

Bossier Parish Community College
Master Syllabus

Course Prefix and Number: COMM 281 **Credit Hours:** 3
Course Title: Documentary Filmmaking
Course Prerequisites: None
Textbook: Artis, Anthony Q. *The Shut Up and Shoot Documentary Guide: A Down & Dirty DV Production*. 2nd Edition.

Course Description: This course explores techniques necessary to direct and produce a documentary film. The focus is on directing, producing, preproduction, and interviews for documentary production. Students will also examine different philosophies of ethics and research as it pertains to the preproduction and production of a non-fiction feature.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course the student will

- A. demonstrate basic knowledge of the pre-production, production, and post-production aspects of a documentary feature;
- B. display proficiency with production equipment; including, but not limited to, cameras, lighting, and sound recording devices; and
- C. plan and produce a feature-length documentary film.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will

(The letter designations at the end of each statement refer to the learning outcome(s).)

1. identify a subject for the feature and create and implement a shooting schedule for the production. (A)
2. ready the shooting location by implementing an appropriate lighting set-up, positioning the camera in an optimum location to capture the subject and insuring the camera is ready for recording, and set-up recording devices to best capture the sound from the subject. (B)
3. work with others enrolled in the course to effectively implement the production plan in order to fulfill the production goals. (C)

Course Requirements: This course requires attendance, class participation, assignments, exams, and projects as determined by the instructor.

Course Grading Scale:	90 – 100	A
	80 – 89	B
	70 – 79	C
	60 – 69	D
	0 – 59	F

Course Fees: \$45.00

Attendance Policy: The college attendance policy is available at <http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html>

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