

COURSE SYLLABUS FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES

Name of the course	Field of study and its code	Faculty
Documentary Film Theory and Research	Communication and information S 008	Communication

Study method	Number of credits ECTS	Study method	Number of credits ECTS
Lectures		Consultations	2 ECTS
Individual work	5 ECTS	Seminars	

Course abstract
<p>The subject is intended to analyze current issues in documentary film theory, developed in late 20th and early 21st century film and media studies, which have seen a steady increase in attention to documentary film and other non-fiction media, such as radio documentaries, serious games, citizen audiovisual media, home cinema, and other personal audiovisual content circulating in the media ecosystem.</p> <p>It encourages analysis of the relationship between documentary cinema and journalism, political communication, environmental communication, and fictional media; delve into the informational, educational, entertainment, collective memory creation, advocacy, and other functions of documentary media; gain a thorough understanding of documentary film and media theory and operationalize it in empirical research.</p> <p>Study methods: Selected individually during consultations with the lecturers supervising the subject, taking into account the topic and needs of the doctoral student's dissertation.</p> <p>Assessment methods: Oral discussion based on scientific work according to questions formulated by the lecturers.</p> <p>NOTE: The list of literature to be studied is compiled by the lecturers supervising the subject for each doctoral student individually, taking into account the topic and needs of the dissertation.</p>
Course literature
Bondebjerg, I. (2014). <i>Engaging with reality: Documentary and globalization</i> . Intellect.
Bruzzi, S. (2006). <i>New documentary</i> . Routledge.
Chapman, J. (2009). <i>Issues in contemporary documentary</i> . Polity Press.
De Jong, W., Knudsen, E., & Rothwell, J. (Red.). (2012). <i>Creative documentary</i> . Pearson Education Limited.
Hughes, H. (2014). <i>Green documentary: Environmental documentary in the 21st century</i> . Intellect.
Nichols, B. (2001). <i>Introduction to documentary</i> . Indiana University Press.
Plantinga, C. R. (2010). <i>Rhetoric and representation in nonfiction film</i> . Chappbook Press.

Rascaroli, L. (2009). <i>The personal camera: Subjective cinema and the essay film</i> . Wallflower Press.
Rascaroli, L. (2017). <i>How the essay film thinks</i> . Oxford University Press.
Rezkova, T. (2024). <i>European radio documentary: A history of the format and its festivals</i> . Palgrave Macmillan Cham.
Rushton, R. (2011). <i>The reality of film: Theories of filmic reality</i> . Manchester University Press.
Willoquet-Maricondi, P. (2010). <i>Framing the world: Explorations in ecocriticism and film</i> . University of Virginia Press.

Name of consulting lecturer	Academic rank	Major works published in the last 5 years
Renata Šukaitytė-Coenen (coordinating lecturer)	Assoc. Prof. Dr	Šukaitytė, R. (2025). Mantas Kvedaravičius's Mariupolis (2016) and Šarūnas Bartas's Frost (2017): Soft advocacy for the Ukrainians in the Russo-Ukrainian War. <i>Studies in Eastern European Cinema</i> , 16(2), 164–183. https://doi.org/10.1080/2040350X.2024.2412387
		Šukaitytė, R. (2024). Kino raštingumas – kritiniam pasaulio ir jo įvairovės pažinimui. Iš A. Balčytienė (Sud. & Moksl. red.). <i>Artimas tolimes medijų pasaulis. Virsmas, ribos ir būdai tai suprasti: kolektyvinė monografija</i> . Vytauto Didžiojo universitetas.
		Šukaitytė, R. (2024). The immersive experience of the era of nuclear energy in Emilija Škarnulytė's ecodocumentary Burial (2022) = Įtraukianti branduolinės energetikos eros patirtis Emilijos Škarnulytės ekodokumentiniame filme Kapinynas (2022). <i>Acta Academiae Artium Vilnensis: The Personal Perspective and Essay Form in Non-Fiction Cinema and Art</i> , 115. https://doi.org/10.37522/aaav.115.2024.269
		Nāripea, E., Šukaitytė, R., & Balčus, Z. (2022). Economic and social precarity in Baltic cinema. Iš E. Cuter, G. Kirsten, & H. Prenzel (Red.). <i>Precarity in European film: Depictions and discourses</i> (p. 289–302). De Gruyter. https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110707816-016 .
		Šukaitytė, R. (2021). Contemporary Lithuanian documentary cinema: A critical overview of main film directions. <i>Apertūra</i> .

		<p><i>Film-Vizualitās-Elmélet</i>, 17(1), 1–23. https://doi.org/10.31176/apertura.2021.17.1.9</p> <p>Šukaitytė, R. (2021). Istorija Lietuvos režisierių moterų dokumentiniuose filmuose: faktai, emocijos, asmeninė perspektyva. Iš N. Arlauskaitė & L. Kaminskaitė (Sud.). <i>Fokuse: moterys Lietuvos kine</i> (p. 188–213). Lapas.</p>
Rūta Kupetytė	Assoc. Prof. Dr	<p>Kupetytė, R. (2025). Radio Vilnius propaganda in the press of Lithuanian Americans, 1948–1965: Between opposition and longing for Lithuanian music. <i>Lituanus</i>, 71(3), 31–48.</p> <p>Jastramskis, D., Plepytė-Davidavičienė, G., & Kupetytė, R. (2025). The role of organisational factors and working conditions for the autonomy of journalists in an unstable economy. <i>Journalism Studies</i>, 26(2), 258–277. https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2024.2420204</p> <p>Jastramskis, D. (Red.), Plepytė-Davidavičienė, G., Kupetytė, R., & Gečienė-Janulionė, I. (2024). <i>Žurnalistika Lietuvoje: žurnalistų laisvė, saugumas ir įtakos: monografija</i>. Vilniaus universiteto leidykla.</p> <p>Kupetytė, R. (2024). Receiving and circulating propaganda of Radio Vilnius in the press of Lithuanian Americans during the Cold War. <i>Lituanus</i>, 70(1), 17–38.</p> <p>Kupetytė, R. (2022). Diskurso analitinis požiūris propagandos tyrime: pusiau sisteminė literatūros apžvalga. <i>Filosofija. Sociologija</i>, 33(4), 351–360. https://doi.org/10.6001/fil-soc.v33i4.4841</p> <p>Kupetytė, R. (2022). Diskurso analizė taikant Stuardo Hallo „Kodavimo / dekodavimo“ modelį. <i>Logos</i>, 112, 216–222. https://doi.org/10.24101/logos.2022.64</p> <p>Kupetytė, R. (2021). The transformation of radio journalists' strategies in the Soviet Lithuania. <i>Styles of Communication</i>, 13(1), 60–75. https://doi.org/10.31178/SC.13.1.03</p>
Renata Stonytė	Asst. Prof. Dr	<p>Stonytė, R. (2024). Politinis lūžis ukrainiečių dokumentiniuose filmuose. <i>Meno istorijos</i></p>

		<p><i>studijos</i>, 16, 119–138. https://doi.org/10.53631/MIS/2024.16.6</p>
		<p>Kelpšienė, I., Armakauskaitė, D., Denisenko, V., Kirtiklis, K., Laužikas, R., Stonytė, R., Murinienė, L., & Dallas, K. (2023). Difficult heritage on social network sites: An integrative review. <i>New Media & Society</i>, 25(11), 3137–3164. https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448221122186</p>
		<p>Stonytė, R. (2020). Kino kronika Lietuvoje (1988–1991): atmintis, tauta ir politikos kaita. Iš <i>Politinis lūžis ekrane: (po)komunistinė transformacija Lietuvos televizijoje, dokumentiniame kine ir videokronikoje</i>. Vilniaus universiteto leidykla.</p>

Approved by the Doctoral Committee of the field of Communication and Information of the Social Sciences area on 15 December 2025, minutes of the meeting No (7.17 E) 15600-KT-667

Chair of the Committee Prof. Dr Aušra Navickienė