

## WHO IS IT FOR?

This documentary workshop is for students who already have some foundation of the four basic areas of digital filmmaking: camera, lighting, sound and editing. However, beginners can be trained as well by attending a separate video basics workshop which would include:

DVD camcorder operation and aesthetics, simple effective lighting techniques, getting good audio on location, do's and don'ts in the interview process, must haves for the shoot, the secrets to handheld camera success, trouble shooting, beginning FCP editing, titles/filters/effects, narration and sound effects.

Email for individual digital media training and project consultation: [wendy@cinemagicprod.com](mailto:wendy@cinemagicprod.com)

## CLASS DESCRIPTION

The goal is to plan and shoot one short documentary project to demonstrate student understanding of their acquired skills, within a documentary context. Working in small crews, students develop documentary techniques, aesthetic sense and point of view toward the material. By the beginning of their second week, they will have filmed the footage required to begin and complete the editing process of their first documentary.



## COURSE BREAKDOWN

### WEEK ONE:

Students familiarize themselves with the role of the interview in documentary and learn to plan, shoot and conduct a variety of interview styles. They practice handheld camera framing and movement and learn to cover simple live action as well as more complex scenes. The emphasis is on the ability to shoot from different angles of the action in order to facilitate editing. After pitching and doing preproduction for their final documentary, students begin shooting on Friday.

### WEEK TWO:

Shooting continues through Tuesday morning when rushes are screened. The instructor looks at assembled scenes as students work their way through the rough cut. During this directed edit lab, students assemble their footage and fine-tune it into a final version using Final Cut Pro software. This week concludes with a class screening and critique of the edited films.

## LOCATIONS

### 2-WEEK WORKSHOPS:

CENTER FOR DIGITAL IMAGING ARTS at  
BOSTON UNIVERSITY

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street NW, Washington, DC  
20007

1-800-808-CDIA | [www.cdiabu.com](http://www.cdiabu.com)

### 1-WEEK WORKSHOPS:

VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP

31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607

1-585-442-8676 | [www.vsw.org](http://www.vsw.org)

## TESTIMONIALS

### MAYCO, STUDENT AT CDIA

Wendy is the greatest teacher I've had so far. We should really have her again through out the year. She has such an amazing way of teaching and I really felt that I learned A LOT from Wendy. Definitely one of the greatest weeks at CDIA so far.

### RONA, GRADUATE STUDENT, VSW

...she inspires her students to fall in love with film and discover themselves through the medium. I was amazed at the amount of information and knowledge that Dr. Smith had and was willing to share with her class. There are few times in a student's life when an extraordinary teacher comes along to inspire the student to achieve what the student herself doesn't know she is capable of achieving. Dr. Wendy Smith is such a teacher.

### FOREST, GRADUATE STUDENT, VSW

One of the things I appreciated most about Wendy's teaching method was her blend of technique and aesthetics. Wendy was expert at instigating stimulating discussions about the nature and art of documentaries, as well as giving concrete advice on such topics as camera work, workflow and editing. I really learned a lot in a very short period of time.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

[wendysmith.com/doc-workshops](http://wendysmith.com/doc-workshops)  
[wendy@wendysmith.com](mailto:wendy@wendysmith.com)

# WENDY SMITH, PHD

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Experienced teacher and training specialist of film/video production, history, and critical studies; designed curricula for classroom and laboratory settings.
- Ability to motivate students outside their comfort zone. History of outstanding student rapport. Able to organize and clarify large amounts of information for students.
- Strong research and writing background, specializing in documentary film, anthropology, and new technologies.
- Successful grant writing experience.
- Freelances in video, Qigong and writing with accompanying websites. Produces films, documentary videos and training DVDs ranging from corporate to academic.

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Documentary Film Studies, summa cum laude, University of Paris X, Nanterre, France, 1986

M.S., Television/Film/Radio, Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, 1996

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Academic:

Since 1995 has taught at a variety of New York State colleges - SUNY Brockport (Digital media, Ethnographic Film), Nazareth College (Digital Video/Audio Production and Broadcast Scriptwriting), Rochester Institute of Technology (Ethnographic Film and Film Production), St John Fisher College (Women and Film, Documentary Topics), Monroe Community College (Digital Video and Audio), Syracuse University, Newhouse School of Communication (Film and Video trainer).

### Video and Documentary Workshops:

- Center for Digital Imaging Arts (CDIA) at Boston University, Washington, DC, 2008.
- Visual Studies Workshop, Rochester, NY, 1998-2000, 2002-2008.
- Aesthetic Education Institute, Rochester, NY, 2000.
- Rochester Community Television Inc., Rochester, NY, 1999.
- St. John Fisher College, University of Rochester, and Nazareth College, Rochester, NY, Presentations 1999-2000.

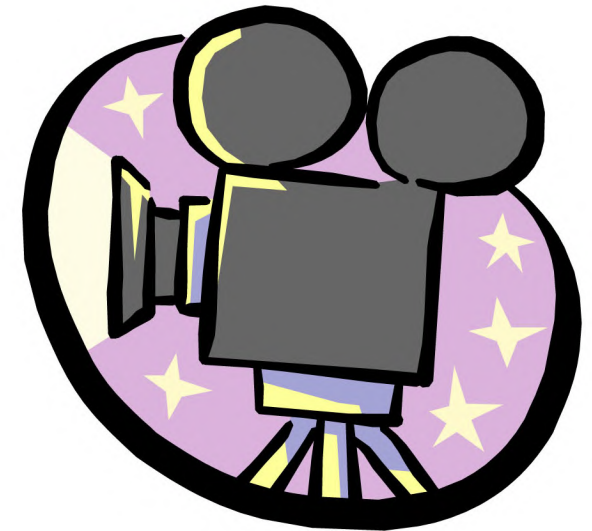
## VIDEOS/PRODUCTION WORK

For complete festival, screening list and production experience, go to:

<http://wendysmith.com/filmography>

# Learn to make DOCUMENTARY

# FILMS



with Wendy Smith

[wendy@wendysmith.com](mailto:wendy@wendysmith.com)