

SCREEN STUDIES

Subject Guide – Documentary film and television

This Subject Guide brings together key content from collections across Screen Studies, including *Bloomsbury and Faber Screenplays and Criticism*, *BFI Film Classics*, *BFI Film Studies*, *BFI TV Studies*, *Global Film and Media*, *Filmmaking*, *Television Histories and Industries* and *Television Genres, Form and Aesthetics* to provide a guide to resources for the study, teaching and research of documentary film and television.

General documentary film and television

eBooks

- Winston, B. , Vanstone, G. , & Chi, W. (2017). *The Act of Documenting: Documentary Film in the 21st Century*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501309205>
- Jacobs, S. , Cleppe, B. , & Latsis, D. (Ed.). (2020). *Art in the Cinema: The Mid-century Art Documentary*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781350160323>
- Winston, B. (2008). *Claiming the Real II: Documentary: Grierson and Beyond*. London: British Film Institute.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710040>
- Formenti, C. (2022). *The Classical Animated Documentary and Its Contemporary Evolution*. London: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501346491>
- Becker, M.W. (2021). *Creating Reality in Factual Television: The Frankenbite and Other Fakes*. Abingdon, Oxon: Taylor & Francis Group.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781003038030>
- Jermyn, D. (2006). *Crime Watching: Investigating Real Crime TV*. London: I.B. Tauris (UK). <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9780755695836>
- Winston, B. (Ed.). (2013). *The Documentary Film Book*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710507>
- Jolliffe, G. , & Zinnes, A. (2012). *The Documentary Filmmakers Handbook*. New York: Continuum. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501340475>
- Trump, M. (2019). *The Documentary Filmmaker's Roadmap: A Practical Guide to Planning, Production and Distribution*. New York: Routledge.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781315114873>

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- Ellis, J. (2012). Documentary: Witness and Self-revelation. Oxon: Taylor & Francis Group. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9780203808467>
- Druick, Z. , & Williams, D. (Ed.). (2014). The Grierson Effect: Tracing Documentary's International Movement. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710378>
- Cousins, M. , & Macdonald, K. (Ed.). (1996). Imagining Reality: The Faber Book of Documentary. London: Faber & Faber. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9780571343232>
- Fox, N. (2024). Music Films: Documentaries, Concert Films and Other Cinematic Representations of Popular Music. London: The British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781839023477>
- McLane, B.A. (2012). A New History of Documentary Film. New York: Continuum. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501340222>
- Waldron, D. (2018). New Nonfiction Film: Art, Poetics, and Documentary Theory. New York: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501322518>
- Billinge, S. (2017). The Practical Guide to Documentary Editing: Techniques for TV and Film. New York: Routledge. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781315233123>
- Hill, A. (Ed.). (2007). Restyling Factual TV: Audiences and news, documentary and reality genres. Abingdon: Taylor & Francis Group. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9780203099735>
- Pramaggiore, M., & Honess Roe, A. (Eds.). (2018). Vocal Projections : Voices in Documentary. Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501331282>

Case studies

eBooks

- Grant, B.K. , & Hillier, J. (2009). 100 Documentary Films: BFI Screen Guides. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710606>
- Swimmer, J. (2015). Documentary Case Studies: Behind the Scenes of the Greatest (True) Stories Ever Told. New York: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501300349>

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- Sharp, I.S. (2022). *Esfir Shub: Pioneer of Documentary Filmmaking*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501376474>
- Meneghetti, M. (2021). *Martin Scorsese's Documentary Histories: Migrations, Movies, Music*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781501336904>
- Pollacchi, E. (2021). *Wang Bing's Filmmaking of the China Dream: Narratives, Witnesses, and Marginal Spaces*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9789048561803>
- Downing, T. (2012). *The World at War*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781839028687>
- Russell, P. (2007). *100 British Documentaries: BFI Screen Guides*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710583>

Chapters

- O'Rawe, D. (2022). *Chaos ex machina: The Art of Jean Tinguely and the Documentary Image*. In T. Trifonova (Ed.). *Screening the Art World* (pp. 115–132). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561889&tocid=b-9789048561889-chapter6>
- Harvey, J. (2023). *Memory-images: Catharsis, Embodiment and the Aesthetics of Remembrance*. In John Akomfrah (pp. 79–102). London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781839023255&tocid=b-9781839023255-chapter3>
- Pollacchi, E. (2021). *History in the Making: The Debut Epic Tiexi qu: West of the Tracks*. In Wang Bing's *Filmmaking of the China Dream: Narratives, Witnesses, and Marginal Spaces* (pp. 63–86). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561803&tocid=b-9789048561803-chapter2>

BFI Film Classics

- Tyree, J.M. (2012). *Salesman*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781838713515>
- Winston, B. (2019). *Fires Were Started –*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781838712525>
- Tinkcom, M. (2011). *Grey Gardens*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781838713430>

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- Anthony, S. (2007). *Night Mail*. London: British Film Institute.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781838713201>
- Vice, S. (2011). *Shoah*. London: British Film Institute.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/monograph?docid=b-9781838713409>

Political documentary and activism

eBooks

- Cuklanz, L.M. , & McIntosh, H. (Ed.). (2015). *Documenting Gendered Violence: Representations, Collaborations, and Movements*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501304521>
- Winn, J.E. (2012). *Documenting Racism: African Americans in U.S. Department of Agriculture Documentaries, 1921–42*. New York: Continuum.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781628928679>
- Duvall, J.A. (2017). *The Environmental Documentary: Cinema Activism in the 21st Century*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501300370>
- Chanan, M. (2007). *The Politics of Documentary*. London: British Film Institute.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838711054>

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- Steimatsky, N. (2019). *Documentary Poetics as a Field of Action: Cecilia Mangini's Essere donne*. In I. Margulies & J. Szaniawski (Ed.). *On Women's Films: Across Worlds and Generations* (pp. 105–124). London: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781501332470&tocid=b-9781501332470-chapter5>
- Aguilera Skvirsky, S. (2019). *On Talking Heads and Las muertes chiquitas*. In I. Margulies & J. Szaniawski (Ed.). *On Women's Films: Across Worlds and Generations* (pp. 125–146). London: Bloomsbury Academic.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781501332470&tocid=b-9781501332470-chapter6>
- DeRoo, R. (2019). *Agnès Varda and Ydessa: Engaging Personal and Cultural Histories*. In I. Margulies & J. Szaniawski (Ed.). *On Women's Films: Across Worlds and Generations* (pp. 147–161). London: Bloomsbury Academic
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781501332470&tocid=b-9781501332470-chapter7>
- Ma, J. (2019). *Peace and Love, True and False: Agnès Varda in Los Angeles*. In I. Margulies & J. Szaniawski (Ed.). *On Women's Films: Across Worlds and Generations*

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(pp. 162–180). London: Bloomsbury Academic.

<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781501332470&tocid=b-9781501332470-chapter8>

- Marshall, E. (2022). Virtual Reality and Immersive Representation in Recent Refugee Narratives. In D. Bayrakdar & R. Burgoyne (Ed.). *Refugees and Migrants in Contemporary Film, Art and Media* (pp. 129–148). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561872&tocid=b-9789048561872-chapter6>
- Kara, S. (2022). Across the Sonorous Desert: Sounding Migration in El Mar la Mar. In D. Bayrakdar & R. Burgoyne (Ed.). *Refugees and Migrants in Contemporary Film, Art and Media* (pp. 89–106). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561872&tocid=b-9789048561872-chapter4>

Historical documentary

eBooks

- Prager, B. (2015). *After the Fact: The Holocaust in 21st Century Documentary Film*. New York: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781501304446>
- Dinç, E. (2020). *Atatürk on Screen: Documentary Film and the Making of a Leader*. London: I.B. Tauris. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9780755602056>
- Murray Levine, A.J. (2010). *Framing the Nation: Documentary Film in Interwar France*. New York: Continuum. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781628928723>
- Russell, P. , & Taylor, J.P. (Ed.). (2010). *Shadows of Progress: Documentary Film in Post-War Britain*. London: British Film Institute. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781838710361>

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- Kerner, A. (2011). Holocaust Documentaries I: Telling It Like It Really Was. In *Film and the Holocaust: New Perspectives on Dramas, Documentaries, and Experimental Films* (pp. 177–194). New York: Continuum. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781628928716&tocid=b-9781628928716-chapter10>
- Kerner, A. (2011). Holocaust Documentaries II: Testimonials. In *Film and the Holocaust: New Perspectives on Dramas, Documentaries, and Experimental Films*

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(pp. 195–210). New York: Continuum.

<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781628928716&tocid=b-9781628928716-chapter11>

- Kerner, A. (2011). Holocaust Documentaries III: Personal Documentaries. In *Film and the Holocaust: New Perspectives on Dramas, Documentaries, and Experimental Films* (pp. 211–224). New York: Continuum.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9781628928716&tocid=b-9781628928716-chapter12>
- Kerner, A. (2011). Holocaust Documentaries IV: The Poetic Documentary. In *Film and the Holocaust: New Perspectives on Dramas, Documentaries, and Experimental Films* (pp. 225–242). New York: Continuum.
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- Pitassio, F. (2019). Lies of Memory: Post-war Culture, Remembrance, and Documentary Filmmaking. In *Neorealist Film Culture 1945-1954: Rome, Open Cinema* (pp. 141–208). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
<https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561537&tocid=b-9789048561537-chapter2>

Articles

- Gordon, M. (2019). The American World War II Film. In *Screen Studies Articles*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/article?docid=b-9781350996328&tocid=b-9781350996328-005>

American Documentary

Articles

- Charbonneau, S. (2018). American Documentary to 1960. In *Screen Studies Articles*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/article?docid=b-9781350962224&tocid=b-9781350962224-008>
- Fallon, K. (2019). Contemporary American Documentary. In *Screen Studies Articles*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. <https://www.screenstudies.com/article?docid=b-9781350996328&tocid=b-9781350996328-003>

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World documentary

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- Chu, Y. (2007). *Chinese Documentaries: From dogma to polyphony*. Oxon: Taylor & Francis Group. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9780203099674>
- Wessels, J. (2019). *Documenting Syria: Film-making, Video Activism and Revolution*. London: I.B. Tauris. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9781788316156>
- Pollacchi, E. (2021). *Wang Bing's Filmmaking of the China Dream: Narratives, Witnesses, and Marginal Spaces*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia?docid=b-9789048561803>

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- McKenna, A. (2022). *China's Van Goghs: Documentary Production, International Taste, and Artistic Labor*. In T. Trifonova (Ed.). *Screening the Art World* (pp. 133–146). Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. <https://www.screenstudies.com/encyclopedia-chapter?docid=b-9789048561889&tocid=b-9789048561889-chapter7>

Further Viewing in Bloomsbury Video Library

- IvetteLocker. *VISIONARY - Documentaries: Contemporary Short Documentaries from Austria*. https://www.bloomsburyvideolibrary.com/video?docid=IN-VisDoc&tocid=IN-VisDoc_63151392691122009
 - This video is one of two compilations of substantial Austrian experimental and documentary films. The works range from subjective to rigidly structural documentary approaches, from abstract music videos and conceptual architectural studies to elaborate computer animations.
- MerrillBrockway. *Maysles Brothers: Direct Cinema*. https://www.bloomsburyvideolibrary.com/video?docid=CAT-May&tocid=CAT-May_63122342981121969
 - Writer-editor Jack Kroll interviews filmmakers Albert and David Maysles in 1969 about what they called at that time a "new technique of natural movie making, Direct Cinema".
- Creative Arts Television. *Four Hours a Year: The Making of *The March of Time**. https://www.bloomsburyvideolibrary.com/video?docid=CAT-Four&tocid=CAT-Four_63122601261121974

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The March of Time newsreel series covered the news for motion picture audiences before television, 1935 to 1951.

This documentary features interviews with its creative team of Louis de Rochemont, producer, Maury Wiseman, film editor, Jack Glen, director, Lothar Wolff, editor.