



Rebecca Zinner

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Education

M.F.A. Interdisciplinary Documentary Media Practices
University of Colorado Boulder, 2015-2018
Graduate Endorsement in Jewish Studies
Certificate in College Teaching, Graduate Teaching Program
(pending)

Departmental Nominations and Awards

2017 Flaherty Seminar Fellow

2017 Student Member of Departmental Admissions Committee

B.A. Philosophy, Film & Media Studies Minor
Franklin & Marshall College, 2006-2009

Teaching Experience

Media Technology Boot Camp

Department of Journalism

University of Colorado Boulder

This graduate level course introduces students in the Journalism Department to a variety of modes of media making including still photography, digital video, audio, and data visualization and discusses the merits of incorporating such tools in a journalistic practice. As the instructor of record for this class I provided hands-on demonstrations for equipment and post-production software, lead group discussions and critiques, assisted students through troubleshooting as needed, provided individual feedback on production exercises, and evaluated assignments.

Creative Media Making

Department of Critical Media Practices

University of Colorado Boulder

A course designed to encourage personal reflection of students' creative practice through the completion of a substantial creative project in a medium(s) and on a topic of their choice. As the instructor of record for this class, I deliver lectures pertaining to different facets of the creative process, lead class discussions and critiques, and coach students throughout the creation of their final project. I provide personalized feedback and materials relevant to each students' production and research interests.

Introduction to Media Practices
Department of Critical Media Practices
University of Colorado Boulder

This course introduces students to multiple modes of media production including audio, still photography, immersive technologies (with an emphasis on 360° imagery and virtual reality), and digital video. As the instructor of record for this class, I provide technical overviews of all equipment and editing programs, hands-on demonstrations, and coaching throughout the creation of students' short projects. I also provide curated readings for each module and lead discussions analyzing a selection of contemporary documentary short films throughout the semester.

Exploring Culture and Gender Through Film
Anthropology/Department of Critical Media Practices
University of Colorado Boulder

This class introduced students to anthropological concepts and looked to a curated selection of films to evaluate the interpretations (or misinterpretations) of these concepts in documentary and narrative contexts. As a teaching assistant for this course, I designed and led classes to supplement the main lecture. In these sessions, I taught practical filmmaking skills in support of production-based assignments including technical overviews, interview practices, and approaches to conveying information visually. Additionally, I graded assignments and provided one-on-one assistance with analytical papers.

Concepts and Creativity 1: Media, Communication, Information
College of Media, Communication, and Information Core Class
University of Colorado Boulder

This class provided an introduction to key principles of interpersonal and mass communication, rhetoric and argumentation, and language and meaning. For this course, I designed and led weekly recitation sessions in which students would discuss contemporary social issues (such as institutional racism and police violence, rape culture and sexual assault, etc.) while applying the concepts of communication theory emphasized in this class. I also graded assignments and assisted students one-on-one with written research projects.

Introduction to Contemporary Media Cultures
Department of Critical Media Practices
University of Colorado Boulder

This course served as a primer for media literacy, introducing key critical concepts while exploring the use of media in a variety of contexts and allowing students to create their own media projects. For this course, I designed and taught recitation sessions that would touch on both practical production skills and theoretical concepts. The class offered an introduction to media theory and opportunities to create unique projects, such as a locative media app that would play site-specific audio files.

**Selected
Artistic Works**

Untitled Medical Bias Project (Feature Documentary, Pre-Production)

Medicine is a science, but its application frequently is not. This project explores how unconscious bias impacts medical care and disproportionately harms women, people of color, and people who speak English as a second language.

2018 Mimesis Masterclass: Getting the Green (Light)

2018 Sundance Collab Documentary Film Workshop

Ethical Suspension (10 minutes, 2020, 360° Video for Head-Mounted Display)

Co-Directed with Amy Richman.

An immersive documentary video intended to echo the feeling of quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic which depicts scenes of various locations frequented while being able to maintain social distancing guidelines.

2020 COVID-19 Works Projects Grant, City of Boulder Office of Arts and Culture

Welcome Home (14 minutes, 2018, Live Action Documentary Video)

An observational short film that documents one of the many Taglit-Birthright Israel trips providing international young adults of Jewish descent a first-hand experience of Israel.

Grants received in support of this project:

2017 Barry and Sue Baer Fellowship

2017 Global Initiatives Scholarship

2017 ACE Jewish Arts Grant

2018 Ray Hauser Award

I Was Expecting More Fires (4 min., 2018, Live Action Narrative)

An exploration of a childhood fear of fires utilizing live action video, hand-processed 16mm film, and hand-drawn animation.

Official Selection of the 2020 Horsetooth International Film Festival

Full Disclosure (3 minutes, 2017, Hand-Drawn Animation)

An animated short film looking at the social stigmatization and ethical grey area surrounding a surprisingly common medical malady. How should one act when faced with a medical unknown?

Murmuration (2017, Participatory Performance)

Murmuration invites audience members to experience, and participate in, the interactions that occur between musicians in an instrumental ensemble. By highlighting musical notation that allows room for interpretation and demands individual agency, but still requires congruity across the group, this performance-based piece seeks to provide illumination to the process of transposing written music from the page to performance.

Expect Better, Prepare for Much Worse

(4 min., 2017, Archival Documentary)

A short video meditating on the state of contemporary innovation, financial security, and the distance between the two.

Caesura (4 minutes, 2016, Archival Documentary Short Video)

A meditation on the “grand pause” notation in classical music, which is frequently employed to subvert audience expectation. An experimental interpretation of what occurs in the mind when silence supplants expected noise.

If I Can't Be Beautiful (7 minutes, 2016, Live Action Documentary Video)

A documentary short pairing historic visual representations of the female body with excerpts from audio interviews with young women discussing how they perceive their corporeal form.

She Ionizes and Atomizes (3 min., 2016, Live Action Documentary)

An observational documentary short following physical chemist Leah Hall as she tests various materials in the wet lab.

Boulder Time Capsule Project (Multi-Platform Archival Project, 2016)

An open space documentary project intended to capture a slice of life in Boulder, Colorado during 2016. The project utilized various modes of media production and engaged community members through a variety of platforms including social media, a website, and in-person events. At the end of the project period, all materials produced and crowdsourced were added to the website. The website was then archived to emulate a “burying” of the time capsule.

Bluegrass Jam (3 min., 2015, Live Action Documentary)

An observational documentary executed in the spirit of sensory ethnography.

Last Meal: Chef Eric Skokan (3 minutes, 2015, Live Action Documentary)

James Beard-nominated Chef Eric Skokan of the Black Cat Bistro in Boulder, CO sits down to ruminate on end of life and his ideal last meal. Shot on location at the Black Cat Bistro.

Official Selection of the Huatulco Film Food Festival, 2018

Official Selection of the Flatirons Food Film Festival, 2018

Official Selection of the DAE Studio Film Festival, 2018

Official Selection of the Short to the Point Film Festival, 2018

Official Selection of the Boston International Food Film Festival, 2019

Finalist for Rocky Mountain PBS and Colorado College “In Short”

Student Film Series, 2019

Screenings	<p>2020 Horsetooth International Film Festival, Fort Collins, CO</p> <p>2019 Solaris Film Festival, Nice, France</p> <p>2019 International Boston Food Film Festival, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA</p> <p>2018 DAE Studio Film Festival, Darwen Aldridge Enterprise Studio, Lancashire, United Kingdom</p> <p>2018 Huatulco Film Food Festival, Teatro del Mar, Huatulco, Mexico</p> <p>2018 Flatirons Food Film Festival, Canyon Theater, Boulder, CO</p> <p>2018 Two-Person Exhibition, MFA Thesis Exhibition, CMCI Studio, Boulder, CO</p> <p>2018 Solo Exhibition, CU Boulder Jewish Studies Colloquium, Boulder, CO</p> <p>2017 Robert Flaherty Film Seminar Fellows' Screening, Colgate College, Hamilton, NY</p> <p>2016 Hurry and Be Still, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE</p> <p>2016 Hurry and Be Still, University of Nebraska, Kearney, NE</p> <p>2016 Hurry and Be Still, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO</p>
Additional Awards	<p>2020 Recipient of the COVID-19 Works Projects Grant, City of Boulder Office of Arts and Culture</p> <p>2018 Recipient of the Martha Kate Thomas Fund for Artists Grant, Boulder County Arts Association</p> <p>2016 Scholarship/Partnership Program Fellow at Anderson Ranch Arts Center</p>
Professional Membership	Member of Women in Film and Media Colorado (WIFMCO)
Departmental Service	<p>Sporadic Chats, 2019-Present</p> <p>Creator, Organizer, Discussion Leader</p> <p>Extracurricular discussion group for the Department of Critical Media Practices</p>
Professional Experience	<p>Lecturer</p> <p>University of Colorado Boulder, 2019-Present</p> <p>As a faculty member in the Critical Media Practices Department, I teach sections of Introduction to Media Practices and Creative Media Making. In this role I guide students through both the practical and theoretical aspects of documentary media making and provide personalized feedback on written and production-based assignments.</p> <p>Camera Operator & Film Editor</p> <p><i>Grain Changers (Working Title)</i>, 2018-2019</p> <p>Camera operator and lead editor for the feature documentary film <i>Grain Changers</i> (dir. Andrew Calabrese), a project which explores the industry professionals dedicated to preserving, harvesting, and utilizing heirloom grains in an effort to maintain biodiversity and well balanced diets.</p>

Lead Film Instructor

Lens on Climate Change, 2017-Present

Through this National Science Foundation-funded initiative, I coach groups of middle and high school students through the filmmaking process - from idea to final screening - as they explore the topic of climate change. In this role, I introduced an alternative narrative structure for videos, which resulted in program-wide changes to support this approach. I also attend Advisory Board meetings in order to provide on-the-ground insights and to discuss the future direction of this project.

Programs Storyteller

Boulder County Area Agency on Aging, 2018

During this 6-month contract position, I crafted comprehensive stories to highlight Boulder County Area Agency on Aging services and patrons through still photography, video, and text, in order to increase awareness and engagement in the community and to illustrate the Agency's efficacy to current and potential funders.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University of Colorado Boulder, 2015-2018

Assisted professors with undergraduate courses. Lead weekly recitation classes for multiple sections, held hands-on production workshops, graded research papers and production projects, and met with students individually to discuss course content, production projects, and grade disputes.

Graduate Research Assistant

University of Colorado Boulder, 2015-2017

Worked closely with Professors Young, Espelie, and Knight to further their research goals. Researched material for an anticipated textbook and developed a user-friendly workflow for rendering 3D models using photogrammetry for use in Virtual Reality.

Public Programs Manager

Ephrata Public Library, 2011-2015

Managed a programming team of seven in developing and coordinating educational programming for all age ranges. Assisted with resource development through grant writing and fundraising. Served as primary public relations liaison and created promotional media including public service announcements for television and an exhibit of still photographs for a public awareness campaign.

Documentary Filmmaking Educator

Appalshop, Summer 2011

Assisted in developing curriculum for 2011 summer session of the Appalachian Media Institute. Taught classes on filmmaking, interview techniques, and post-production. Coached interns during the production of their final projects.

**Volunteer
Experience**

- 2020-21 Boulder International Film Festival - Served as a Tier 1 Screener for the 2021 Selection Committee.
- 2019 Boulder International Film Festival - Served as a Tier 1 screener for the 2020 Selection Committee.
- 2019 Underground Music Showcase - Photographed performers on behalf of the festival.
- 2019 Boulder International Film Festival - Assisted festival attendees visiting the Virtual Reality tent.
- 2018 Flatiron Food Film Festival - Recorded introduction and panel discussions on behalf of the festival.

Portfolio

<https://vimeopro.com/rebeccazinner/documentary>