Utrecht University, Faculty of Humanities (UU)

Visual Legal Advocacy

Think visual!

Lawyers tell stories, usually other people's stories. Film is a great modality for storytelling. How is this in the legal world? Can lawyers use film to tell their client's stories? As the quantity of global information grows exponentially, communicating with visuals allows us to comprehend large quantities of data. Can lawyers use images to make their point of view clear?

Yes. The use of images is burgeoning in the justice system and will continue to do so. Digital technologies and images have become more important in every phase of the system; multimodality is the standard in nowadays communication and of course also enters the courtrooms.

To judge and develop visual legal arguments – storytelling as well as advanced data representation - one should know the rules, know the debates. Lawyers must learn to read films and other multimodal texts, info graphics, and so on and learn to respond adequately to them. They need the critical tools to analyze what visuals do, what they tell, how they convince. And why not learn to create them: think visual!

In this course we welcome law students and other students who are fascinated by visuals in and around the court room. We offer you a wide range of information about multimodality in legal matters. The course is a mixture of theory, analysis and practical design. The course is a mixture of theory, analysis and more than three days of practical hands-on design.

COURSE DIRECTOR: dr. Paul van den Hoven
PERIOD: 21-07-2014 - 01-08-2014
CREDITS: 3.0 ECTS
COURSE FEE: € 935 (Course + course materials + housing) or € 600 (Course + course material)
MORE INFORMATION: www.utrechtsummerschool.nl