



DGTL12014 *Documentary Filmmaking*

Term 1 - 2021

Profile information current as at 26/04/2024 05:17 pm

All details in this unit profile for DGTL12014 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

In this unit of study, you will learn the history and theory of documentary, and the current trends in industry practice. Through a series of individual and group exercises, you will gain skills in documentary sound and camera recording and you will edit footage using industry-standard software. You will apply these skills in the production of your own short documentary. You will be encouraged to find your authentic voice and visual style, and you will be introduced to the ethical and legal considerations of documentary practice.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisite: MMST11009 Digital Video and Audio

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 1 - 2021

- Brisbane
- Bundaberg
- Cairns
- Mackay
- Online
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 30%

3. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: 50%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Student Feedback

Feedback

Some students felt that there should be more time between assignment submission dates.

Recommendation

The current assessments will be reviewed in terms of due dates.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Integrate a theoretical understanding of documentary practice into technical skills development in camera and audio capture
2. Apply editing principles in the use of industry-standard editing software
3. Manage media files and workflow through the stages of pre-production, production, post-production and distribution
4. Reflect critically on one's own professional documentary practice.

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

DGTL12014

Prescribed

Directing the Documentary

Edition: 6th (2015)

Authors: Rabiger, Michael

Focal Press

Burlington , MA , United States

ISBN: 0415719305

Binding: Website Link

Additional Textbook Information

All textbooks for this Unit are available online through the eReading list. Weekly documentary screenings are also available online and accessed via the eReading list.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Students will require access to a camera and microphone to complete this Unit
- Students will require access to editing software and hardware.
- Students must regularly check CQU university emails and read Moodle Forums and messages

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Jan Cattoni Unit Coordinator

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Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY ELEMENTS: Storytelling and Narrative Structure		

Week 2 - 15 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY ELEMENTS: Vision and Sound		

Week 3 - 22 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY ELEMENTS: Editing		

Week 4 - 29 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY DEVELOPMENT: Research and Testing Ideas		First Person Narration Digital Story Due: Week 4 Monday (29 Mar 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 5 - 05 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY DEVELOPMENT: Genres & Styles		

Vacation Week - 12 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No Classes		You are encouraged to do your research interview during the term break

Week 6 - 19 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY DEVELOPMENT: Pitching and Pre-Production Documentation		

Week 7 - 26 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DOCUMENTARY DEVELOPMENT: Scheduling, Gear Testing and Location Shooting		

Week 8 - 03 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PRODUCTION: Reviewing Rushes		Review rushes during On-Campus and Zoom Tutorials Peer and Lecturer Feedback Pitch and Preproduction Package Due: Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Week 9 - 10 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
PRODUCTION: Workflow Stages from Shooting to Editing		

Week 10 - 17 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
POST-PRODUCTION: Receiving and Responding to Feedback		Rough Cut Screenings during On-Campus and Zoom Tutorials Peer and Lecturer Feedback

Week 11 - 24 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
POST-PRODUCTION: Audio and Vision Fine Cutting		

Week 12 - 31 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
DISTRIBUTION: Film Festival Delivery Requirements Professional Documentary Practice		

Review/Exam Week - 07 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
		Short Documentary Due: Review/Exam Week Monday (7 June 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Exam Week - 14 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Assessment Tasks

1 First Person Narration Digital Story

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

Create a digital video story of 60 seconds in length. Your digital story is to have a first-person narration recorded in your own voice. The story topic for your digital story is *Something I Learned in 2020*. The audio and video tracks for your documentary will be completed separately, allowing you to gain an understanding of each element's contribution to the completed work.

This assessment has two parts:

Part A: A 60 second digital video story

Part B: Self-Assessment and Reflective Statement

Please refer to the Full Assessment Brief for details of this Assessment.

Assessment Due Date

Week 4 Monday (29 Mar 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Student assessments will be returned within 2 weeks of submission

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

- Comprehensiveness of submission
- Narrative Structure
- Quality of Audio Visual Elements
- Editing Skills
- Quality of Reflective Statement

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please refer to the Full Assessment Brief on the Unit Moodle site for details of the submission requirements

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply editing principles in the use of industry-standard editing software

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

2 Pitch and Preproduction Package

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

The Pre Production and Pitch Package is the research and planning stage for the final documentary task in Assessment 3. This assessment follows standard industry practice and the ideas developed and research undertaken will be implemented to produce your final documentary. Pitching takes on many forms and is used in the creative industries to secure investment and funding for projects. A number of templates are provided on the Unit Moodle website to assist you. Additional information for this assessment is provided in the full assessment brief which can be downloaded from the Unit Moodle website.

There are 2 parts to the assessment:

Part A: Submission of pitch and pre production documents and files

Part B: Self-Evaluation and Reflective Statement

Assessment Due Date

Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Student assessments will be returned within 2 weeks of submission

Weighting

30%

Assessment Criteria

- Comprehensiveness of submission
- Quality of written submission materials
- Creativity in pre-visualisation
- Reflective practice
- Overall impact

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please refer to the Full Assessment Brief on the Unit Moodle site for details of the submission requirements

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Integrate a theoretical understanding of documentary practice into technical skills development in camera and audio capture
- Reflect critically on one's own professional documentary practice.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice
- Social Innovation

3 Short Documentary

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

Assessment 3 requires you to implement your project plan outlined in Assessment 2 in the creation of a 3-5 minute documentary. At the completion of Assessment 3, you should have a standalone short documentary, completed to a standard that is suitable for entry into a film festival.

There are 3 parts to the assessment:

Part A: Production of your final 3-5 minute documentary

Part B: Submission of an Electronic Press Kit for a film festival

Part C: Self-Assessment and Reflective Statement

All students must attend a Rough Cut screening in class, or online during Week 10.

Please refer to the Full Assessment Brief for details of this Assessment.

Assessment Due Date

Review/Exam Week Monday (7 June 2021) 11:45 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Student assessments will be returned within 2 weeks of submission

Weighting

50%

Assessment Criteria

- Comprehensiveness of submission
- Overall Impact
- Quality of Audio
- Editing Skills
- Reflective Practice

Please refer to the Unit Moodle website for detailed assessment criteria

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Please refer to the Full Assessment Brief on the Unit Moodle site for details of the submission requirements

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Integrate a theoretical understanding of documentary practice into technical skills development in camera and audio capture
- Apply editing principles in the use of industry-standard editing software
- Manage media files and workflow through the stages of pre-production, production, post-production and distribution
- Reflect critically on one's own professional documentary practice.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice
- Social Innovation

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem