



# SOMA2412 Video Document

Term T1, 2019

## Course Information

Units of Credit: 6

## Course Overview

### Course Description

Video Document is an introductory video production course that aims to develop fundamental skills in creating video documentaries, while engaging with issues around accuracy, authority, editorial and the manufacture of belief.

You will choose and research a topic pitch a proposal to produce a video documentary covering your findings, then practice creating an 'objective' and 'accurate' presentation of your chosen subject as a short video. You'll then be asked to examine your work and that of your peers for bias and inaccuracy, and so to question the ideal of absolute truthfulness implied by the documentary form.

You will then pitch and produce a second video work employing tactics of propaganda, essaying a topic as seen from your personal viewpoint. This will allow questions of how media technology confirms belief to be addressed.

From these exercises you will be able gauge the appropriate and effective use of video in your own documentation and be better prepared to 'read between the lines' of video essays made by others.

This course relates to companion courses in sound production and imaging. It's useful for any student involved in video documentation and production research, in that it provides fundamental skills in production while clarifying the advantages and intellectual pitfalls involved.

### Course Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Research and then document a topic by use of video production.
2. Identify biases and inaccuracies in documentary media and manage these factors within a video productions.
3. Work as part of a production team to organise roles and develop a coherent artistic vision that represents all participants.

### Teaching and Learning in this Course

This courses uses a variety of teaching approaches:

#### Blended/online

- Review - assessment tool
- Echo360 - lecture recording
- Moodle - learning management system

#### Lectures

Lectures are delivered face to face each week of the course and are recorded for later viewing. These

provide contextual information and define goals. A critique of 'documentary' is given here that is tested by the production process.

## Tutorials

The tutorials are a mix of discussion about issues raised in the lecture, hands on skills training, and mentorship in production research by video making.

## Assessment

	TITLE	WEIGHTING	ASSESSMENT TYPE
Assessment Task 1	Documentary research and pitch	30%	Formal Presentation and Paper
Assessment Task 2	Exam	20%	Written Exam
Assessment Task 3	Produce Documentary	50%	Project

## References for this Course

SOMA2412 has a Moodle site that offers readings and technical help for the course [moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au](http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au).

In some cases you will be linked to the UNSW library or other collections. You will also find examples of work that students have produced in previous years. As the lectures are delivered they will be recorded (including the examples provided) and put online via Moodle for further viewing.

You're **STRONGLY ADVISED** to buy & bring a portable hard drive to classes.

Media production requires a large amount of storage space. A portable drive will make your work easier and avoid data loss that could impact on your assessment. Please see the technical notes online for more about hard drives.

The UNSW Library has thousands of books, journals, media and online media available to help you in this course [library.unsw.edu.au](http://library.unsw.edu.au). For example a search for documentary film finds videos, and online texts, and much more.