

# COMM 2052 DOCUMENTARY: FACTUAL SCREEN MEDIA

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102830

**Coordinator** Maryella Hatfield ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maryella Hatfield/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maryella%20Hatfield/))

**Description** Documentary is an evolving area that continues to flux and change. Due to developments in media distribution, technological change and convergence, audiences are increasingly engaging with factual content in new and innovative ways. This unit explores both conceptual and production approaches to documentary in various forms. Students are introduced to key documentary histories and modes and examine a range of traditional and evolving practices including animated, online interactive and transmedia documentary outcomes. Students produce a short documentary project and in doing so develop professional skills and approaches to production roles as well as ethical relationships and responsibilities with participants and topics.

**School** Humanities & Comm Arts

**Discipline** Audio Visual Studies

**Student Contribution Band** HECS Band 4 10cp

Check your HECS Band contribution amount via the Fees ([https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current\\_students/fees/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Undergraduate Level 2 subject

**Pre-requisite(s)** COMM 1015 OR  
COMM 1039

**Co-requisite(s)** COMM 1037

**Equivalent Subjects** COMM 2041 - Video Camera and Image Formation  
COMM 2013 - Documentary Media

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Discuss the development of documentary histories, forms, concepts and production techniques.
2. Articulate a range of ways in which evolving forms and directions in documentary production influence current documentary media.
3. Research and write a documentary proposal.
4. Discuss the ways ethical issues related to documentary subjects and topics are reflected in documentary production.
5. Develop and produce a short documentary project.
6. Integrate theoretical and practical knowledge in the reflective analysis of content creation and production roles.

## Subject Content

Documentary histories and concepts  
Evolving documentary forms (animated, online interactive, transmedia)  
Documentary research and proposal writing skills  
Documentary practice (preproduction to postproduction)  
Ethical considerations and responsibilities involved with working with subjects and topics  
Reflective practice

## Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Item            | Length  | Percent | Threshold | Individual/<br>Group Task |
|-----------------|---|---------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Quiz            | 5 multiple choice quizzes (10 questions per quiz) | 10      | N         | Individual                |
| Proposal        | 2,000 words or equivalent                         | 35      | N         | Individual                |
| Applied Project | Up to 10 minutes                                  | 30      | N         | Group                     |
| Reflection      | 1,500 words or equivalent                         | 25      | N         | Individual                |

Teaching Periods

## Autumn

### Parramatta - Victoria Rd

#### Day

**Subject Contact** Maryella Hatfield ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maryella Hatfield/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Maryella%20Hatfield/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject\\_code=COMM2052\\_22-AUT\\_PS\\_D#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/even/timetable/?subject_code=COMM2052_22-AUT_PS_D#subjects))