

Postgraduate Arts Program 2022 | Master of Arts

## MA in Documentary Film



### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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### DOCUMENTARY FILM

The first film ever made was a documentary. Since then, the practice of filmmaking, and of documentary film in particular, has undergone a huge transformation. New technologies have made way for different stories and unheard voices to emerge and together they have evolved into a variety of forms, styles and genres that allow for highly individualized ways of seeing and showing reality. The techniques of filmmaking can be employed creatively to tell stories about real people, places and events that critically reflect the world we live in. Social, political and cultural contexts can be engaged with through research processes that enable personal voices and positions to emerge.

### NAVIGATE | NEGOTIATE | NURTURE

The Postgraduate Programs at Srishti Manipal are designed with the overarching theme of **Engage and Experience** through which each student embarks on a journey that is creative and well supported.

All programs have three driving lenses - **Navigate, Negotiate and Nurture**.

Students are expected to:

**Navigate** this program through self directed inquiries that are conducted either on campus and in studios, or in the field.

**Negotiate** their learning through a choice-based system that includes a choice made through learning units offered in the Learning Hub and/or Writing Centre.

**Nurture** their enquiries through a mentor-led program that gives them a chance for building a portfolio of transdisciplinary projects, wherein they can hone their skills and generate capabilities that foster deeper understandings developed in real-world or imaginary contexts.

Applicants to these programs of study must be capable of independent study and research, and appreciate a studio-based learning culture.

CURRICULAR COMPONENTS	SEMESTER
Studio, Workshop	1, 2, 3
Seminar, Colloquium	1, 2, 3
Project, Transdisciplinary Research, Practicum	1, 2, 3
Independent Study	1, 2, 3
Internship, Work Experience	2, 3
Culminating Performances of Understanding	1, 2, 3, 4
Interlude	2
Self Directed Inquiry, Portfolio	1, 2, 3
Capstone	4
Conference	4

**ELIGIBILITY**

Published on the admissions page of the Srishti Manipal website.

**MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION**

English (All our transactions and transcripts will be in English)

**DURATION**

4 semesters/2 years (Must be completed within 4 years from the start of the course of study)

**DESCRIPTION OF CURRICULUM COMPONENTS**

**STUDIOS** encourage active, contextual learning where students develop core disciplinary skills and knowledge. Studios facilitate collaborative and creative design solutions to complex, open-ended problems. Disciplinary studios are learning spaces where students develop core disciplinary capabilities, while navigating a trans-disciplinary environment.

**WORKSHOPS** provide intense learning experiences in making and doing, across the different disciplines.

**SEMINARS** are spaces for investigating a particular idea, topic, praxis, etc. by discussion and/or dialogue, and may also involve critiques, pin-ups, presentations, etc. of either works-in-progress or completed works for feedback.

**SELF DIRECTED INQUIRY** is continuous through each semester and allows articulation of personal lines of inquiry through the term. This culminates each semester in a performance of understanding that allows for the demonstration of this continuous engagement in inquiry or design.

**INTERNSHIP/WORK EXPERIENCE** involves working in an industry or a design studio/artist or art studio for a prescribed period of time.

**CAPSTONE** is the culmination of the research, capabilities and knowledge gained over the last three semesters. Students are required to submit their design output and a mandated thesis document. Students are mentored during this final project and go through seminars to get feedback from faculty and peer groups.

**INDEPENDENT STUDY** is self-led and enables the pursuit of deeper understanding as a supplement to taught units.

**TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH** facilitates collaborative and creative design solutions to complex, open-ended problems in specific contexts. It provides intense research experiences in making and doing, across the different disciplines through Centres, Labs and Ateliers.

**PORTFOLIO** involves the development of a reflective and curated body of work, which represents professional practice over a time period that is cumulative from semester to semester and is evidence of practice, research and inquiry.

**INTERLUDE** or the in-between is an experimental space for pause, reflection, discussion, and an active, performative engagement. The vision is to create a space that lies in the intersection between academic learning and the commons, where diverse modalities are encouraged.

**PROJECTS** facilitate collaborative and creative design solutions to complex, open-ended problems in specific contexts. They provide intense learning experiences in making and doing.

**PRACTICUMS** are designed to provide students with practical work experience. Practicums can also open many opportunities to network and make important contacts within the industry or expertise in the field.

**COLLOQUIUM** is an informal meeting or seminar which is usually of an industry/academic nature where different researchers/scholars/experts disseminate their 'works' and invite questions.

**FIELD WORK/PRACTICE** involves experiential, embodied engagements including those in the workplace. Practice includes self-study and reflective documentation (for example, journaling and maintaining reflective blogs).



*Images courtesy Srishti Institute of Art, Design & Technology*

**UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE GRADUATES WILL HAVE DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING CAPABILITIES:**

- » Using camera/sound as a tool of enquiry.
- » Employing a range of research methods in generating insights and formulating positions.
- » Understanding subjectivity and objectivity.
- » Understanding and constructing narrative towards impactful storytelling.
- » Using the possibilities of the filmmaking process in making decisions in planned and unplanned situations.
- » Experimenting with technique, form and material.
- » Conceptualising and producing a short documentary film independently.

The Postgraduate Arts Program is an inquiry led learning process that offers engagements through a Learning Hub (disciplinary units shown below) as well as projects, practice and transdisciplinary research. **The Learning Hub also offers choices for allied and electives from across the Master of Arts Program as published in the respective course prospectus.** The Writing Centre enables critical and creative expression across programs in reflective documentation, artist's journaling, proposal and thesis writing, and research.

## CURRICULUM COMPONENTS

(This list may be amended and is listed here as indicative of the program of study)

### SEMESTER 1 – ODD

#### THE LEARNING HUB

(Disciplinary Studies)

##### Studio

SMDO515	Understanding Film Technique
SMAN509	Image Making - Media and Methods
SMAN513	Mediums of Expression - 1
SMES509	Creative Research Practices

##### Seminar (Studio)

SMDO501	Understanding Film Language
SMAN503	Visual Language

##### Seminar (Theory & Understanding)

SMDO545	Ways of Seeing 1
SMII583	History of Narrative – Art

##### Knowledge Enhancement (Ability or Skills) Workshop

SMDO531	Working with Sound 1
SMES515	Primer on Field Work
SMVC525	Illustration: Form, Technique and Communication

**DISCIPLINARY PROJECT  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH  
INDEPENDENT STUDY  
INTERNSHIP  
PRACTICUM  
SELF DIRECTED INQUIRY  
PORTFOLIO**

### SEMESTER 2 – EVEN

#### INTERLUDE

Open Elective

#### THE LEARNING HUB

(Disciplinary Studies)

##### Studio

SMDO506	Narrative Form
SMDO510	Talking to People 2
SMII546	Emerging Research Methods

##### Seminar (Theory and Understanding)

SMDO534	Objectivity, Subjectivity, Ethics
SMOH508	Oral History and Oral Traditions
SMTC514	Democracy & Technology
SMVC508	Modern Visual Culture

##### Knowledge Enhancement (Ability or Skills) Workshops

SMDO528	Working with Camera 2
SMAN532	Experimental Animation
SMPH516	Winter School in Oral History

**DISCIPLINARY PROJECT  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH  
INDEPENDENT STUDY  
INTERNSHIP  
PRACTICUM  
SELF DIRECTED INQUIRY  
PORTFOLIO  
COLLOQUIUM**

### SEMESTER 3 – ODD

#### THE LEARNING HUB

(Disciplinary Studies)

##### Studio

SMDO511	Identity: Locating the Self
SMDO527	Concept to Proposal

##### Seminar (Theory & Understanding)

SMDO543	Understanding Context
SMII5169	History of Narrative – Technology

##### Knowledge Enhancement (Ability or Skills) Workshop

SMDO537	Working with Archival Material
SMPH515	Talking Histories
SMOH507	Archiving Oral History

**DISCIPLINARY PROJECT  
TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH  
INDEPENDENT STUDY  
INTERNSHIP  
PRACTICUM  
SELF DIRECTED INQUIRY  
PORTFOLIO**

### SEMESTER 4 – EVEN

#### CAPSTONE: RESEARCH PROPOSAL CAPSTONE



#### For more information on the programs and courses

[www.srishtimanipalinstitute.in](http://www.srishtimanipalinstitute.in)

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