“Making Films is an art, not a science.”
-Michael Rabiger, author of Directing the Documentary

A BAND CALLED DEATH DISCUSSION

1) In your own words, what is the story being told in A Band Called Death?
2) Who were the main characters in the documentary?
3) Which characters did you like the most and why?
4) What specialty did you like the most about this documentary?
5) Did you notice the camera work or images on the screen at all? If so, what did you notice?

LIGHTING FOR INTERVIEWS

WORKING WITH NATURAL LIGHT:
-use a bounce to help “fill” in shadows on face
-do not sit subject in front of window
-open up iris and lower ISO for better exposure without grainy video

LED CAMERA MOUNT:
-don’t have to worry about “hot bulbs”
-less concern about breakage
-easier to travel with
-easy to setup

RECORDING AUDIO CHECKLIST

☐ mic
☐ mic stand or mount
☐ audio recorder
☐ wall plug
☐ batteries
PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES/AESTHETICS

FRAMING YOUR INTERVIEW
- headroom (is there enough?)
- rule of thirds (is your subject framed correctly?)
- background (is it distracting?)

CAMERA ANGLES
- establishing/wide shot
- long shot
- medium shot
- close up
- low angle
- high angle

COURSE WORK TO DO:

ON OWN:

- Develop each of your documentary topics by answering the following questions:
  1) Who would I interview for this topic?
  2) Do I have access to each of the people that I would interview for this topic?
  3) What kind of broll can I use or record for this topic?

ON FACEBOOK GROUP:

- Watch the lighting tutorials posted to the Facebook group
- Watch this documentary: Bus 174
- Post response to documentary to FG:
  1. What did you like the most about the documentary and why?
  2. What did you like the least and why?

BROLL:
the supplemental or alternative footage intercut with the main shot in an interview or documentary. Can record your own or use public domain or stock videos or photos

istockphoto.com (stock footage/photos)
archive.org (public domain footage/photos)
LIGHTING FOR INTERVIEWS CONT’D

3 POINT LIGHTING: This setup uses 3 lights at 3 different positions in order to eliminate shadows from the subject’s face and the background behind the subject.

KEY LIGHT: shines directly upon the subject and serves as its principal illuminator

FILL LIGHT: shines on the subject, but from a side angle relative to the key and is often placed at a lower position than the key (about at the level of the subject’s face). It balances the key by illuminating shaded surfaces, and lessening or eliminating chiaroscuro effects, such as the shadow cast by a person's nose upon the rest of the face.

BACK LIGHT: shines on the subject from behind, often (but not necessarily) to one side or the other. It gives the subject a rim of light, serving to separate the subject from the background.
PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DOCUMENTARY, BUS 174

1. In your own words, what is the story being told in the documentary?

2. Who were the main characters in the documentary?

3. Which characters did you like the most and why?

4. What specifically did you like the most about this documentary?

5. Did you notice the camera work or images on the screen at all? If so, what did you notice?