

Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		BA (Hons) Filmmaking with Foundation Year
2	BCU Course Code	UCAS Code	US0897F P31G
3	Awarding Institution		
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)		
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)		

6	Course Description
	<p>This cutting edge BA programme will develop your skills across key filmmaking debates and practice conventions. You will be taught by noted film scholars and established practitioners, who will provide their knowledge of international film criticism and filmmaking perspectives.</p> <p>The course is part of Birmingham City University's Film Futures suite, designed to develop graduates with the theory, practice and industry trends that will enable them to succeed in a rapidly changing film environment.</p> <p>About foundation courses</p> <p>After successful completion of your foundation year, you will have the flexibility to switch (should you wish to change direction) onto a number of related undergraduate degree programmes within Birmingham School of Media.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>The course considers of a wide range of filmmaking conventions, from theory, practice and industry perspectives. Not only will you gain an understanding of Hollywood cinema conventions (from silent cinema to modern blockbuster spectacles), but you will apply these storytelling techniques to a variety of production scenarios. As well as looking at American filmmaking conventions, you will also be introduced to other international traditions of cinema that range from European perspectives of documentary to Bollywood film and beyond.</p> <p>A key focus of the course will be on the aesthetic and creative aspects of filmmaking, with consideration being given to both mainstream and experimental modes of film creation, as well as how these traditions are mediated by differing production and postproduction techniques. Whilst theoretical and practice based considerations of filmmaking techniques remains a central focus to the award, the course also provides modules on film festival programming and film entrepreneurship, which help provide core skills relevant to the film industry.</p>

How you will learn

You will be taught in a range of lectures, seminars, writing workshops and production sessions, while regular film screenings help you contextualise cinema traditions against your own script creations.

Your formal studies will be enriched by the possibility to work on a range of external events, such as the Cine-Excess International Film Festival. This annual event attracts visiting international filmmakers, as well as hosting UK theatrical premieres on a regular basis. Having previously operated in London's West End and Brighton, Cine-Excess has now relocated to BCU to operate as a central resource for the course.

7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Filmmaking	6	480
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Foundation Certificate Filmmaking	3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education Filmmaking	4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education Filmmaking	5	360
	Bachelor of Arts Filmmaking	6	420

8	Derogation from the University Regulations		
	None		

9	Delivery Patterns		
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study
	Full Time	City Centre	4 years
			Code(s)
			US0897F

10	Entry Requirements		
	<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/, or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>		

11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge and Understanding
1	Explain filmmaking debates, practices and industry perspectives, and the relationships between these systems of knowledge.
2	Identify a range of research approaches and apply them to film and screenwriting in their theoretical, practical and industrial contexts.
3	Explore a range of film traditions, conventions and industries within both cinematic and screenwriting contexts.
4	Evaluate your own filmmaking practices and industry skills against wider theoretical debates in the field.
	Cognitive and Intellectual Skills
5	Research and apply a wide range of concepts relevant to film studies/filmmaking conventions.
6	Analyse and evaluate a series of filmmaking methodologies in order to apply them to theoretical, practice and industry case-studies.
7	Critically evaluate your own work in a reflexive manner, with reference to academic and/or professional issues, debates and conventions.
8	Formulate research questions and employ appropriate methods and resources to explore them, drawing on a range of sources, and conceptual frameworks.
	Practical and Professional Skills
9	Apply a range of filmmaking and production practices to wider film debates.
10	Develop as a thinking creative worker, able to apply film debates to a real world working environment.
11	Experiment and take risks, using creative skills to shape concepts based on secure research strategies.
12	Produce work which demonstrates an understanding of film forms, traditions and audiences in their international contexts.
	Key Transferable Skills
13	Work independently and creatively in a group or team in a variety of film research and film practice based settings.
14	Deliver work to a given length, format, brief and deadline, properly referencing sources and ideas and making use, as appropriate of a problem-solving, and creative approach.
15	Communicate effectively in written and or creative practice contexts.
16	Gather, organise and deploy ideas and information in order to formulate arguments cogently, and express them effectively.

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Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
GFA6007	Postproduction Techniques	20
ADM6006	Major Project	60

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
GFA6011	Professional Practice	40
GFA6005	Bollywood film or Bollywood: Culture, Diaspora and Globalization	20
GFA6008	Cult Film	20
GFA6006	Film Entrepreneurship	20
GFA6009	Reclaiming the Frame	20
EGL6142	Writing Short Films	40

12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.

Level 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Professional and Academic Skills (20 credits – core)	
Cross-media Production 1 (20 credits – core)	Cross-media Production 2 (20 credits – core)
Media Context and Production (20 credits – core)	Practice Project (40 credits – core)

 BA (Hons) Filmmaking

Year One Semester One	Year Two Semester One	Year Three Semester One
20 Credits	20 Credits	20 Credits
Film Industry Primer	Film Festivals	Postproduction Techniques
40 Credits	40 Credits	40 Credit (pick 1)
Hollywood : Early Film to Blockbuster	Filmmaking Practices	Professional Practice
		Writing Short Films (SoE)
		OR
		20 credit (pick 2)
		Global Cinema Narratives
		Cult Film
		Film Entrepreneurship
		Reclaiming the Frame
Year One Semester Two	Year Two Semester One	Year Three Semester Two
20 Credits	20 Credits	60 Credits
Foundations of Filmmaking	Collaborative Practice	Final Major Project
40 Credits	20 credit (pick 2)	
Documentary : Theory & Practice	Cinema of the Seventies	
	Cinematography	
	Foundations of Screenwriting (SoE)	

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 3

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	480
Directed Learning	480
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	72%
Exam	0
In-Person	28%

Level 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	250
Directed Learning	710
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	78%
Exam	0
In-Person	22%

Level 5

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	200
Directed Learning	760
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	88%
Exam	0
In-Person	12%

Level 6

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	119
Directed Learning	841
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0
In-Person	0