Course Specification

Course Summary Information				
1	**Course Title**		BA (Hons) Film and Screenwriting with Foundation Year	
2	**Course Code**	**UCAS Code**	US0899F	P3WF
3	**Awarding Institution**		Birmingham City University	
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)		As above	
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)		Not applicable	

6	**Course Description**
	Do you have a passion for writing, creating and filmmaking? This Film and Screenwriting with a Foundation Year course will provide you with the skills and knowledge to start your career in the creative film industry. You'll explore fundamental skills such as academic and screenwriting writing, researching, collaborative practice and producing media to prepare you to start the first year of the BA (Hons) degree. **About the Foundation Year** The Foundation Year course option enables means you study for our BA (Hons) degree over an extended full-time duration of four years by including a Foundation year (year one of four). The Foundation Year provides a broad study programme that underpins the follow-on degree. To progress to the next year of your degree, it is necessary to achieve a pass in all the modules of the Foundation Year. **What's covered in the course?** The course considers of a wide range of script to screen traditions from theory, practice and industry perspectives. You will gain an understanding of cinema and television conventions and screenwriting genres (such as romcom, thriller, science fiction and horror). You will also be introduced to a variety of film and TV formats such as feature film, single drama, drama series, serials, sitcom, soap and web series. Focusing on the aesthetic and creative aspects of film and television screenwriting, you will consider storytelling techniques, narratology, pitching and screen adaptation. Modules such as Film Primer and Script Development provide complementary 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. **How you 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. There will be opportunities to work alongside other students on complementary degree programmes in Filmmaking and Digital Film Production to produce full pieces of work to add to your professional portfolio as well as experience of working with script in live productions in our industry-standard studios. 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 Film and Screenwriting	6	480
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Foundation Certificate Film and Screenwriting	3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education Film and Screenwriting	4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education Film and Screenwriting	5	360
	Bachelor of Arts Film and Screenwriting	6	420

8	**Variations 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	4 years	US0899F

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

Level 3:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
MED3005	Media Audiences	20
MED3010	Professional and Academic Skills	20
MED3008	Media Production Practice	20
MED3006	Collaborative Media Production	20
MED3007	Media Concepts and Investigation	20
MED3009	Media Project	20

Level 4:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

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

Level 5:

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
GFA5009	Writing for TV	40
GFA5012	Script Development	20
ADM5006	Collaborative Practice	20

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
MED5212	Adaptation for the Screen	20
MED5215	Cinema of the Seventies	20
MED5259	Pre-Production: Script to Set	20

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
GFA6002	Horror Narratives	20
GFA6011-A	Professional Practice	40
GFA6015-C	Major Project	60

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.

Level 3

SEMESTER ONE	SEMESTER TWO
Core modules:	Core modules:
MED3005 Media Audiences	MED3006 Collaborative Media Production
MED3010 Professional and Academic Skills	MED3007 Media Concepts and Investigation
MED3008 Media Production Practice	MED3009 Media Project

<table>
<tr><th colspan="3">Year 1: Semester 1</th><th colspan="2">Year 2: Semester 1</th><th>Year 3: Semester 1</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Film Primer
(20 credits)</td><td rowspan="2">Screenwriting Primer
(20 credits)</td><td rowspan="2">Film and the Principles of Storytelling
(20 Credits)</td><td rowspan="2">Script Development
(20 credits)</td><td rowspan="2">Writing for TV
(40 credits)</td><td>Horror Narratives
(20 credits)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Professional Practice
(40 credits)</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="3">Year 1: Semester 2</th><th colspan="2">Year 2: Semester 2</th><th>Year 3: Semester 2</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Language of Film
(20 credit)</td><td>Screenwriting for Film Genres
(40 credits)</td><td>Collaborative Practice
(20 credits)</td><td>Adaptation for Screen
(20 credits)

Option:
Cinema of the Seventies,
OR
Pre-Production: Script to Set</td><td>Major Project
(60 credits)</td></tr>
</table>

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	276
Directed Learning	660
Private Study	264
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83%
Exam	0
In-Person	17%

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	93%
Exam	0
In-Person	7%

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	76%
Exam	0
In-Person	24%

Level 6

Workload

% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	129
Directed Learning	861
Private Study	240
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

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