

## **MIRA COSTA MEDIA ARTS**

### **Cinematic Arts 2-4**

#### **Project: Documentary Mobile Video series**

80 points

As we have seen with student and professional work, documentary film is a way for you examine compelling people and situations, but also to provoke thought and evoke emotion. This project is a way for you to hone your skills telling non-fiction stories with cinematography and imagery rather than dialogue or narration. Think of each of these projects as a brief portrait or snapshot rather than a comprehensive documentary. There are three projects that will be completed for each of the next three weeks. The due date and themes are listed below.

#### **Friday, Sept. 11 (20 pts)**

Theme: Show a process

This project will explore some kind of process, from beginning to end. Processes can be long or short, but be sure to show all steps of the process clearly, and those involved in the process.

Emphasis on using cinematography for visual evidence (to explain something)

#### **Friday, Sept. 18 (20 pts)**

Theme: Document an event

This project will document a local event. This could include a high school sports game; daily lunch at school; a concert, etc.

Emphasis on using cinematography for visual metaphor

#### **Friday, Sept. 25 (20 pts)**

Theme: Document a ritual

Rituals are repeated routines that people use to help them in life or work. These often include use of certain objects and take place in specific places. Rather than focus on traditional or religious rituals, consider small ones that athletes or superstitious people use in everyday life.

Use cinematography for both visual evidence and metaphor.

**On the final week (Sept 25),** you will assemble the three videos in a Storehouse story, with text and additional images that comment on and amplify the concepts within each of your videos. Share the link to your Storehouse on the Facebook group. **(20 pts)**

## **REQUIREMENTS**

The projects will:

- Be based on and inspired by the themes for each week.
- be 30-60 seconds in length (each)
- edited and include natural sound (NATS) only (no music, foley or FX)
- include a title and credits

## **GRADING**

Grades will be based on:

- meeting the above requirements
- effectiveness of visual imagery to convey ideas, emotion and information.
- technical proficiency
- docs are organized with a coherent story structure
- docs show characters and conflict

## TIPS

- Research your topic first to acquaint yourself with important details and to know in advance what will happen when so that you're prepared to get good shots.
- Write an outline of how you envision your final, edited documentary.
- Create a shot list.