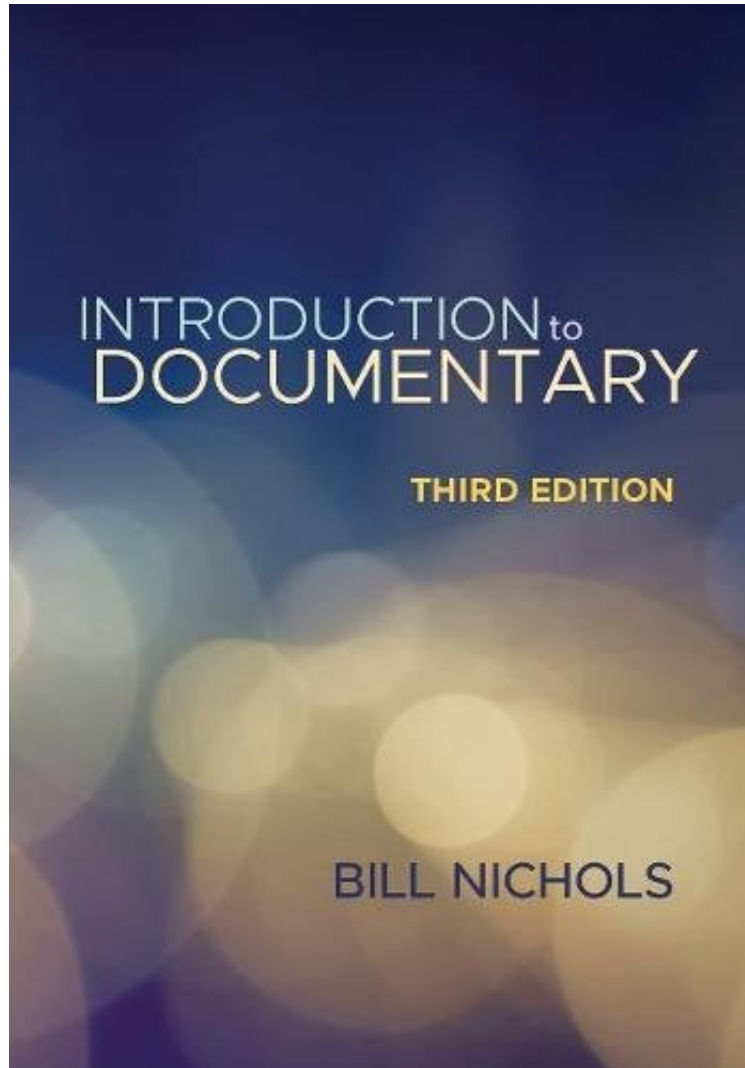


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The third edition of Bill Nichols's best-selling text provides an up-to-date introduction to the most important issues in documentary history and criticism. A new chapter, "I Want to Make a Documentary: Where Do I Start?" guides readers through the steps of planning and preproduction and includes an example of a project proposal for a film that went on to win awards at major festivals. Designed for students in any field that makes use of visual evidence and persuasive strategies, *Introduction to Documentary* identifies the genres distinguishing qualities and teaches the viewer how to read documentary film. Each chapter takes up a discrete question, from "How did documentary filmmaking get started?" to "Why are ethical issues central to documentary filmmaking?" Here Nichols has fully rewritten each chapter for greater clarity and ease of use, including revised discussions of earlier films and new commentary on dozens of recent films from *The Cove* to *The Act of Killing* and from *Gasland* to *Restrepo*.

This new edition of *Introduction to Documentary* is incisive and magisterial, a brilliantly organized and ambitious analysis of that enigmatic, open-ended, and vital art of cinema in which reality is not so much documented as transformed. Nichols addresses with ambition and humility all the key questions about what happens ethically, aesthetically, and politically when real people agree to play themselves, and collaborate with the filmmaker to transform their lives for the screen. (Joshua Oppenheimer Director, Producer, Filmmaker) Documentary film has never been more popular - nor creatively complex - and Bill Nichols' book gives a concise overview of the genre while tackling the important ideas, issues and conundrums, that we as filmmakers, all face. (Mark Lewis Filmmaker) About the Author Bill Nichols is Professor Emeritus of Cinema at San Francisco State University. He is author of *Representing Reality: Issues and Concepts in Documentary* (IUP), *Blurred Boundaries: Questions of Meaning in Contemporary Culture* (IUP), and *Speaking Truths with Film: Evidence, Ethics, Politics in Documentary*.