

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications and the Arts
Programme:	International Sports Management
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Sport in Documentary Film
Course Code:	COM 5415

Total Hours: 120

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 0

Independent Learning Hours: 75

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

Sport in Documentary Film explores the relationship between sport and documentary filmmaking in order to analyze the representations generated in a distinctive genre of filmic production. Sport documentaries constitute a significant aspect of the documentary tradition, and this course employs sociological, historical and cultural studies approaches to examine a wide variety of textual examples. Students are also encouraged to use recent ideas in film theory to develop a critical understanding of ways in which intersections between sporting cultures and documentary practice produces divergent discourses about identity, politics, and aesthetics.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

The course aims to explore the cultural significance of the sport documentary genre within wider social contexts of the twentieth and twenty-first century. Through engagement with theoretical ideas, textual readings, and class discussion, students

will produce critiques and analyses of examining the varied cultural meanings within sport documentaries.

By the end of the course a successful student will have:

- Understanding of the different theoretical ideas about sports documentary filmmaking
- Developed a range of critical skills for analyzing and writing on sport documentaries
- Reflected upon the social contexts and cultural practices represented with sport documentaries

Programme Outcomes:

COM: 5A(ii); 5A(iii); 5B(ii); 5B(iii); 5C(iii); 5D(ii)

ISM: A5, B5, D1, D2, D4

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

1. Understand the different theoretical ideas about sports documentary filmmaking
2. Developed a range of critical skills for analyzing and writing on sport documentary filmmaking
3. Reflect upon the social contexts and cultural practices represented in sport documentary filmmaking

Indicative Content:

- Theories and practices of documentary filmmaking
- Social practices of sport
- Sport and identity politics
- Sport and nationalism and globalization
- Sporting spectacles and filmic technologies

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

Teaching Methodology:

Teaching will be a combination of film screenings, lectures, and seminar discussions. Lectures will be designed to introduce the key theories and cover fundamental issues in sport documentary filmmaking and seminars will build upon the content of recommended articles and book chapters from the reading list and additional recommended readings. Students will be advised to supplement lecture notes by reading the relevant indicative

reading(s). The lectures will be participative in nature and will encourage commentary, analysis and other in-class contributions.

Indicative Text(s):

Geiger, Jeffery. *American Documentary Film: Projecting the Nation*. Edinburgh:

Edinburgh UP, 2011.

Ingle, Zachary & Sutera, David (Ed.), *Gender and Genre in Sports Documentaries*.

Plymouth: The Scarecrow Press Inc., 2012.

Sheppard, Samantha and Travis Vogan. *Sporting Realities: Critical Readings of the Sport Documentary*, 2020

Ingle, Zachary & Sutera, David (Ed.), *Identity and Myth in Sports Documentaries*.

Plymouth: The Scarecrow Press Inc., 2012.

MacLane, Besty *A New History of Documentary Filmmaking*. London: Bloomsbury, 2012.

Nicholas, Bill. *Introduction to Documentary*. Indianapolis & Bloomington: Indiana UP, 2010.

Sheppard, Samantha & Vogan, Travis, *Sporting Realities: Critical Readings in Sport Documentary*. Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2020.

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Minor	Added ISM programme outcomes.		
	Annual update	May 2023	
	Total Hours Updated	April 2024	