

Director Yael Katzir

From Collective Identity to Personal Diversity - Israeli Documentary Filmmaking

(1 credit course, MC300, ENG490, FLM490, JS399)



**MC300/ENG490/FLM490/
JS399: From Collective
Identity to Personal Diversity:
Israeli Documentary
Filmmaking**
**Meets Oct. 30 and 31, Nov. 1,
2, 6, 7, 8, and 9 from
7pm-9pm in 336 Case Hall.**

**Counts towards the Jewish
Studies Minor!**

**This course is open to non-
JMC, English, Film and Jewish
Studies students. Please
contact Ashley Housler
(mezoashl@msu.edu), to
enroll as JS399; Donna
Hofmeister
(hofmeist@msu.edu) or Jeff
Judge (judgej@msu.edu) to
enroll as MC300; and Ruth
Mowry (mowry@egr.msu.edu)
to enroll as ENG490 or
FLM490. For more
information please contact
Prof. Yael Aronoff
(aronoffy@msu.edu).**

Yael Katzir is an accomplished Israeli documentary filmmaker, former Head of the History Department and Lecturer at the Film Department in the Art School of Beit Berl Academic College. Her films include *Company Jasmine*, a movie about women in the Israeli Defense Forces; *Praying In Her Own Voice*, about the Women of the Wall in Jerusalem; *Violins in Wartime*, about life in Israel during the Lebanon War; and *Shores of Light*, about the displaced persons camps in Southern Italy.

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 - Reality surprises us by being more unimaginable than fiction. Documentary filmmaking is an effort to depict aspects of reality. The choice to do documentary filmmaking takes courage, imagination and perseverance. This course will ask: What is the power that draws so many to this art?
 - This course will trace how documentary filmmaking in Israel has evolved from early efforts to depict aspects of the Zionist project to personal efforts to probe elements of a more diverse reality in Israel.
 - Every meeting will include discussion and viewing of a film or excerpts from films around a thematic topic, such as identity, immigration, women's role in society, and religion.
 - The objective of this course is to expose students to the complexities of documentary films, to understand why Israel is a unique platform for documentaries, to see the diverse dilemmas in Israeli society and culture, and to give students the tools to analyze and judge documentary films.