

DOCUMENTARY

PROJECTS

PROTOCOL

2015

1ST

SEMESTER

INTRODUCTION

The Documentary Projects will allow students to engage the creative process in a way few other literature course projects can do. Students have the opportunity to collaborate with a group of peers in engaging the themes explored in the literary works of this course and make a documentary with the theme of their choice.

A variety of creative opportunities will be available to allow them full expression of their take on important issues, their technical skills and artistic sensibilities. Although the process is collaborative, the students will be graded for their contributions to the team effort. Resources and materials to be used in this project fall under the students' purview. Three projects will have a value of 100 points each.

STAGES

The projects will be:

1. Writing a documentary screenplay
2. Production shooting

These stages will be explained in the classroom and a reasonable amount of time will be provided for each, mostly under the teacher's supervision. The class will be divided into teams where the student themselves will determine, with the help of the team leader and the consensus of the team, the role they will assume during the documentary's production. The final edit's length will be 10 minutes (including the credits) and will be turned in during the second semester of this school year.

DOCUMENTARY
SCREENPLAY

Students will collaborate with their team peers in writing a screen play by choosing a subject matter from the list below and turning in a fully formatted screenplay on October 17, 2014. This project has a 100 points value. Strict adherence to this protocol is required.

1. Script must be a professionally formatted (Courier New font, size 10, double spaced, etc.) ten page screenplay authored by all team members.
2. The team leader will furnish a sheet outlining what each team member contributed to the script's creation
3. Scripts must be shootable.
4. In keeping with proper societal standards; scripts with nudity, language, sexual content, or strong violence are prohibited.

P
R
O
D
U
C
T
I
O
N

Students will collaborate with their team peers in adapting the script they wrote by filming at least 80% of the footage and turning it in on December 5, 2014. This project has a 100 points value. Strict adherence to this protocol is required.

The intention of this project is to assess student's ability to faithfully translate the written contents of the script into a visual medium using any or all tools available to them and the ability to complete a project with specific parameters. Cinematography, acting, editing skills, however used, will not be evaluated at this stage. The project should be a no or low-budget film.

S
H
O
O
T
I
N
G

- Students will use any type of recording device to shoot their documentary.
- Allowed video formats include: .avi, .mov, .mp4, .mpg, .wmv, and MKV.

1. The teams must use any other time available to work on the project to guarantee delivery of the project on its due date.
2. All members of the team must have specific responsibilities for which they will receive credit (e.g. director, editor, grip, etc.). OMS* are forbidden!
3. Parental assistance, while welcome, must be limited to a provider and/or advisor role!
4. Again the team leader will furnish an outline of what each team member contributed to the project.
5. Digital copies only must be turned in.

*OMS- One Man Shows

E
V
A
L
U
A
T
I
O
N

C
R
I
T
E
R
I
A

Students will earn points for:

- Group dynamics
- Commitment to their team's effort
- Skill level as reflected in the final product
- Level of organization as logged in the evaluation forms and reflected in the final product (responsibility)
- Faithfulness to the source material (reflecting comprehension)
- Level of excellence and artistry in putting the product together
- Quality of the screenplay (only when applicable)

E
X
C
E
P
T
I
O
N
S

The only acceptable excuses for not turning in the work on the scheduled days are the illness of the student or an immediate family member, and real family emergencies in which case a medical or written parental excuse must be furnished in order to get the opportunity to give the project. Failure to meet these criteria will result in a zero (0) grade. The teacher reserves the right to reject frivolous excuses and/or attempts to circumvent this rule. Although "special" circumstances may arise, rules are meant to be followed, not broken.

As Puerto Rican U.S. citizens we are more than capable of engaging these topics, since all of them affect us on a daily basis. Chose one of the following:

- The evil of Colonialism
- The U.S. Constitution
- The Bill of Rights
- Nature as a friend/enemy
- Religious/Political fanaticism
- Affirmative action
- Immigration
- Racism

- Learning truth through intuition
- The shortcomings of the human race
- Society and the tenements
- The impact of technology
- The fast food industry