

ART 289 / Documentary Photography / Deering
Class meets / T-TR / 9:30am-12:00pm / Rec. 103 / Zoom
bdeering @udel.edu / Phone 302.528.8528 cell
Office / Zoom hours: by appointment
<https://billdeering.com/>

Course description:

Documentary Photography

Students will explore critical issues in documentary photography, social documentarians and photojournalism. Documentary photography is a style of photography that provides a straightforward and accurate representation of people, places and events, and is often used in reportage.

Documentary photography refers to a popular form of photography used to chronicle events or environments both significant and relevant to history, seeking to chronicle actual events, places, and experiences in a truthful and objective manner.

The program encourages a self-motivated student for a open and supportive atmosphere as participants share their work in weekly discussions and critiques. Class discussions examine the changing relationship of word and image on the printed page, the role of the photographer, the development of the photo-essay and the influence of social documentarians in Society.

The objective of this program is for students to build an awareness of the medium of documentary and reportage' photography as it pertains to the areas mentioned previously. Students will research, view, write, document, and produce photography / video about the topics of their own vision outlined. Assignments are designed to offer students various approaches and methods. The format will be through class discussions, presentations, and guest speakers.

Educational Goals

This course is intended to ensure that a student engages in collaborative, documentary research, processes and engage in intercultural and national concepts. Uses knowledge, diverse frames of reference and alternate perspectives. Successfully participates on project oriented academic experience and is willing to step outside of one's own and experience life as "the other", who are culturally different and displays curiosity about global issues, differences and is flexible and seeks personal growth.

Expectations

This class is for the student who is a self-motivated, engaging, participating and professional. The student will participate in critiques, discussions, guest presentations. The student is expected to maintain an active engagement with Documentary Photography. Students are expected to be curious and experimental in the work they produce for this course, embedding the ideas and inspirational words of people and content that you meet.

The Safety of Our Learning Environment

Student learning can only occur when students and their instructors feel safe, respected, and supported by each other. On the first in-person class session of the semester you will select your seat/desk. This will become your assigned seat for the entire semester. To ensure that our learning environment is as safe as possible, and in keeping with CDC guidelines to slow the transmission of COVID-19, our in-person class sessions will adhere to the practice of physical distancing. This means that you:

- Should avoid congregating in groups outside of the classroom before and after class
- Return to the assigned a seat for the entirety of the semester
- Upon entering the classroom, wipe down your seat and desk area
- May not move your chairs/desks from their designated positions at any time
- Must remain at least 6 feet apart from your classmates, Teaching Assistants, and instructors at all times

- Must wear a cloth mask that covers your nose and mouth
- As necessary, the University may announce modifications to these practices. In that event, these guidelines will be updated to reflect those modifications.

Course objectives

Analyze, define, discuss, present, the history of the medium and critical issues. (see above).

Prerequisites

This class doesn't have any prerequisites. You should have a desire to explore and take great photographs of topics that are of interest to you. You will have assignments to accomplish and photograph, It's your decision on how you structure these:

Equipment

A smart phone is a must, (digital, analog camera or video camera are (optional).

Course Description

The Introduction to Documentary (Reportage' and Photojournalism).

Course Goals

Documentary / Reportage', are a particular form of image making that relates to Journalism and its relationship to collecting, editing, and presenting of material for publication, that creates images to tell a story.

Timeliness / the images have meaning and a point of view.

Objectivity / the situation implied by the images is a fair and accurate representation of the events they depict in both content and tone.

Narrative — the images combine with other elements to make facts relatable to the viewer and reader on a cultural level. Like a writer, a documentary/ Reportage' photographer is capturing the moment.

Expectations

Students are expected to participate in class weekly, to be engaged, motivated and to be self-starters. This is a class that is very much about the student voice and vision and self-motivation. Students must be prepared to discuss and articulate their work in class. Students should be able to articulate the topics they select as it pertains to Documentary photography,

Critiques

Critiques will occur on an on-going basis, every week.