Documentary Journalism, Fall 2018
Wednesday, 4:30-7:00 p.m.
Weinstein 418
Robert Hodierne, instructor
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In this class we are going to produce 15-30 minute documentaries of such quality that they can be competitive in film festivals or be aired on the local PBS station. This class will be divided into teams. Each team will act as a production team with different students performing different functions on the film. Each team will produce one 15-minute film. The first task in the semester will be to pick topics for the films. Each student is responsible for pitching a fully developed idea the first day of class.

A word of caution: The workload in this class tends to be light early in the semester and quite heavy towards the end. Plan accordingly.

Early in the semester you will learn to use the Sony PMW-EX1 camera and/or the Canon C100. Both are broadcast-quality, HD cameras. Also early in the semester we will have a lighting lab in which you will learn the basics of three-point lighting for interviews.

Texts:
None

Attendance:
In many ways this class will be more like a seminar than a regular class. But you must attend each class. Class discussion will be a major component of this class.

Grades:
Unless it is obvious that some team member has not pulled his or her weight, each team will be graded as a whole. Filmmaking is a collaborative effort. Learning to work as a team is a major part of this class.

Screening:
Our goal is to have a public screening of the finished films on Friday, Dec. 5, the last day of classes.