

TV Journalism

Introduction

The course is based on basic principles of media production in which can be applied to different aspects of audiovisual media production (news/documentary/features programming etc). This a practical module, based on current industry practice and the course aim is to equip the students with basic practical skills to approach the production of a short factual item for broadcast television.

Aims

This module aims to enable the student to:

- Conceive, produce and deliver to schedule an edited video documentary
- Acquire specialised knowledge of the use of video production equipment
- Develop conceptual skills in the initiation and planning of documentary making

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- Produce a 3 minutes item that demonstrates an understanding of the basic skills involved in putting together an item for television.
- Demonstrate understanding of the production process and of the stages in overview of how productions work.
- Generate ideas and research for different types of television production and become familiar with ways to organise content and contacts
- Identify and apply different television production techniques
- Develop programme ideas from proposal to treatment level.
- Develop interview techniques for television
- Demonstrate knowledge of basic camera and sound operations
- Demonstrate knowledge of editing software and the editorial skills necessary to tell a story for television.

Indicative Module Content

Production process: Breakdown in stages of production. The Team - Roles and responsibilities. Ideas generation.

Ideas development and Research: Preparation of proposals. Proposal development 'cheat sheets'. Organisation of work and paperwork. Analysis of transmission schedule: Beginning at the end. Research: sources, annotations and fact checking. Research: facts, figures, people, places. Programme contributors: who and why? Types of programming (overview with emphasis on location shooting). Ways of coming up with programme ideas.

Programme elements: Basic illustration and viewing of different approaches to tv production with emphasis on documentary style and reporting . Issues of style and techniques. Preparation of treatments. Visualising sequences & story boards. Issues of copyright & permissions

Camera and sound operations workshops: Shoot preparation. Interview techniques: Location shooting issues: Crew, equipment, recce, permissions, call sheets and releases. Scheduling and maximising resources. Team forming: roles and functions

Editing workshop : Review of footage from shoots that have already taken place. Legal and copyright issues with practical exercise highlighting common issues encountered in tv production. Requirement for legal expertise (knowing what you don't know!)