

VIS 175 EDITING: THEORY AND PRODUCTION | SPRING 2017

Documentary Workshop

Background:

The sub-prime mortgage crisis and subsequent global recession of 2008 hit particularly hard in the American southwest. In El Centro, California, on record in 2009 as having the highest unemployment rate in the nation, one encounters the spectacle of unfinished and abandoned subdivisions in a cultural climate of 30%+ unemployment.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Recession

Do:

For this assignment you have been given interviews and mostly landscape-based B-Roll shot in El Centro in the summer of 2009. Considering that background above, construct a cohesive narrative from the interviews provided. The narrative may stray from this premise, if there are other themes that you take from the footage. It may require additional exposition, such as a voice over, inter-titles, etc. You may need to acquire additional footage / images to splice in at key points in your narrative. There is not necessarily a cohesion between the subjects. It is your job, as editor, to construct this.

Creative treatments are encouraged (Ironic treatments are discouraged, although not forbidden). Maybe there is no cut aways to talking heads, maybe this a trailer for a longer piece, etc . . . The only rule is that it must include sound bytes from interviewees and must make use of at least 3 B-Roll shots.

Suggested workflow:

- Scrub footage, take notes on B-Roll, create "selects" sequences for interviewees. -cut a topical narrative from "selects" sequences
- splice in B-Roll
- Develop and splice-in additional exposition (inter-titles, etc.)
- refine

DUE:

We will begin working on Wednesday, April 26 during class. Work must be completed for Monday, May 8. (Week 6). Export a .mov or .mp4 file to review during class on that day (do not upload).