

**CARDIFF METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY
CENTRE FOR WORK-BASED LEARNING [CWBL]**

**LEARNING RECOGNITION, ACCREDITATION and DEVELOPMENT SHORT COURSE
PROFORMA 2**

PLEASE FILL IN WHERE APPROPRIATE

NB – Sections marked * will be filled in by Cardiff Metropolitan University as part of the learning recognition and accreditation process

Short Course Title	Short Course Number	JACS Code(s) and % of each subject	Subject % of each subject	ASC Category(ies)
Documentary Photography	*	*		*

CQFW Level (4 - 8)	Credits	ECTS Credit	Module Value	% Taught in Welsh	Short Course Type
4	20	*	*	0	Taught and blended learning

Delivery Period	Pre-requisites
Autumn, Spring, Summer terms; 10 x 3 hour sessions or 5 x 6 hour sessions	Introduction to Photography: Beginners Introduction to Photography: Intermediate (or equivalent/APL)

Short Course Leaders	Provider and Host School(s)	Venue or Campus
Michal Iwanowski	Ffotogallery Cardiff School of Art & Design	Ffotogallery

Assessment Methods			
Assessment Type	Duration/Length of Assessment Type	Weighting of Assessment	Approximate Date of Submission
Summative	Portfolio and Workbook & Written Study	100%	On completion of course

Aim(s)
<p>The aim of this short course is to: Develop an understanding of the history, underlying concepts and practice of documentary photography. This course will develop the student's ability to identify a topic, research, plan, and undertake a documentary photography project that develops a specific line of enquiry. The student will gain skills in interpreting the work of others practicing within the documentary field, and they will develop the ability to critically reflect on and interpret their own images within the wider context of documentary practice. This course will develop an understanding of the communicative and narrative potential of photography, alongside a practical ability to present a photo-essay that demonstrates sound judgements in accordance with the basic theories and concepts of their subject of study.</p>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this short course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the history of documentary photography within a social and cultural context, with a knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles of documentary photography (e.g. as a tool to effect social change; as a tool for misinformation and propaganda; the role of new technologies in documentary practice).
- Critically reflect on the appropriateness of their selection and editing of images (e.g; the relationship in a sequence; the use of text; understanding the way in which different types of photograph can convey different information) in communicating a structured and coherent photo-essay.
- Demonstrate an ability to problem solve and control the technical aspect of picture-taking and print production to most effectively communicate meaning, critically reflecting on the appropriateness of a chosen approach that demonstrates an understanding of the characteristics of photographic materials and technologies.
- Undertake a documentary project that demonstrates an ability to select a theme, research, plan and develop a specific line of enquiry, presenting a coherent visual narrative, that considers how the photographer's viewpoint is expressed.
- Undertake a piece of writing that contextualises the theme of the documentary project; consider the relationship of text and image and provide critical reflection and interpretation of the project within the context of documentary practice.

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods

Independent learning and taught sessions;
lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops, and practical exercises.

Contact teaching time 30 hours:

Lectures and demonstrations (10 hours)

Practical sessions (20 hours)

Independent learning (120 hours)

Total learning hours: 150 hours

Indicative Content

Visual Literacy:

- Examples of significant documentary photographic projects
- Skills in researching and presenting findings
- Critical reflection on aesthetic and technical qualities and subject matter

- Development of ideas for a personal project
- Project research and planning
- History of Documentary photography
- Exploring the notion of photographic truth
- Exploring the relationship of documentary photography to fine art practice
- Exploring the relationship of picture to text
- Images, text, and the documentary tradition in the Media
- The notion of family within social documentary
- Documentary photography in Wales
- Impact of digital technologies on documentary and reportage

Practical Skills:

- Health and safety in the digital/chemical darkroom and on location
- Subject treatment - visual aspects through choice of long, mid-distance and close viewpoints
- Aspects of composition.
- Constructing a picture story
- The selection of images, their relationship in a sequence and use of text
- Choice and application of approaches and techniques:
- Lighting control, appropriate use of available and artificial light,
- Use of lenses, films, chemical and digital processing
- Preparing images for print and printing.
- Presentation of a portfolio

Recommended Reading & Required Reading

- Bolton, Richard. *The Contest of Meaning: Critical Histories of Photography* (Mass: MIT Press, 1989)
- Frank, Robert. *The Americans* (London: Thames & Hudson, 2008)
- Sontag, Susan. *On Photography* (London: Penguin, 1979)
- Solomon-Godeau, Abigail. *Photography at the Dock* (Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 1991)
- Stott, William. *Documentary Expression and Thirties America* (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1986)
- Wells, Liz (ed.) *Photography: A Critical Introduction, 3rd Edition* (London: Routledge, 2004)

Access to Specialist Requirements

Ffotogallery Darkrooms and Digital Imaging facilities

Outcome and Notes

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