the semester. In the introduction, a lecture will feature a comparative study between photojournalism and documentary, and their respective roles, history and significance in photography. This will be followed by a series of introductions of various photographers and their works, as well as group presentations on selected photographers. In the study of the development of documentary photography, you will also discuss in depth various aspects such as documenting war, documenting society, as well as new methodologies of documentary photography. Topic areas include:

- Photojournalism vs Documentary

- The problematic nature of documentary in relation to ideas about truth
- The use of series of photographs to build the way we 'read' works
- The impact of documentary photography on contemporary art practice
- The role of the viewer and how we are implicated in the images we look at