

Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		BA (Hons) Film and Screenwriting
2	BCU Course Code	UCAS Code	US0899 P3W8
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)		
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)		Not applicable

6	Course Description
	<p>This cutting edge new BA Film and Screenwriting degree course will develop your skills across key film studies and screenwriting debates and conventions. You will be taught by noted film scholars and established practitioners, who will provide their knowledge of international film and screenwriting 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>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>The course considers of a wide range of script to screen traditions from theory, practice and industry perspectives.</p> <p>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 film and screenwriting genres (such as rom-com, thriller, science fiction and horror case-studies), 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 film and screenwriting, with consideration being given to techniques of storytelling, narratology and screen adaptation. Modern transmedia approaches to storytelling are also considered, while modules on film festival programming and film entrepreneurship provide core skills relevant to the film industry.</p> <p>How you will learn</p> <p>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.</p>

	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.
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7	Course Awards		
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Arts with Honours Film and Screenwriting	6	360
7b	Exit Awards and Credits Awarded		
	Certificate of Higher Education Film and Screenwriting	4	120
	Diploma of Higher Education Film and Screenwriting	5	240
	Bachelor of Arts Film and Screenwriting	6	300

8	Derogation from the University Regulations
	Not applicable

9	Delivery Patterns			
	Mode(s) of Study	Location(s) of Study	Duration of Study	Code(s)
	Full Time	City Centre	3 years	US0899

10	Entry Requirements
	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 .

11	Course Learning Outcomes	
	Knowledge and Understanding	
1	Explain film and screenwriting debates, and the relationships between these systems of knowledge.	

2	Identify a range of research approaches and apply them in a range of 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 screenwriting 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 and screenwriting conventions.
6	Analyse and evaluate a series of film and screenwriting 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 screenwriting and documentary 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 screenwriting 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.

12	Course Requirements																																																			
12a	<p>Level 4:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MED4171</td> <td>Screenwriting for Film Genres</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED4170</td> <td>Film and the Principles of Storytelling</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED4172</td> <td>The Language of Film</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED4169</td> <td>Documentary: Theory and Practice</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 5:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MED5XXX</td> <td>Adaptation for the Screen</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED5XXX</td> <td>Festival planning</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ADM5006</td> <td>Collaborative Practice</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 40 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MED5XXX</td> <td>Cinema of the Seventies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED5XXX</td> <td>Screen Fandoms</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED5XXX</td> <td>Comic Book Movies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EGL5061</td> <td>Foundations of Screenwriting</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Level 6:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 80 credits):</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Module Code</th> <th>Module Name</th> <th>Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MED6XXX</td> <td>Horror Narratives</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ADM6006</td> <td>Major Project</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED4171	Screenwriting for Film Genres	40	MED4170	Film and the Principles of Storytelling	20	MED4172	The Language of Film	20	MED4169	Documentary: Theory and Practice	40	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED5XXX	Adaptation for the Screen	20	MED5XXX	Festival planning	40	ADM5006	Collaborative Practice	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED5XXX	Cinema of the Seventies	20	MED5XXX	Screen Fandoms	20	MED5XXX	Comic Book Movies	20	EGL5061	Foundations of Screenwriting	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED6XXX	Horror Narratives	20	ADM6006	Major Project	60
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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
MED6XXX	Bollywood Film: Culture, Diaspora and Globalization	20
MED6XXX	Global Cinema Narratives	20
MED6XXX	Film Entrepreneurship	20
MED6XXX	Reclaiming the Frame	20
EGL6137	Writing Short Films	20

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.

BA (Hons) Film & Screenwriting		
Year One Semester One	Year Two Semester One	Year Three Semester One
20 Credits	20 Credits	20 Credits
Film and the Principles of Storytelling	Adaptation for the Screen	Horror Narratives
40 Credits	40 Credits	20 Credits (pick two)
Screenwriting for Film Genres	Festival Planning	Bollywood Film
		Global Cinema Narratives
		Film Entrepreneurship
		Reclaiming the Frame
		Or One 20 Credits
Writing Short Film (SoE)		
Year One Semester Two	Year Two Semester Two	Year Three Semester Two
20 Credits	20 Credits	60 Credits
The Language of Film	Collaborative Practice	Major Project ADM
40 Credits	20 Credits (pick two)	
Documentary: Theory and Practice	Cinema of the Seventies	
	Screen Fandoms	
	Comic Book Movies	
	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 4

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	220
Directed Learning	740
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	75%
Exam	0
In-Person	25%

Level 5

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	170
Directed Learning	790
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	76%
Exam	0
In-Person	24%

Level 6**Workload****% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity**

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	99
Directed Learning	861
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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