Greetings from York University. Toronto. Our grad students are currently researching the way ‘storytelling’ has come to replace factual information in the documentary film genre.

The departure from ‘enlightenment’ as a goal of the documentarian towards their viewer - that “discourse of sobriety” as described by Bill Nichols - is increasingly surrendering to the narrative, even if the subject matter is too complex for a “hero's journey.” False news is one of the outcomes.

The students wonder why the etymology of the term ‘news story’ is a commonly used term, but not challenged. There seems to be an inherent contradiction, if not an oxymoron, in combining the reporting and recording of fact-based information with the art of fictional story-telling.

The students are searching for texts, articles or manuscripts that examine the combination of those separate entities of ‘news’ and ‘story’ into one term.

I’d be very grateful if anyone could point them into a direction, or suggest someone who might.

Thank you kindly for responding.

Contact Info:

Greetings from York University. Toronto. Our grad students are currently researching the way ‘storytelling’ has come to replace factual information in the documentary film genre.

The departure from ‘enlightenment’ as a responsibility of the documentarian towards their viewers - a “discourse of sobriety” as described by Bill Nichols - is increasingly surrendering to the narrative, even if the subject matter is too complex for the “hero's journey.” False news is one of the outcomes.

The students wonder why the etymology of the term ‘news story’ is of common usage, but not questioned. There’s an inherent contradiction, if not an oxymoron, in combining the reporting and recording of fact-based information with the art of story-telling.

They are searching for texts, articles or manuscripts that examine the combination of those separate entities of ‘news’ and ‘story’ into one term.

I’d be very grateful if anyone could point them into a direction, or suggest someone who might.

Thank you kindly for responding.
Manfred Becker, PhD, Ass. Professor, Graduate Program Director, MFA Film  
https://ampd.yorku.ca/profile/manfred-becker/

Contact Email:  
bmanfred@yorku.ca

URL:  
https://ampd.yorku.ca/profile/manfred-becker/