Notes on the Documentary Webinar

- Make sure that your equipment is charged and ready to go before filming or interviewing.
- Bring back up gear
- When there is a lack of pictures and films on your subject, use historical reenactment to recreate history.
- Be sure that your reenactment is accurate.
- Editing:
  - When in doubt, cut it out.
  - Ask: Is this helping me argue my thesis? If yes, keep it. If not, cut it out.
  - Have people watch your documentary and give you feed back on it.
  - Address things that they are confused about and break it down in you video. Students know a lot about a subject so they might forget to explain things because it becomes common knowledge to them.
- How to incorporate music in your video?
  - It is hard to get legal rights for music, so have a person write their own music to record for your film.
  - Humming or clapping are also good background audio that is easily done.
  - Pay attention to the auto recording by using microphones to pick up sound.
  - Quiet background
  - Do not keep one shot in the frame for too long.
  - Do not use too much of an interview.
- Anyone who is performing or speaking in your video must be a group member or an interviewee.
- Time limit is 10 min
- Ask yourself: So what? Why does my person or event matter?
- Tell it as a story and not a report.
- What is the most important part of your story?
- Put the most important part at the beginning to grab the viewer’s attention and then go into the chronological order of your story.
- Be passionate about your subject.
- Transition by using the narrative to link ideas.
- Tell the story through the documentary, do not do a performance.
- Credits:
  - Every picture, film, and audio file you use needs to be cited.
  - Cite from creditable sources.
  - Do not speed through your credits at the end of the documentary.
- Operating technology during the contest:
  - Have multiple copies in multiple forms for back up.

Here is the link to access this video: https://www.youtube.com/embed/Ac55pUZGiBM