Course Number: Comm-4311_001
Course Title: Documentary Film
Credit Hours: 3 Semester: Spring 2012
Time/Location: Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. BH ****

Instructor: Edward R. Tyndall
Office: 327 Bay Hall
Office Hours: Tues and Thurs 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. and Wed 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Email: edward.tyndall@tamucc.edu Phone: 361-825-2296


REQUIRED MATERIALS:
None

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:
Historical and Critical Study of the non-fiction film with attention to changing technologies, to varying uses and styles of documentary, and to contemporary and theoretical issues.

PRE/COREQUISITES:
None

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
- Recognize and identify key films and filmmakers in the development of documentary.
- Describe the techniques and principals that define various documentary approaches.
- Explain the connections between major styles and movements in documentary and their technological and social contexts.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TURNED IN ON THE ASSIGNED DATE:
No late assignments will be accepted. Assignments turned in after the due date will receive a zero. Incomplete assignments will be graded as is. No exceptions other than for family tragedy or medical emergencies (w/ documentation). No incompletes will be given for this course.

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE:
Students are expected to know and abide by the TAMU-CC Academic Honor Code.
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Strict attendance is required. There are no “excused” absences other than medical emergencies for which a physician’s care is required and that can be documented in writing or validated by the University Health Center. Such documentation or validation must be at the student’s initiative. All documentation must be submitted within one week (seven days) after you return to class.

After the second (2nd) absence (excluding documented, medical emergencies as just noted), the course grade will be reduced by one-third of a letter grade (3.33 points on a 100-point scale) for each absence. After the fifth (5th) unexcused absence, the student will be given a failing grade in the course. Tardiness or early departure from the class will be considered an absence unless the instructor has been informed and has approved, in writing, of mitigating circumstances.

DROPPING A CLASS:
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

NOTICE TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC ADVISING:
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair.
The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

**GRADE APPEAL PROCESS:**
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**GRADING:**
20% Test 1
20% Test 2
20% Screening Journals/ Group Discussion
20% Group Presentation
20% Final Exam

**GRADING SCALE:**
100 – 90 = A
89.99 – 80 = B
79.99 – 70 = C
69.99 – 60 = D
59.99 – 0 = F

**TOPICAL OUTLINE:**

January 12th --- Class introduction
Assignment --- Get Textbook

January 17th --- Lecture 1

January 19th --- Screening 1

January 24th --- Small Group Discussion

January 26th --- Lecture 2
Due --- Screening Journal 1
January 31st --- Screening 2

February 2nd --- Small Group Discussion

February 7th --- Lecture 3
Due --- Screening Journal 2

February 9th --- Screening 3

February 14th --- Small Group Discussion

February 16th --- Lecture 4
Due --- Screening Journal 3

February 21st --- Screening 4

February 23rd --- Small Group Discussion

February 28th --- Test 1 (Chapters/Screenings 1,2,3,4)
Due --- Screening Journal 4

March 1st --- Lecture 5

March 6th --- Screening 5

March 8th --- Small Group Discussion

March 13th --- No Class Spring Break

March 15th --- No Class Spring Break

March 20th --- Lecture 6
Due --- Screening Journal 5

March 22nd --- Screening 6

March 27th --- Small Group Discussion

March 29th --- Lecture 7
Due --- Screening Journal 6

April 3rd --- Screening 7

April 5th --- Small Group Discussion
April 10th --- Lecture 8
Due --- Screening Journal 7

April 12th --- Screening 8

April 17th --- Small Group Discussion

April 19th --- Test 2 (Chapters/Screenings 5,6,7,8)
Due --- Screening Journal 8

April 24th --- Prep Day Group Presentations

April 26th --- Group Presentations (Groups 1,2,3,4)

May 1st --- Group Presentations (Groups 5,6,7)

TBA --- Final Exam: