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Preliminary schedule

This schedule is a tentative outline of how the course assignments will progress through the semester. Dates and assignments are subject to change. Always refer to current project hand outs for updated information.

Week 1 {Tuesday, Aug 25}

Review syllabus + course structure, Handout info sheets/sign
Lecture: Documentary films: What are the forms? Observational, Political, Current Affairs, Historical, Authored or Docu Drama. Looking for stories.
Show documentary examples

Assignment

Read handout on Documentary techniques
Order textbooks online
Find favorite short documentary and prepare for critical analysis (write a report)

Week 1 {Thursday, Aug 27}

Presentation of favorite short documentary by students
Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express
Introduce Social commentary project
Lecture: Narrative techniques

Assignment

Exercise 1
Research what you may want to comment on in the project, bring three ideas to class

Week 2 {Tuesday, Sep 1}

Review ideas for Social Commentary
Lecture: The elements of documentary film-making: Research, Writing Proposals, Pitching, Budgeting, Shooting, Post Production and distribution channels. Know your market: Commissioning and/or Funding.
Lecture: The paper stage, and research. The Pitch. Evolution of ideas.
Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express

Assignment

Write a simple proposal for Social commentary including a story outline

Week 2 {Thursday, Sep 3}

Review proposals
Lecture: Techniques of storyboarding and story construction. Aspects of Directing. Exploring ideas of rhythm, pace, authority.
Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express

Assignment

Exercise 2
Create a story board for your Social Commentary

Week 3 {Tuesday, Sep 8}	<p>Review storyboards</p> <p>Tutorial: Introduction to cameras.</p> <p>Lecture: Planning a shoot: Safety and legal issues. Elements of screen craft. Elements of recording sound.</p> <p>Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express</p>
Assignment	<p>Refine storyboard</p>
Week 3 {Thursday, Sep 10}	<p>Lecture: Preparing the shoot in detail. Permissions. Rights. Location issues. Story styles and crafting an ending.</p> <p>Tutorial: White Balance. Choosing a visual style. Camera positions and angles.</p> <p>Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express</p>
Assignment	<p>Exercise 3</p> <p>Write a detailed proposal including finalizing project and shooting plans.</p>
Week 4 {Tuesday, Sep 15}	<p>Hand in detailed proposals</p> <p>Discussion and analysis: story structure and marinating interest. Interview techniques: putting interviewees at ease. Planning an interview.</p> <p>Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express</p>
Assignment	<p>Start contacting prospective interviewees, secure locations, equipment or finding online materials</p>
Week 4 {Thursday, Sep 17}	<p>In class work on the project</p> <p>Tutorial: Final Cut Pro Express</p>
Assignment	<p>Write a detailed script for the project</p> <p>Exercise 4</p>
Week 5 {Tuesday, Sep 22}	<p>Hand in scripts</p> <p>Discuss proposals and scripts in groups</p> <p>Lecture: post production process</p> <p>In class work on the project</p>
Assignment	<p>Continue with project</p> <p>Start shooting if you have not done so already</p>
Week 5 {Thursday, Sep 24}	<p>Review progress</p> <p>In class work on the project</p>
Assignment	<p>Finish shooting your footage</p>

Week 6 {Tuesday, Sep 29} Review footage
Digitise footage and Digitise any photographs/ stock footage etc
Start Post production process

Assignment Clean up and organize your footage

Week 6 {Thursday, Oct 1} Post Production

Assignment Create a rough cut, including transitions and sound

Week 7 {Tuesday, Oct 6} Review rough cut
Continue with revisions

Assignment Continue with revisions

Week 7 {Thursday, Oct 8} Continue with revisions

Assignment Create a final cut
Prepare for critique

Week 8 {Tuesday, Oct 13} *Critique of Social Commentary Project*
Flash tutorial 01: menu, tools, navigation, keyframes, onion-skinning, symbols, shape-tweens

Assignment Revise your movie, post on youtube
Flash Exercise # 1

Week 8 {Thursday, Oct 15} Introduce Animated Intro Project
Show Exercise # 1
Flash tutorial 02: shape tweens, motion tweens, motion guides

Assignment Complete storyboard, Ideas for proposal
Flash Exercise # 2

Week 9 {Tuesday, Oct 20} Review storyboard sketches | discuss ideas for project
Review Exercise #2
Flash tutorial 02b: catch up

Assignment Reading Assignment: Handout on sound and type in Flash
Refine sketches

Week 9 {Thursday, Oct 22}	Flash Lecture 03: importing sound & text In class Review of sketches Start work on animation assignment
Assignment	work on your animation: create 10 different frames of your animation
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Week 10 {Tuesday, Oct 27}	Flash Lecture 04: bitmaps, compression Review progress, work in class on animation
Assignment	Flash Exercise # 3
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{Thursday, Oct 29}	Review Exercise # 3 Work in class on animation
Assignment	Finish your animation and prepare for critique
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Week 11 {Tuesday, Nov 3}	ANIMATION CRITIQUE Flash Lecture 05: Movie Clips, basic action scripting, site mapping, animated buttons, etc.. Introduce Non-linear Narrative in Flash project
Assignment	Implement critique suggestions for animation
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{Thursday, Nov 5}	ANIMATION DUE Flash Lecture 06: More on actionscripting, interactivity, publishing, loading external movies
Assignment	Compile CONTENT for Non-linear Narrative Exercise # 4
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Week 12 {Tuesday, Nov 10}	Review Exercise # 4 Review content and for Non-linear Narrative (includes proposal and mission statement) Flash Lecture 06b: More on actionscripting, interactivity, publishing, loading external movies
Assignment	Write necessary copy for the project Exercise #5
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{Thursday, Nov 12}	Review Exercise #5 Lecture: navigation and web sites Review copy and materials Start developing sketches
Assignment	15 sketches for Personal Web Site focusing on design and use of the grid

Week 13	Review sketches
{Tuesday, Nov 17}	Flash lecture 7: Video; Setting up your server account/webspace Start work on Non-linear Narrative within Flash
Assignment	Refine sketches Bring photos, copy and other materials
{Thursday, Nov 19}	Translate your sketches to Flash
Assignment	Create home page and navigation
Week 14	Review home page and navigation
{Tuesday, Nov 24}	Work on Non-linear Narrative within Flash
Assignment	Continue with refinements
{Thursday, Nov 26}	Review progress Work on Non-linear Narrative within Flash
Assignment	Fully create one inner page. All links should be functional even though content might not be complete (use placeholders.)
Week 15 {Dec 1}	Incorporate video and add sound
Assignment	Incorporate Introductory animation
{Thursday, Dec 3}	Create preloader Fine tune Non-linear Narrative
Assignment	Publish Non-linear Narrative and prepare for critique
Week 16 {Tuesday, Dec 8}	Non-linear Narrative CRITIQUE
Assignment	Revise Non-linear Narrative based on feedback
{Thursday, Dec 10}	Non-linear Narrative Due
Week 17 {Tuesday, Dec 15}	Return project and receive grades