

Code: BMI-FLMD-376E.17, BMa-FLMD-376.22

Course title: Storytelling: Documentaries

Course convenors: Brigitta Bacskai

Class time and place: Friday, 12.30- 15.45, room 135

Course Type: Lecture/**Seminar**/Practical Work

Course content: The course aims to discover the editor's role in a documentary and also to examine whether documentaries are different from fiction, storytelling-wise. At the beginning of the term, a short documentary, **Domestic**, a short documentary will be screened. It serves as a keynote to our further discussions. We will watch and talk about **Tarnation** by Jonathan Caouette, as an example of the performative documentary. Later we watch an observational documentary, **The Steam of Life** as the indicative assignment will be based on this film. Throughout the semester students have to develop a treatment based on a chosen character from the film. In the second half of the term, we will analyze Michael Glawogger's **Workingman's Death**.

Requirements: Active participation in the classes
Proper delivery of the treatment assignment
At least 51% on their exam.

Learning outcomes: With the help of the indicative readings/podcast and discussions students will get a clear picture of making documentaries. They will learn to prepare for shooting, learn different attitudes in documentary filmmaking and they will also learn how to think in the editing room. Documentaries are not very different from fiction as documentaries also have a script but are written in the editing room.

Indicative Films: Michael Glawogger: Workingman's Death
Joonas Berghäll, Mika Hotakainen: Steam of Life
Jonathan Caouette: Tarnation

Indicative Readings: <https://collab.sundance.org/catalog/Master-Class-Documentary-Filmmaking-with-Jennifer-Fox-THE-TALE-BEIRUT-THE-LAST-HOME-MOVIE>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/academy/en/articles/art20170606141808270>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gf_nxbjy5Kc