Mabel Chau

Professor Marianna Trofimova

COMD 1112 – Digital Media Foundation

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Professor Trofimova gave us information about Kanopy through City Tech. Citytech.kanopy.com is a streaming movie website which gives students access to 26000+ films, including documentaries and indie films. To access the site, you need to have your CUNY empl ID, which is on your student ID card. You can also use your ID card to use City Tech Library services.

We critiqued the storyboard assignment. I created a storyboard about roasting tomatoes but I'm going to have to do some revisions. My storyboard had too much repetition and not enough information. I'm glad we went over the assignment because I've never made a storyboard before and didn't understand how to follow the storyboard process. Now I have a much clearer understanding of the process.

We went over Cinema Verite. The film making assignment will be following this format. Cinema Verite was created by the French in the 1960's. Cinema Verite emphasized day-to-day living and real life conversations in films. Cinema Verite falls into the documentary filmmaking category.

During class, we watched some examples of Cinema Verite. We watched "the Queen of Versailles Trailer" which is about an obscenely rich couple who build a gigantic mansion and have extravagant parties. We watched "One Child Nation" which was narrated by a Chinese woman who discussed how China had a "one-child" policy, how that policy affected the Chinese nation and individual families. We also saw "Diana – the Royal Truth" which was told from the point of view of Queen Elizabeth's servant. The other short films we were shown were "How we hide our feelings" and "Honey Land".

The class ended a bit earlier today because Professor Trofimova's son was coming to visit. She had to pick him up from the airport. It gave us extra time to start our assignment. Our assignment for the week is to write a paragraph about the film you're going to make. We have to write a page on today's class discussion. If you need to revise your photo storyboard, then make your revisions. You have to do an interview with the protagonist in your film. I'm not sure how I'll be able to complete the assignment because I don't live with anyone, except my dog. I'm going to email Professor Trofimova and see what she recommends.