

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 television 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>You will gain an understanding of cinema and television conventions and screenwriting genres (such as romcom, thriller, science fiction and horror case studies You will also be introduced to other international traditions that range from European cinema and television to smartphone filmmaking and beyond.</p> <p>Focusing on the aesthetic and creative aspects of film and television screenwriting, you will consider storytelling techniques, narratology and screen adaptation.</p> <p>Modules such as Film Primer and Film Entrepreneurship provide core skills relevant to the film industry. You will have opportunities to work on established film festivals that are associated with the course and have access to film collections that will enrich your course of studies.</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> <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.</p>
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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
	Professional Placement Year	City Centre	4 years	US1356

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 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>MED4150</td> <td>Language of Film</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GFA4000</td> <td>Screenwriting Primer</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GFA4005</td> <td>Film Primer</td> <td>20</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>GFA5009</td> <td>Writing for TV</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GFA5012</td> <td>Script Development</td> <td>20</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>MED5212</td> <td>Adaptation for the Screen</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED5215</td> <td>Cinema of the Seventies</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MED5213</td> <td>Screen Fandoms</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>GFA6002</td> <td>Horror Narratives</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GFA60125-C</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	MED4150	Language of Film	20	GFA4000	Screenwriting Primer	20	GFA4005	Film Primer	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	GFA5009	Writing for TV	40	GFA5012	Script Development	20	ADM5006	Collaborative Practice	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	MED5212	Adaptation for the Screen	20	MED5215	Cinema of the Seventies	20	MED5213	Screen Fandoms	20	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	GFA6002	Horror Narratives	20	GFA60125-C	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
GFA6004	Global Cinema Narratives	20
GFA6006	Film Entrepreneurship	20
GFA6009	Reclaiming the Frame	20

12b Structure Diagram

Please note list of optional modules is indicative only as modules will only run if selected by 15 or more students. 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 and Screenwriting		
Level 4 Semester One	Level 5 Semester One	Level 6 Semester One
20 credits	20 credits	20 credits
GFA4000 Screenwriting Primer	GFA5012 Script Development	GFA6002 Horror Narratives
	40 credits	20 credits (pick two)
MED4170 Film and the Principles of Storytelling	GFA5009 Writing for TV	GFA6009 Reclaiming the Frame
GFA4001 Film Primer		GFA6004 Global Cinema Narratives
		GFA6006 Film Entrepreneurship
Level 4 Semester Two	Level 5 Semester Two	Level 6 Semester Two
20 credits	20 credits	60 credits
MED4150 Language of Film	ADM5006 Collaborative Practice	GFA6015-C Major Project
40 credits	20 credits (pick two)	
MED4171 Screenwriting for Film Genres	MED5215 Cinema of the Seventies	
	MED5213 Screen Fandoms	
	MED5212 Adaptation for the Screen	

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	250
Directed Learning	710
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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

Level 5

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	200
Directed Learning	160
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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

Level 6
Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	129
Directed Learning	831
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	