

Project Proposal

Centre name and number	Cirencester College 57010
Student name and number	Lara Suzanne McEvoy 319311
Project proposal title and date	Behind the Curtain – 24 th May 2024
Main area of activity/pathway, (e.g. film, TV, games design, app design)	Moving Image – TV and Film (Documentary)
Section 1: Rationale (approx. 150 words)	<p>When I started this course, I had no knowledge or skills for media production but through undertaking the last 12 units I have been able to learn and improve. I started the course learning the basics on how to use a camera, tripod, sound recorder etc. giving me the baseline understanding I would need. As the units went on, I have been able to adapt my skills and learn more, giving myself time to practice, with the hope unit 13 is the best piece of media I am going to produce.</p> <p>Specifically in year 2 (Unit 9), I had the opportunity to work with a local dance school and create an advert for them, which meant I had to produce a high-quality piece of media as it was for a real-world client, something I really enjoyed doing.</p> <p>As the local dance school was one that I attend myself, I knew that after the Christmas holidays they would be starting the rehearsals for the Easter show so had the idea to create some behind the scenes content or a documentary for the show. Realistically an audio-visual documentary is the best format of media to use, also it will allow me to utilise more of the skills I have learnt and prepare me for my future as I would like to go into the Television industry to produce Documentaries.</p>
Section 2: Project concept (approx. 200 words)	<p>The concept for this project is to create a documentary which follows 1-3 pupils of the Sally Prout School of Dancing throughout the dance show, mainly the dress rehearsal and the three shows. To produce this consent is one of the major issues I am going to face as there are only 3 pupils at the dance school who are 18 or over. From this I am going to do research into consent and how I can work around this, so I can avoid having to blur pupils faces. To support this idea, looking into other documentaries in the style I am thinking of will help, such as Cheer on Netflix, as well as how to film it. I am hoping to produce a high-quality documentary, using multi-cam interviews, archive footage etc. putting documentary conventions into use. As I haven't created a documentary before, I will research into how to film a documentary so I can work out how to film a documentary well. The interviews are the main area where I want the production values to be high because I want them to be just as visually engaging as the rest of the footage.</p> <p>Tutorial feedback is going to be very useful because I will be able to develop my work further, listening to my tutor's feedback will give me a chance to see areas that are weaker and need to be built up more. Peer feedback will also aid this as I can see what they think is working, and</p>

	<p>similarly work on areas which may be weaker. This may also allow me to find areas of research that I haven't undertaken, which need to be, so that I can ensure my idea is well developed and informed.</p>
Section 3: Evaluation (approx. 150 words)	<p>Throughout Unit 13, I'll maintain a weekly journal to reflect on my progress and assess successes and challenges. These journals will serve as evidence, indicating personal reflections. I will give a running commentary, highlighted by pink boxes, providing insight into decision-making processes. Evaluations will be analytical, aiming for a deeper understanding of my choices rather than mere description.</p> <p>During production, I plan to collaborate with a crew to ensure continuity, especially when I'm unavailable due to my role in the show. This teamwork will alleviate stress about obtaining necessary footage.</p> <p>Finally, I'll conclude the project with a final evaluation, addressing key questions to thoroughly analyse the impact of my work, both positively and negatively. This will offer valuable insights into my growth and the effectiveness of my work. By documenting my journey in this detail, I aim to not only demonstrate my progress but also to cultivate a habit of critical self-reflection, which will benefit my future endeavours.</p>

Action Plan/Timetable -

Date and Week	Activity	Resources	Amendments – done , working on , not done
Week 3: 19 th Feb – 23 rd Feb	<p>Proposal Meeting</p> <p>Start research stage –</p> <p>Primary Research:</p> <p>Create an initial survey for general idea feedback, allow time for responses.</p> <p>Secondary research – looking into existing examples of documentary, how to film a documentary, consent issues, documentary scripts, lighting in interviews (3-point lighting), conventions/theories</p>	<p>Proposal</p> <p>Note pad</p> <p>Computer</p> <p>Internet – Social Media</p> <p>My SSD</p>	<p>Completed –</p> <p>Codes and conventions research</p> <p>Documentary specific codes + conventions</p> <p>Critical analysis of existing example</p>
Week 4: 26 th Feb – 1 st March	<p>Continue secondary research.</p> <p>Primary research:</p> <p>Practical research (practicing with camera, sound, lighting)</p> <p>Survey analysis – looking into the general answers given and analysing them to inform my work.</p> <p>Complete research – go through and check everything is on my website and linked up correctly.</p>	<p>Computer</p> <p>Internet</p> <p>WIX</p> <p>Unit 13 Brief</p> <p>Camera</p> <p>Tripod</p> <p>Lighting</p> <p>Sound recording equipment.</p> <p>My SSD</p>	<p>Completed –</p> <p>Interview styles research</p> <p>Second existing examples</p> <p>Journal up to date</p>
Week 5: 4 th March – 8 th March	<p>Pre-production work starts –</p> <p>Creative + consent</p> <p>Consent forms</p> <p>Style sheets</p> <p>Storyboards</p> <p>Shooting Script</p> <p>Documentary script</p> <p>Visual scripts</p>	<p>Computer</p> <p>Drawing tablet</p> <p>My SSD</p>	<p>Completed -</p> <p>Audience research – survey analysis</p> <p>Audience theories</p> <p>How to create a short documentary</p>
Week 6: 11 th March – 15 th March	<p>Pre-production work continued –</p> <p>Logistical + consent</p> <p>Schedule (pre, prod and post)</p> <p>Risk Assessment</p> <p>Location Assessment</p> <p>Call sheet/sheets</p> <p>Resource list</p>	<p>Computer</p> <p>My SSD</p>	<p>Completed –</p> <p>Consent</p> <p>risk + location assessments</p> <p>Call Sheets</p> <p>Resource list</p> <p>Production schedules</p> <p>Todo –</p> <p>Correspondence</p> <p>Post prod schedules</p> <p>Documentary script</p> <p>Storyboards</p>

Week 7: 18 th March – 22 nd March	Contingency Week – catch up with any work that's behind	Any required equipment	Completed: Correspondence Schedules Scripts
Week 8: 25 th March – 29 th March	<p>Production week/logging – show footage + start recording interviews</p> <p>25th – dress rehearsal recording (all day) 26th – morning: logging footage from dress rehearsal – evening: show 1 recording 27th – morning: logging footage – evening: show 2 recording 28th – morning: logging footage – evening: show 3 recording 29th – morning: logging footage -evening: interview 1 pupil</p> <p>Sound will be recorded through a mic on top of camera.</p>	Camera Tripod Microphone (radio mic) SD card SD card reader Questions (for interview) Phone Computer My SSD Documentary location Contributors	Completed: Filmed all show footage needed Todo: Log all footage
Week 9: 1 st April – 5 th April	<p>Production week 2: interviews</p> <p>Complete filming of all interviews needed</p> <p>Record sound for Interviews</p> <p>Log the footage</p> <p>Write up production page for website</p>	Camera Tripod Microphone (radio mic) SD card SD card reader Questions (for interview) Phone Computer My SSD WIX Documentary locations Contributors	Completed: Filmed all interviews Required Pre-prod work Caught up on putting pre-prod work onto website Todo: Journal catch up Log
Week 10: 8 th April – 12 th April	<p>Begin post-production:</p> <p>Finish logging if uncompleted</p> <p>Start rough cut, put footage into the timeline in the order I want to but don't worry about fancy editing yet</p>	Computer My SSD SD card SD card reader Adobe Premier Pro Adobe After Effects	Completed: Journal catch up Production Day write ups Todo: Continue rough cut
Week 11: 15 th – 19 th April	<p>Continue post-production</p> <p>Work on rough cut, aim to have this done by the end of the week if not then 22nd April</p> <p>Sound post-production</p>	Computer My SSD SD card SD card reader Adobe Premier Pro Adobe After Effects	Completed: Continued post-production Todo: Complete full rough cut one
Week 12: 22 nd April – 26 th April	<p>Continue with post-production</p> <p>Finish rough cut 1</p> <p>Have tutor watch through and get their thoughts, as well as peers</p>	Computer My SSD SD card SD card reader Adobe Premier Pro Adobe After Effects	Todo: Complete second rough cut with b-roll Completed: Had tutor watch work as far as

			I have gotten
Week 13: 29 th April – 3 rd May	<p>Finish post-production stage</p> <p>Write up postproduction page for website</p> <p>Get peoples opinions on it – create a survey and put onto Instagram/other social media platforms</p>	Computer My SSD SD card SD card reader Adobe Premier Pro Adobe After Effects WIX	Todo: Complete second rough cut Continue problem solving Completed: Finished editing + write up
Week 14: 6 th May – 10 th May	<p>Put final edit onto website</p> <p>Make sure everything is on website and that all buttons work</p> <p>Start preparing for end of year show</p>	Computer My SSD Any other required equipment	Completed: Put editing onto website Completed problem solving Got food for end of year show Todo: Start evaluation Create presentation for LO6 Start distribution strategies
Week 15: 13 th May – 17 th May	<p>Prepare for end of year show</p> <p>15th May – end of year show takes place</p> <p>Start evaluations on the 16th May</p>	Any required equipment	Completed: Did the end of year show Created lo6 presentation Started evaluation Distribution strategies Todo: Evaluation End of year show write up Do final meeting
Week 16: 20 th May – 24 th May Final deadline	<p>Finish final evaluations</p> <p>Do final checks on website to ensure everything is working, have someone else check it as well</p> <p>Hand in FMP 2</p> <p>Attend final evaluation meeting – 22/5/24</p>	Computer My SSD Any required equipment	Completed: Evaluation End of year show write up Final meeting

Proposed research sources and bibliography	<p>Secondary Research -</p> <p>Nichols, B. (2001). <i>Introduction to Documentary</i>.</p> <p>www.youtube.com. (n.d.). <i>You Can Make a Netflix Style Doco About Literally Anything</i>. [online] Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BUrNe3Vhtk&t=48s [Accessed 16 Feb. 2024].</p> <p>www.youtube.com. (n.d.). <i>How To Interview BETTER: Documentary, Podcast, & Corporate</i>. [online] Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KF8BI27EnI.</p>
--	---

Cheer. (2020). [Documentary].

www.adobe.com. (n.d.). *Creative documentary filmmaking techniques - Adobe*. [online] Available at: <https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/video/hub/ideas/top-documentary-filmmaking-techniques.html>.

Pedersen, L. (2022). *Question of Consent Is Key When Shooting Documentaries About Traumatic Situations*. [online] Variety. Available at:

<https://variety.com/2022/film/global/trauma-documentary-cphdox-1235218644/>.

Desktop-Documentaries.com. (n.d.). *Do you need consent for people in the background?* [online] Available at: <https://www.desktop-documentaries.com/do-you-need-consent-for-people-in-the-background.html> [Accessed 16 Feb. 2024].

Anon, (n.d.). *How to Light an Interview. An Academy Tutorial – Stillmotion Blog*. [online] Available at: <https://www.stillmotionblog.com/howtolightaninterview/#:~:text=You%20want%20to%20balance%20your>

https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/7469/what_to_consider_when_filming_people.pdf

Become better creators — together. (2022). *Interview Lighting | 6 Tips to Nail Your Setup* | Wedio. [online] Available at: <https://academy.wedio.com/uk/interview-lighting-2/>.

Documentary Site (2020). *Documentary Conventions*. [online] Documentary Site. Available at: <https://www.documentarysite.com/2020/02/01/documentary-conventions/>.

media.edusites.co.uk. (n.d.). *Edusites GCSE & A Level Media Studies Resources*. [online] Available at: <https://media.edusites.co.uk/article/documentary-codes-conventions>.

Alice in Wonderland. (2022). [DVD].

Peter Pan. (2018). [DVD].

Wizard of Oz. (2016). [DVD].

The Magic Castle. (2014). [DVD].

Sleeping Beauty. (2012). [DVD].
The Sally Prout School of Dancing 25th Anniversary Show. (2010). [DVD].

Primary Research –

Audience survey

Actual Research –

19/02/24

- Documentary Site (2020). *Documentary Conventions*. [online] Documentary Site. Available at: <https://www.documentarysite.com/2020/02/01/documentary-conventions/>.
- Dunderpedia: The Office Wiki. (n.d.). *Talking head*. [online] Available at: https://theoffice.fandom.com/wiki/Talking_head [Accessed 19 Feb. 2024].
- media.edusites.co.uk. (n.d.). *Edusites GCSE & A Level Media Studies Resources*. [online] Available at: <https://media.edusites.co.uk/article/documentary-codes-conventions>.
- media-studies.tki.org.nz. (n.d.). *Codes and conventions / Media concepts / Teaching media studies / Home - Media Studies Private Community*. [online] Available at: <https://media-studies.tki.org.nz/Teaching-media-studies/Media-concepts/Codes-and-conventions#:~:text=Codes%20can%20be%20divided%20into>.
- Meyer, J. (2022). *The Office's Talking Head Scenes Were Hiding A Subtle Hint About Its Characters*. [online] SlashFilm. Available at: <https://www.slashfilm.com/957496/the-offices-talking-head-scenes-were-hiding-a-subtle-hint-about-its-characters> [Accessed 19 Feb. 2024].
- O'Neill, A. (2021). *RECONSTRUCTING SCENES FOR 'THE RESCUE' BY ROGER DENGATE - CONSTRUCTION MANAGER*. [online] British Film Designers Guild. Available at: <https://britishfilmdesigners.com/reconstructing-scenes-for-the-rescue-by-roger-dengate-construction-manager/>.
- theasc.com. (n.d.). *The Rescue: Heroic Extraction - The American*

Society of Cinematographers (en-US). [online] Available at: <https://theasc.com/articles/the-rescue-heroic-extraction> [Accessed 19 Feb. 2024].

- Young, R. (2017). *Media Codes and Conventions*. [online] media.codes. Available at: <https://media.codes/media-codes-and-conventions-c03423c06aa8>.

20/2/24 – 21/2/24

- Nichols, B. (2001). *Introduction to Documentary*. Third ed. pp.132–137.
- Nichols, B. (2001). *Introduction to Documentary*. Third ed. pp.125–131.
- Nichols, B. (2001). *Introduction to Documentary*. Third ed. pp.107.]

23/2/24

- Lacey, N. (2000). *Narrative and Genre Key Concepts in Media Studies*. pp.23–37.
- Macgregor, H., Hayward, F. and Wright, P. (2016). *Dancing the Nutcracker: Inside the Royal Ballet*. [online] IMDb. Available at: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt6363740/> [Accessed 21 Oct. 2023].
- ondisneyplus.disney.com. (n.d.). On Pointe. [online] Available at: <https://ondisneyplus.disney.com/show/on-pointe> [Accessed 23 Feb. 2024].

27/2/24

- Bone, M. (2022). *Every Interview Style Explained (A documentary masterclass)*. [online] www.youtube.com. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4E5DkR87SwI>.
- E.T, P. (2021). *You Can Make a Netflix Style Doco About Literally Anything*. YouTube. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BUrNe3Vhtk>.
- Factual America Podcast. (n.d.). *Documentary Interview Styles: Exploring Techniques and Approaches*. [online] Available at: <https://www.factualamerica.com/filmmaking/documentary-interview-styles>.
- Napoleon Creative. (n.d.). *Interview Filming Styles - To Camera &*

Off Camera Interviews. [online] Available at: <https://napoleoncreative.com/portfolio/interview-filming-styles/>.

- Solberg, S. (n.d.). *7 Steps to shooting cinematic interviews.* [online] www.docfilmacademy.com. Available at: <https://www.docfilmacademy.com/blog/7-Steps-to-shooting-cinematic-interviews>.
- www.laivideo.com. (n.d.). *Blog: 4 Video Interview Styles / LAI Video.* [online] Available at: <https://www.laivideo.com/blog/4-video-interview-styles>.
- www.youtube.com. (n.d.). *DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING: Interview Styles and Fundamentals.* [online] Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1N-Yf2p5C9U&t=12s> [Accessed 27 Feb. 2024].
- www.youtube.com. (n.d.). *How to Shoot a Cinematic Documentary Interview.* [online] Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-z8iQ8sQMQ> [Accessed 27 Feb. 2024].

1/3/24

- Bedard, M. (2020). *Rembrandt Lighting Anyone Can Do.* [online] StudioBinder. Available at: <https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/rembrandt-lighting-photography/>.
- Lannom, S. (2020). *Three-Point Lighting: Key, Fill & Rim Lighting.* [online] StudioBinder. Available at: <https://www.studiobinder.com/blog/three-point-lighting-setup/>.
- Primary Research - Practical interview lighting practice

3/3/24

- Primary Research - Practical interview test shoot

4/3/24

- Desktop-Documentaries.com. (2008). *What is a Mini Documentary and How Do You Make One?* [online] Available at: <https://www.desktop-documentaries.com/mini-documentary.html>.
- Desktop-Documentaries.com. (n.d.). *Audio Basics For*

Documentary Filmmaking. [online] Available at: <https://www.desktop-documentaries.com/audio-basics.html>.

- Documentary Film Cameras. (2018). *What does a documentary script look like? How to write a script for a documentary film - Documentary Film Cameras.* [online] Available at: <https://documentarycameras.com/how-to-write-a-documentary-film-script/>.
- Maher, M. (2016). *9 Helpful Audio Tricks for Recording Documentary Interviews.* [online] The Beat: A Blog by PremiumBeat. Available at: <https://www.premiumbeat.com/blog/9-helpful-audio-tricks-for-recording-documentary-interviews/>.

7/3/24

- Primary research audience survey, social media survey

8/3/24

- BBC (2019). *Target audience - Revision 1 - GCSE Media Studies - BBC Bitesize.* [online] BBC Bitesize. Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zy24p39/revision/1>.
- BBC Bitesize. (2019). *Audience appeal - Revision 3 - GCSE Media Studies - BBC Bitesize.* [online] Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zg24frd/revision/3>.
- Media Studies (2020). *Uses and Gratifications Theory | Media Studies Guide.* [online] Media Studies. Available at: <https://media-studies.com/uses-gratifications/>.
- Media Studies. (2021). *Audience Engagement Theory and the Modes of Consumption.* [online] Available at: <https://media-studies.com/audience-engagement-theory/>.
- Media Studies. (2021). *Psychographics Definition and Examples | Audience Theory.* [online] Available at: <https://media-studies.com/psychographics/>.
- media-studies (2021). *Demographics Definition and Examples | Audience Theory.* [online] Media Studies. Available at: <https://media-studies.com/demographics/>.
- Revision World (2019). *Reception Theory - Media Studies - Revision World.* [online] Revisionworld.com. Available at: <https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/media-studies->

[level-revision/reception-theory.](#)