

Short Documentary – Checklist

Note: This checklist is for planning purposes ONLY. This is NOT the application. We highly recommend that you draft your responses in a separate Word document and use the checklist below to make sure you have addressed all the requirements. Once finalized, you can copy your answers into the application form.

1. **Project Title (15 words max).**
2. **Project Description (500 words max):** Briefly outline a) the central topic, i.e., what the story is about; b) why it matters; c) how the story will unfold on screen; d) the main character(s), their journey, and the setting; e) the stylistic choices—visuals, sounds, and tone—and how they help convey your film’s message; and f) the project’s feasibility through a brief practical plan, including locations and access to characters or communities.
3. **References:** Submit a Word document with 9 references. This should include **3 research sources** (journal article, academic book, news articles) related to your topic + **3 documentary films** that address topics similar or related to your film + **3 visual references**—preferably documentary shorts—that inspire your intended storytelling, style, tone, or aesthetics.
4. **Elevator Pitch Video (ONE minute max):** Submit a one-minute video pitching your project as if in an elevator ride. Make it clear and engaging, and explain why it matters AND why you are the right person to tell that story. Share a Google Drive link with access set to "anyone with the link."
5. **Format Justification (200 words max):** Explain why you chose the short documentary format. How does it best convey your story, fit the project's themes and audience, and help you communicate your ideas effectively?
6. **Relevant Courses (250 words max):** List at least 3 courses that you have taken that are relevant to your documentary project. For each course, include title and number, instructor's name, AND brief description of how it has prepared you for this project. At least one of the courses should be a production course.
7. **Relevant Experience (250 words max):** List experiences outside of class, such as an independent study, personal project, internship, Studio 20Q, or other initiatives, that add value to your proposed project. Describe your role, responsibilities, and how the skills you gained will support your project with #IAS_NUQ.
8. **Are you applying for an ongoing project?** If so, please provide a summary of the current state of the project (**150 words max**).
9. **Contribution to #IAS_NUQ's Mission and Themes (250 words max):** Specify which theme(s) your project addresses. Check our website for our mission and themes.
10. **Language Skills (150 words max):** List the languages you speak, read, or write, and explain how they support your project.
11. **Preliminary Budget:** Provide research costs up to QAR 5000 (NOT including airfare). Divide it by accommodation, meals, and other research expenses to be incurred during the trip in Qatari Riyals.
12. **Other Funding:** List any other grants, fellowships, or funding (such as Summer Undergraduate Research Grant or Summer Internship Grant Program) you plan to apply for during Dec 2025 - Dec 2026. You must disclose all external funding to the IAS team. If none, type "N/A."
13. **Other Program Applications:** Will you be applying for JR or Comm Exchange? This is just for our information.
14. **CV or Resume (2 pages max):** Attach your CV or resume. (Name: *FIRSTNAME_LASTNAME_RESUME*).
15. **Portfolio (50 mb max):** Attach your portfolio here. If your file is larger than 50 mb, please upload a Word document with a link to your portfolio. (Name it as *FIRST NAME_LAST NAME_portfolio*).
16. **Short Professional Bio (50 words max).**