



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION

NHMJ 208: Documentary and Video Production

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

MAY/JUNE 2026

LECTURER: MR. W. MUKONO

DURATION: OPEN

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper contains **ONE** section (Section A).
2. Video Camera, Laptop, Microphone, Audio Recorder and Flash Stick
3. Answer **ONE (1) question**.
4. Submit soft copies on a flash stick for the television production project as well as the script.
5. Credit will be awarded for legible, logical, systematic, and neat presentation.
6. Do not repeat material.

INSTRUCTION: *Answer Question 1.*

Question 1

1. You are required to conceptualise, produce and submit a 10–15-minute documentary film on a contemporary socio-economic, cultural, environmental or governance issue affecting your community. Your documentary must demonstrate professional journalistic standards in research, storytelling, visual composition, ethics and technical production.

a) Pre-Production (30 Marks)

Submit a production file containing:

- i. Documentary Proposal (10 Marks)
 - Working title
 - Central theme
 - Logline (1-2 sentences)
 - Rationale (Why this story matters)
 - Target audience
 - Documentary mode (e.g., observational, participatory, expository, reflexive)
- ii. Research Portfolio (10 Marks)
 - Background research
 - At least 3 credible sources (academic, government, NGO, expert interviews)
 - Ethical considerations
- iii. Production Planning (10 Marks)
 - Script outline or treatment
 - Interview guide/questions
 - Shot list
 - Production schedule

b) Production (40 Marks)

Produce a 10–15-minute documentary that includes:

- Minimum of 3 on-camera interviews
- Relevant B-roll footage
- Cutaways
- Proper framing and composition
- Clear and balanced audio
- Appropriate lighting

- Evidence of continuity and visual storytelling

Technical Requirements

- Full HD (1080p preferred)
- Clean audio (external microphone recommended)
- Stable shots (tripod or stabilizer)
- Proper lower thirds for interviewees
- Opening title and end credits

c) Post-Production (20 Marks)

Demonstrate:

- Logical narrative structure
- Smooth editing transitions
- Sound mixing and leveling
- Appropriate background music
- Subtitles where necessary

d) Reflective Report (10 Marks)

Submit a word reflection covering:

- Challenges faced
- Ethical dilemmas encountered
- Lessons learned
- Audience impact intention
- How the documentary aligns with journalistic principles.

Suggested Themes (Optional)

- Youth and employment in Zimbabwe
- Informal sector survival strategies
- Women in small-scale mining
- Digital activism among university students
- Drug abuse in urban communities
- Cultural heritage preservation

END OF PAPER
