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|  | **The Art of the Radio Documentary** (N. Fitzgerald) **6 weeks** |
| ***Track 2: Engineering is Creating Compelling Narratives***  ***Phase 2: The Art of the Radio Documentary*** | **“I prefer radio to TV because the pictures are better.”** — Alistair Cooke  What do fossil-hunting, the shipping forecast, the search for cosmic dust, WWE wrestling, the infinite scroll function, and Herman Melville’s *Moby Dick* have in common? They have all been topics of radio documentaries. A radio documentary is a spoken word radio format devoted to nonfiction narrative.  In this 6-week module, you will read and listen to a diverse range of radio documentaries that open up hidden worlds through audio beauty and joy, human experience and emotion. By exploring this genre, you will interrogate a range of narrative approaches in order to have a better understanding of how this form can be a creative laboratory for your own narrative audio experiments. |
| ***Milestone*** | * **Read and criticise** essay techniques and narrative structures, and **engage** your audience * **Apply** the same techniques and structures **in a written discursive essay that you record as a radio documentary** |
| ***Language skills sought*** | * You will **explore different narrative approaches** (in media res, alinear, etc.) and develop your writing skills in terms of **structure** * You will **develop** your ability to **engage audiences** with **longer-form content** * You will hone your **speaking skills** in terms of **stress, emphasis** and **tone** |
| ***Activities and Learning Styles*** | Students will hone their online and library research skills, pooling ideas and resources in brainstorming sessions, gathering and selecting evidence to support their arguments.   * Short in-class listening tasks * Group discussions, brainstorming * Short timed presentations * Pair work for for a range of narrative skills * Radio Documentary writing, recording and editing task |
| ***Application and assessment*** | * Learn to **read critically** and **think critically** * Engage in **critical discussions** * Acquire new **narrative techniques** to write more creatively * **Research**, **write**, **edit** and **present** a radio documentary |
| ***Evaluation of Performance: What the student is expected to do to show acquisition of language skills.*** | * **Participation** in weekly class readings + discussion tasks **(20%)** * **Documentary Writing and Recording Task (marked)** **(80%)** |
| ***Resources*** | * BBC Radio 4 *Seriously…* * BBC Radio 4 *Illuminated* * BBC Radio 3 *The Essay* |