



Course Description for Film Studies Minor-Paper 5

Name of the institute: Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts

Course name: Film Studies Minor Paper 5-Documentary Cinema

(UG/ PG): UG, semester 6

No. Of credits: 4 (60 hours)

Level: 3

Course Description:

The Students revisit the issue of ‘Realism’, and understand how the history of documentary cinema is all about questions discussed in the second semester. Students go through the history of cinema to see that right from the days of the birth of cinema, filmmakers have created nonfiction and fictional films. They look at actuality footage, newsreels and war footages, and understand how while recording the present moment, cinema becomes the source of history. Three diverse topics—History, Politics and Aesthetics— are covered under this topic.

One of the most important objective of this paper is to make the student interpret the world in a more aware manner. It chooses to aim at making the student more conscious of History—as it unfolds in the day to day life, in the background of national and global histories. Another objective of the course is to illustrate knowledge of the global history of documentary and nonfiction films.

Documentary filmmakers taught in this paper are: Bert Haanstra, Robert Wiseman, Werner Herzog, Amar Kanwar, Arghya Basu, etc.

