



Documentary Storytelling with Floating Home Films

Overview:

This seminar aims to provide a well-rounded introduction to documentary filmmaking. We will discuss what makes a good story, different ways to approach storytelling and cover the basic steps of pre-production, production, and post-production. We will utilize discussions, watch example footage, and bring those skills into practice by lighting and filming an interview.

Practical: 2 days

Day 1 (Saturday)

- 90-minutes: Basics of telling a good documentary. How to find a subject, how to approach them, how to figure out their story, how to prepare, how to shoot, and how to edit. An overview. Watch a short 10-minute film and discuss how the film used the steps of pre-production and post-production to be successful.
- 30-minutes: Discussion on gear. What are the various types of gear you can use? When gear matters, and why it sometimes doesn't (as long as you have a powerful story). Overview of the gear being used today.
- 60-minutes: Pre-production. Discuss already selected subjects, explore their story and generate pre-production and interview questions.
- 120-minutes: Set-up and film interview.
- 60-minutes: Film B Roll
- 60-minutes: Discuss the day. Recap and answer questions

So the SATURDAY schedule could be something like...

9am - 11am — Overview of documentary storytelling and equipment

11am - 11:15am — break

11:15am - 12:15pm — pre-production discussion
12:15pm - 1:00pm — lunch break
1:00pm - 3:00pm — setup an film interview
3:00pm - 4:00pm — b-roll
4:00pm - 5:00pm — recap of the day, Q&A, snacks

Day 2 (Sunday)

- 15-minutes. Recap the day again. Answer any questions.
- 90-minutes: Go over the main story edit that Alex and Ander have already put together from the night before :) The story is edited down into story fragments. We will work with the students to put together the story in the order they think is best. Discussion and live editing demo.
- 90-minutes: Add B Roll and visual elements. Finalize and export and watch the final film.
- 25-minutes: Workshop where students think about a story they want to tell on their own. They write questions, pre-production plans, etc.
- 60-minutes: We review all the students' plans and give them confidence to make the films.
- 20-minutes: Final recap and answering questions. Connect with students so they can reach out in the future with any questions.

So the SUNDAY schedule could be something like...

9am - 9:15am — Recap and any additional questions
9:15am - 10:45am — Live story editing overview
10:45 - 11:00am — break
11:00am - 12:30pm — B-roll, music, etc.
12:30pm - 1:15pm — Lunch
1:15pm - 1:40pm — Consider the stories you want to tell
1:40pm - 2:40pm — Discuss stories to tell in the future and Q&A
2:40 - 3:00pm — Recap and closing

Seminar (Adults): 1 evening (Saturday Evening) 60 minutes

- 40-Minutes: Inform the audience of the power of telling a good story. How this media is used today in traditional filmmaking, social media, and marketing. A presentation

talking about our experience with Floating Home Films, showing examples of work that back up our claims. I'm sure these parents are aware of YouTube and Social Media influencers. Our goal is to educate them that these paths are new content creation paths for anyone seeking to tell good stories. It's a viable path - and they should support their children in helping them to explore local stories, and help aid them in telling their own stories, if they choose to. The goal is to fight the notion of "becoming a YouTuber" as frivolous... by expanding the concept of making content and tying it to a real, grounded business

- 10-minutes: Explore various photographers and filmmakers on social media and YouTube who are doing this well. Explore documentary marketing videos and connect the dots between social media and careers for their children.
- 10-minutes: Q&A