



# MEDIAWORKS WINTER • 2005

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 Office hours: Julia, Wed 12-1pm; Laurie Thurs 4-5pm

**TEXTS:** *Introduction to Documentary*, Bill Nichols. University of Indiana Press, 2001  
*Stuff It: The Video Essay in the Digital Age*, Ursula Biemann, ed. Springer, 2003  
*The Autobiographical Documentary in America*, Jim Lane, 2002. U of Wisconsin Press  
*The Filmmaker's Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide for the Digital Age*, Ascher, Pincus. Plume: 1999  
 Supplemental readings (see weekly schedule)

<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Com 326, 408	Laurie's workshop
	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Lib 1308	Julia's workshop
	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	Sem 2 B1105	Lecture/Screening
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 AM	11:30 AM	Com 308	Laurie's seminar
	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Com 323	Julia's seminar
	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Com 326	Optional screenings
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Com 408	Laurie's workshop
	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Lib 1308	Julia's workshop
	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Sem 2 E4115	The Salon (tea and conversation)

## Requirements for Full Credit

1. Full participation in all class activities (if you are ill, this is an excused absence. Please notify your seminar leader if you are ill and cannot come to class)
2. Timely attendance at program events; please be on time.
3. The timely execution of assigned audio-visual design problems (see handouts). These include:
  - a) film camera test (teams of 2)
  - b) audio field recording (teams of 2)
  - c) Documentary Event – Teams of 4 (2-Film, 2-Video and Audio) with your Peer Group
  - d) Documentary Essay – Teams of 4 (2-Film, 2-Video and Audio) with your Peer Group
  - e) Diary Film (individual) & Diary Audio piece (individual)
4. The timely completion of all written assignments. Writing for MW winter includes:
  - a) 2 – 3 written questions for each seminar, TWO COPIES - one copy for yourself, one for your seminar leader (turn in at beginning of the class)
  - b) Film/Video Analytical Essay, 5-7 pages (see handout) – a close reading of a film/video essay piece, that includes references to course readings. Due Week 6, Wednesday in Seminar
  - c) Research Paper, 6-8 pages (see handout) – on a filmmaker of your choice who has worked with personal filmmaking, autobiographical documentary, or the diary film. Due Week 9, Wednesday in Seminar
5. Facilitate Seminar (collaboratively) once during the quarter. Please sign up.
6. Facilitate The Salon (with your Peer Group). Sign up for week 3, 4, 5, 6 or 9.
7. Winter evaluation conference and written self evaluation.

## **THE SALON (Tea and Conversation) on Thursdays**

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Groups of 4 (same as Essay Film Peer Groups) Two Groups of 4 will go each week. Facilitate a discussion of the issues raised by the week's readings, screenings, lectures, seminars and workshops. Integrate ideas from the week, using oral and visual forms (include A/V materials). Work with your group in advance to plan your facilitation's goals and strategies. You should make sure to poll the learning community, respond to its needs, questions etc. Your group must type up an outline and give a copy to each faculty member at the beginning of The Salon you are facilitating. The outline should include a learning objective and the strategies for achieving that, including topics, particular readings or selections to revisit, clips to be screened, questions for the group and timeline for your 40 minute session.

Schedule for weeks 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9:

2:00 – 2:20 Tea and mingling

2:20 – 3:00 First Peer Group facilitates

3:00 – 3:10 Short Break (more tea...)

3:10 – 3:50 Second Peer Group facilitates

3:50 – 4:00 Closing discussion

## **W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E**

### **Week 1 – Documentary: Reflexivity, Autobiography and The Essay**

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**Readings:** Nichols, Intro, Ch. 1 & 2

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Man with a Movie Camera*, Dziga Vertov, USSR, 1929, 68 min. (DVD, LM)

*Hairpiece*, Ayoka Chenzira, US, 1985 10 min. (VHS, JZ)

*A Spy in the House That Ruth Built*, Vanalyne Green, US, 1989, 30 min. (VHS, JZ)

**Film Workshop Readings:**

Pincus Pref, Ch. 1 Intro F/V Systems, Ch. 2 The Film Camera

Downloads from Media Services: <http://www.evergreen.edu/media/ml/downloads.html>:

Sekonic and Turndra Light Meters, Bolex Manual and Proficiency Test Questions,

16mm Policies, 16mm Catalogue, APS work order

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:**

Pincus Ch. 9, Sound Recording Systems

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Intro to Film, LM, COM 326

Group B – Intro to Audio: Concepts, MiniDisc Recorders, Microphones, JZ, LIB 1308

**SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A– Intro to Audio: Concepts, MiniDisc Recorders, Microphones, JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Intro to Film, Sekonics, Bolex Proficiency, LM, COM 408

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

Group A – Field Recording (see handout)

Group B – Shoot camera test in groups of 2, see handout on logistics

Field recording (see handout)

**THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115**

Tea and Conversation, Idea Fair, forming Peer Groups

Readings: *Stuff It* pp. 8-23

• Dossier on the essay film/video:

>**Critical/historical texts**

1. Michael Renov, "History and/as Autobiography: The Essayistic in Film and Video" HANDOUT
2. Paul Arthur, "Essay Questions" *Film Comment* 39:1 (Jan/Feb 2003) 58-63. [PDF available through Library's subscription to EBSCOhost (AKA Academic Search Elite)]:  
<http://www.evergreen.edu/library/catalog/E1.htm> \*Search for author name and journal title "Film Comment"
3. Peter Thompson, "The Cinematic Essay: The Cine *What?*"  
[http://www.chicagomediaworks.com/2instructworks/3editing\\_doc/3editing\\_docinematicessay.html](http://www.chicagomediaworks.com/2instructworks/3editing_doc/3editing_docinematicessay.html)
4. Paul Graham, "The Age of the Essay" <http://www.paulgraham.com/essay.html>

>**Essays: Read these at your own pace through week 5 [Solnit will be speaking at Evergreen Week 7]**

5. Rebecca Solnit, "The Right of People Peaceably to Assemble in Unusual Clothing: Notes on the Streets of San Francisco" *Harvard Design Magazine* No. 4 (Winter/Spring 1998)  
<http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/research/publications/hdm/back/4solnit.html>
6. Rebecca Solnit, "Farewell Bohemia: On Art, Urbanity, and Rent" *Harvard Design Magazine* No. 11 (Summer 2000) <http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/research/publications/hdm/back/11solnit.html>
7. Rebecca Solnit, "Diary" *London Review of Books* Vol. 25, No. 19 (9 October 2003)  
[http://www.lrb.co.uk/v25/n19/soln01\\_.html](http://www.lrb.co.uk/v25/n19/soln01_.html)
8. [OPTIONAL] Laura Kipnis, *Against Love: A Polemic* (2003) BOTH ARE SHORT BOOKS
9. [OPTIONAL] Laura Kipnis, *Bound & Gagged: Pornography and the Politics of Fantasy in America* (1999)

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*The Gleaners and I*, Agnes Varda, France, 2000, 82 min. (TESC, DVD)

**Film Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch. 3 The Lens, Ch. 4 The Film Image

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch 10, Sound Recording Techniques

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Lens/Exposure, Sekonics, Bolex Proficiency, LM, COM 408

Group B – Peak DV Workshop <Audio processing/prep>, JZ, LIB 1308

**SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Sans Soleil*, Chris Marker, France/US, 100 min. 1982 (TESC, VHS)

**WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Peak DV Workshop <Audio processing/prep>, JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Lens/Exposure, Eiki Proficiency, Screen Camera Test B, LM, COM 326

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

Group A – Shoot camera test in groups of 2, see handout on logistics

Group B – Preplan with your peer group for next Thursday's workshop

**THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115**

Tea and Conversation, Idea Fair, Forming Peer Groups [groups must be finalized by today]

**Week 3 – Documentary Form/Strategies (LM) JAN 18-20**

Readings: Nichols, Ch. 3, 4, 5 & 6

>2 OPTIONAL short articles for Wednesday optional screening:

- Martin Brady, "Agent Provocateur" *Northwestern Magazine*, Winter 2004 (on Laura Kipnis)  
<http://www.northwestern.edu/magazine/northwestern/winter2004/features/kipnis/index.htm>
- "Style: An Interview with Laura Kipnis" by Jeffrey J. Williams, *The Minnesota Review* 58-60 (2003)  
<http://www.theminnesotareview.org/ns58/kipnis.htm>

### **Week 3, continued**

#### **Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Rain*, Joris Ivens, The Netherlands, 1929, 12 min. (TESC, VHS)

*The Plough that Broke the Plains*, Pare Lorentz, US RA, 1936, 26 min. (TESC, VHS)

*High School*, Frederick Wiseman, 1968, Clips – 75 min. (TESC, VHS)

*Daughter Rite*, Michelle Citron, 1978, 53 min. (TESC, VHS)

**Film Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch. 5 Color and Filters, Ch. 8 Shooting (Group B)

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch 6, The Video Camcorder; Ch 7, The Video Image (Group A)

#### **WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A (*TEA*) – 3-Chip Video Cameras <Sony PD-150>, JZ, LIB 1308

Group B (*BISCUITS*) – Cinematography, continued LM, COM 408

#### **SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

#### **OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*The Body Beautiful*, Ngozi Onwurah, UK, 1991, 23 min. (TESC, VHS)

*Marx: The Video*, Laura Kipnis, US, 1990, 35 min. (VHS, JZ)

#### **WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A & B in COM 408: Visual Planning and Audio Design

#### **ASSIGNMENT:**

Shoot Documentary Event: Group B Film Cameras, Group A Video and Audio

See handout for parameters, logistics

#### **THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115** Tea and Conversation

### **Week 4 – The Film/Video Essay Part II (JZ)            JAN 25-27**

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Readings: James Baldwin, *The Devil Finds Work*, Pt 1: “Congo Square” (pp 3-35) WEBSITE

*Stuff It* pp. 83-91; 92-97; 142-143; 156 [24-33 OPTIONAL]

#### **Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Border Stasis*, Guillermo Gomez-Pena, Mexico, 1998, 25 min. (JZ, VHS) RESERVE

*Sea in the Blood*, Richard Fung, Canada, 2000, 26 min. (JZ, VHS) RESERVE

*Performing the Border*, Ursula Biemann, Switzerland, 1999, 43 min. (JZ, VHS) RESERVE

**Film Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch. 5 Color and Filters, Ch. 8 Shooting (Group A)

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch 6, The Video Camcorder; Ch 7, The Video Image (Group B)

#### **WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Eiki Proficiencies, Screen Camera Test, LM, COM 408

Group B – 3-Chip Video Cameras <Sony PD-150>, JZ, LIB 1308

#### **SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

#### **OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Tongues Untied*, Marlon Riggs, US, 1989, 55 min. (TESC, VHS)

#### **WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A & B in LIB 1308: Visual Planning and Audio Design

#### **ASSIGNMENT:**

Film Documentary Event: Group A Film Cameras, Group B Video and Audio

See handout for parameters, logistics

#### **THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115**

Tea and Conversation

**Week 5 – Documentary Form/Strategies, Part II (LM) FEB 1-3**

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Readings: Nichols 7 & 8

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Night and Fog*, France, Alain Resnais, 1955, 31 min. DVD (LM)

*Coffee Coloured Children*, Ngozi Onwurah, UK, 1988, 15 min. (TESC, VHS)

*Nitrate Kisses*, Barbara Hammer, 16mm, 67 min. 1992

**Film Workshop Readings:**

Pincus Ch.11 Lighting, Ch.12 Picture and Dialogue Editing, Ch.13 Film Editing

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Critique Doc Events (Audio and Video), JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Critique Doc Events (Film), Film Editing Workshop, LM, COM 326

**SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Frantz Fanon: Black Skin White Mask*, Isaac Julien, UK, 1996, 52 min. (TESC, VHS)

**WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Critique Doc Events (Audio and Video), JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Critique Doc Events (Film), Film Editing Workshop, LM, COM 326

**ASSIGNMENT: (see handout)**

Documentary Essay Production, Group B Film Cameras, Group A Video and Audio

Group A – Audio prep in Peak DV for DP/Digital Audio Editing workshop

**THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115 Tea and Conversation**

**Week 6 – Autobiography, Part I: Diary, Documentary (JZ) FEB 8-10**

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Readings: Lane Intro, Ch. 1, Ch. 2

Peter Thompson, "Self-Portrayal"

<http://www.chicagomediaworks.com/2instructworks/3digital1/SelfPortrayal.pdf>

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*David Holtzman's Diary*, Jim McBride, US, 1967, 90 min. (JZ, VHS)

Videos of Sadie Benning (TESC, VHS)

**Film Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch. 11 Lighting

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch.11 Lighting, Ch 15 Sound Editing (Finish Ch 15 by Wk 7)

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – DP Workshop I, JZ, MML

Group B – Lighting for Film and Video with Dave, LM, LIB 1308

**SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Reminiscences of a Journey to Lithuania*, Jonas Mekas, 1972, 102 min. (TESC, VHS)

**WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Lighting for Film and Video with Dave, LM, LIB 1308

Group B – DP Workshop I, JZ, MML

**ASSIGNMENT: (see handout)**

Documentary Essay Production, Group A Film Cameras, Group B Video and Audio

Group B – Audio prep for DP workshop

NOTE: All film must be at the lab next Monday by 1pm, to be prepped for transfer

ALSO: Work on Diary Film Design – see handout

**THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115: Tea and Conversation**

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**Week 7 – Autobiography Part II FEB 15-17**

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Readings: TBA

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

TBA

**Film Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch. 16 The Film Laboratory, Ch. 17 Film-Video Transfers

**Audio/Video Workshop Readings:** Pincus Ch 15, Sound Editing

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – DP Workshop II, JZ, MML

Group B – Critique Works in Progress, LIB 1308 or COM 326

**NOTE – Wednesday WORKSHOPS (no seminars)**

9:00-11:30 Group A Critique Works in Progress, with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-1:00 DP Workshop II, JZ, MML

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Swallow*, Elisabeth Subrin (JZ, VHS)

*Home Avenue AND Age 12: Love with a little 'L'* Jennifer Montgomery (JZ, VHS)

**Thursday all day – Field Trip to Labs**

Forde Motion Picture Labs

Alpha Cine Labs for Film to DV transfer 10:30 – 1:00 (2.5 hrs if needed)

10 groups, 300 ft. (or 9 min max per group) = 3000 ft, approx. 90 min.

**ASSIGNMENT:** Group B (only) shoot Diary Film

**Week 8 – Autobiography Part III: Autobiography and Subjectivity (LM)**

**FEB 22-24**

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Readings: Lane Ch. 5, Biemann pp. 138-139

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Finding Christa*, Camille Billops and James Hatch, 1991, 55 min (TWN)

*The Smell of Burning Ants*, Jay Rosenblatt, US, 1994, 21 min, 16mm (JZ, VHS)

*Delirium*, Mindy Faber, 1993, 23 min (TESC, VHS)

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Individual Conferences on Diary Film Design, Bring Storyboards etc.

**SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*History and Memory*, Rea Tajiri, 1991, 32 min. (TESC, VHS)

*The Ties That Bind*, Su Friedrich, US, 1984, 55 min. (TESC, 16mm)

**THURSDAY – Critique Essay Films 10-1 in LIB 1308, 2-5 in COM 326**

**ASSIGNMENT:** Group A (only) shoot Diary Film; Work on diary audio

**Week 9 – Autobiography Part IV: Journal Entries (JZ) MAR 1-3**

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Readings: Lane, Ch. 3

>OPTIONAL for Wednesday optional screening: "I Am A Camera,' Ross McElwee on First-Person Filmmaking" by Nick Poppy [http://www.indiewire.com/people/people\\_040824bright.html](http://www.indiewire.com/people/people_040824bright.html)

**Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

*Silverlake Life: A View From Here*, Tom Joslin and Peter Friedman, US, 1993 (TESC, VHS)

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Critique Works in Progress, Audio JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Critique Works in Progress, Rushes, Rough Cuts, LM, COM 326

## **Wk 9 Continued**

### **SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**OPTIONAL SCREENING – Wednesday COM 326, 1pm**

*Sherman's March*, Ross McElwee, US, 1986 (TESC)

### **WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm**

Group A – Critique Works in Progress, Audio JZ, LIB 1308

Group B – Critique Works in Progress, Rushes, Rough Cuts, LM, COM 326

### **ASSIGNMENT: Diary Films/Audio Post-Production**

**THE SALON – Thursday 2pm-4pm Seminar 2 E 4115 Tea and Conversation**

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## **Week 10 – The Self and the Local – Tony Buba (LM)      MAR 8-10**

Readings: Lane, Ch. 4

### **Tuesday LECTURE/SCREENING in Sem 2 B1105**

Screening: *Lightning Over Braddock*, Tony Buba, US, 1988, 80 min.

**WORKSHOPS – Tuesday 10am-1pm in LIB 1308 Critique Diary Films**

### **SEMINARS - Wednesday**

9:30-11:30 with Laurie in COM 308

10:00-12:00 with Julia in COM 323

**WORKSHOPS – Thursday 10am-1pm in LIB 1308 - Critique Diary Films**

**2pm-4pm in COM 326 - Critique Diary Films**

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## **FURTHER VIEWING**

### **Documentary Essays:**

*A Movie*, Bruce Conner, USA, 1958, 12 min. (TESC, 16mm)

*Thriller*, Sally Potter, U.K., 1979, 33 min. (TESC, 16mm)

*Riddles of the Sphinx*, Laura Mulvey, Peter Wollen, UK, 90 min.

*Reassemblage*, Trinh T. Minh-ha, 1982, 40 min. (TESC, 16mm)

*Naked Spaces*, Living is Round, Trinh T. Minh-ha, 1985, 135 min.

*Territories*, Sankofa/Isaac Julien, 1988, 25 min. (TESC, VHS)

*Handsworth Songs*, Black Audio/John Akomfrah, U.K., 1986, 58 min. (TESC, VHS)

*Loose Ends*, Chick Strand, USA, 1979, 25 min. (TESC, 16mm)

*Human Remains*, Jay Rosenblatt, US, 1998, 30 min. 16mm

*The Dead Weight of a Quarrel Hangs*, Walid Ra'ad, US/Lebanon, 1999, 17 min.

*Rock Hudson's Home Movies*, Mark Rappaport, US

### **Autobiography/Essayistic:**

*Fireworks*, Kenneth Anger, USA, 1947, 15 min.

*Scorpio Rising*, Kenneth Anger, US, 1963, 29 min. (TESC, VHS)

*By Brakhage, An Anthology*, Criterion Collection 2003 (DVD compilation of 26 films)

*The Perfumed Nightmare*, Kidlat Tahimik, 1976 (TESC, VHS)

*American Dreams*, James Benning, US, 1984, 58 min.

*I Don't Know What it is I am Like*, Bill Viola, 1986, 89 min. (TESC, VHS)

*A Family Gathering*, Lise Yasui, 1989, 60 min. (TESC, VHS)

### **Observational Cinema:**

Frederick Wiseman Films (TESC): *Titicut Follies*, *High School*, *High School II*, *Hospital*, *Model*, *Welfare*, *Domestic Violence*

Maysles Brothers Films, *Rolling Stones Gimme Shelter*, *Christo in Paris* (TESC, VHS) *Salesman*  
*Triumph of the Will*, Leni Riefenstahl, 1935, 120 min. (TESC, VHS + DVD)