

Course Title: **Women's Documentary Film in East Asia**

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The objective of this course is to unlearn “Documentary Film History” via Examining documentary films directed by East Asian women filmmakers. When it comes to filmmaking, male directors and cameramen have historically made up a large percentage of the workforce. Especially in the history of documentary film, most directors who are considered canon are male. In the case of Japanese cinema, for example, names such as Noriaki Tsuchimoto, Shinsuke Ogawa, Kazuo Hara, and Kazuhiro Soda must be the first that come to mind as central figures in the history of documentary film.

However, the number of female documentary filmmakers has been increasing as digitalization has brought about further miniaturization of filming equipment, with the software required for editing has become cheaper and simpler. East Asian cinemas are no exception. This course will reconsider the history of documentary film by tracing the genealogy of documentary films made by women. While shedding light on the cinematic scenes, we will scrutinize contemporary documentary films made by women from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan and others.