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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 CookeWhat 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**
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| ***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**
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| ***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
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| ***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
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| ***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%)**
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| ***Resources*** | * BBC Radio 4 *Seriously…*
* BBC Radio 4 *Illuminated*
* BBC Radio 3 *The Essay*
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