UNIVERSITY FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION FOR

BA (HONS) FILM PRODUCTION

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION [ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/18]
This Programme Specification is designed for prospective students, current students, academic staff and potential employers. It provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the intended learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the teaching, learning and assessment methods, learning outcomes and content of each unit can be found in the Unit Descriptors.

Section A – Material Course Information

Validating Body	University for the Creative Arts[1]	
Teaching Body	UCA	
Final Award Title and Type	BA (Hons)	
Course Title	Film Production	
Course Location and Length	Campus: Farnham	Length: 3 years
Period of Validation	2017/18 to 2021/22	
Name of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body	The International Moving Image Society (formerly the BKSTS)	
Type of Accreditation	Accredited by the International Moving Image Society (formerly the British Kinematograph Sound and Television Society : BKSTS)	

Entry criteria and requirements[2]

As the UK's highest-ranking creative arts university, we want to attract the best and most creative minds in the country – so we take a balanced approach to candidate assessment, taking both individual portfolios and exam results into account.

That's why your portfolio is an especially important part of your application to study with us – and we can help. Our academics can offer you expert advice on how to showcase your creative work and build a portfolio that will make your application stand out.

More advice on how to create an exceptional portfolio is also available here, along with specific portfolio requirements for this course.

Along with your portfolio, the standard entry requirements** for this course are:

- 112 new UCAS tariff points (equivalent to 280 old UCAS tariff points) from accepted qualifications*, or
- Pass at Foundation Diploma in Art & Design (Level 3 or 4), or
- Distinction, Merit, Merit at BTEC Extended Diploma, or
- Merit at UAL Extended Diploma, or
- 112 new UCAS tariff points from an accredited Access to Higher Education Diploma in appropriate subject

And four GCSE passes at grade A*-C and/or grade 4-9 including English (or Functional Skills English/Key Skills Communication Level 2).

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[1] Regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England

[2] This should be the standard University Criteria unless otherwise approved by the Academic Board and include UCAS entry profile for undergraduate courses.

Other relevant and equivalent level 3 UK and international qualifications are considered on an individual basis, and we encourage students from diverse educational backgrounds apply.

If your first language is not English, you will need an IELTS score of 6.0 or equivalent. If you require a visa to study in the UK, you will also need a minimum score of 5.5 in each individual component.

*To see the accepted QCF qualifications, visit: http://uca.ac.uk/study/accepted-qualifications/
** We occasionally make offers which are lower than the standard entry criteria, to students who have faced difficulties that have affected their performance and who were expected to achieve higher results. In these cases, a strong portfolio is especially helpful.

Overall methods of assessment[3]	Written exams:	Practical exams:	Coursework:
Stage 1	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Stage 2	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Stage 3	0.0%	0.0%	100%
Overall Learning & Teaching hours[4]	Scheduled:	Independent:	Placement:
Stage 1	38.8%	61.3%	0%
Stage 2	32.5%	67.5%	0%
Stage 3	17.5%	82.5%	0%
General level of staff delivering the course[5]	The University's current recruitment policy for Lecturers and Senior Lecturers states that they must have either an MA or equivalent professional practice in a relevant discipline or field. All lecturing staff are encouraged to work towards a teaching qualification or professional Recognition by the Higher Education Academy and this is a requirement for Senior Lecturers. Senior Lecturers are required to be professionally active or engaged in research in their discipline. All Lecturers and Senior Lecturers undertake scholarship in their disciplines. There are also Sessional Staff to link courses with professional practice and Technicians to provide technical support.		

Mode of Study	Full-time	X	Part-time	

Language of Study	English

Subject/Qualification Benchmark Statement:
Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies

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[3] As generated by the unit descriptors and calculated for the overall course stage data.

[4] As generated by the unit descriptors and calculated for the overall course stage data. Expressed as a percentage of total learning hours per stage.

[5] Include general information about the experience or status of the staff involved in delivering the course, for example Professor, Course Leader, Senior Lecturer

Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

The course structure

The structure of all of the University's awards complies with the University's Common Credit Framework. All students are registered for a particular award. Exit awards are available to students in line with 6.7 of the Common Credit Framework.

Unit codes and titles	Level	Credit value	Elective/ Core	Most popular student choice of optional elective units or elective options in core units?
Year 1				
FFIP4009 Encounters	4	30	Core	
FFIP4010 Stories for the Screen	4	30	Core	
FFIP4012 Screen Craft 1	4	30	Core	
FFIP4011 Screen Studies 1	4	30	Core	
Year 2				
FFIP5028 Screen Craft 2:1 : Production Roles	5	30	Core	
FFIP5030 Screen Craft 2:2 : Short Film Production	5	30	Core	
FFIP5031 Creative Documentary	5	30	Core	
FFIP5029 Screen Studies 2	5	30	Elective	Yes
FFIP5032 Contextual Film Studies (Study Abroad)	5	30	Elective	No
Study Abroad with Host Institution	5	60	Elective	No
Year 3				
FFIP6008 Filmmaking Portfolio	6	60	Core	
FFIP6009 Extended Research Project	6	30	Core	
FFIP6010 Projections	6	30	Core	

Section B - Course Overview

The BA (Hons) Film Production course at the University seeks to provide a challenging educational experience and emphasises critical understanding, creative practice and collaborative working, social awareness and responsibility. We encourage students to challenge their preconceptions, work imaginatively and be curious about the world which they aim to represent.

The course is designed in accordance with the vocational emphasis of the University's mission statement and strategic aims to equip students with a broad range of competencies and skills in film production and the opportunity to gain specialist knowledge whilst fostering creativity.

The course philosophy is grounded in the belief that working in moving image is a social practice and students are encouraged to consider their work in terms of its contemporary meaning and relevance. Students explore both documentary and its associated forms and fiction and storytelling. The course promotes an integrated approach to theory and practice and students are encouraged to recognise the relationships between historical knowledge of the medium and theoretical understanding of their own practice.

Alongside group activities students are expected to undertake independent study and research which together with the broader transferable skills equips them for their chosen area of employment, lifelong learning and creative practice or postgraduate study.

With a strong commitment to traditional craft-based skills, the course is well equipped with 16mm film and digital video production and post-production facilities, a purpose-built studio and cinema, and enjoys strong links with and valued support from the industry. The course is accredited by the International Moving Image Society (formerly the BKSTS) and is the only undergraduate course in the country to have two British Cinematography Trust scholarships in the names of Dougie Slocombe and Billy Williams. These are awarded annually to camera specialists in their third year.

Section C - Course Aims

The course aims to enhance students' employability and support their creativity by enabling students to:

A1   develop critical, intellectual, creative and practical abilities in moving image production

A2   identify and explain the critical and theoretical debates and historical developments in moving image production and their relationship to wider cultural contexts

A3   engage productively in team working and sustained independent study

A4   achieve a high standard of working knowledge of production processes

A5   prepare themselves for employment in the audio-visual industries, for lifelong learning or post-graduate study though the development of specialist and transferable skills in moving image practice and theory.

Section D - Course Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course students are able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

L01   engage with creative and productive group working and peer group learning

LO2   demonstrate an ability for sustained independent study, research and problem-solving.

LO3   consider and evaluate their own work in a reflexive manner with reference to academic and professional issues, debates and conventions

LO4   understand and deploy knowledge of practical processes, approaches and skills in moving image production and theory, some of which are at the forefront of the discipline

Application

LO5   identify and apply a range of transferable skills and qualities in the appropriate professional, social or educational context including the exercise of initiative, personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable contexts

LO6   understand the wider cultural and social context of moving image practice and demonstrate an awareness of the responsibility of the practitioner towards subjects and audiences.

Section E - Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and Teaching Strategy

Learning and teaching on the Film Production course combines structured teaching and independent study to give students maximum responsibility for the management of their own learning.

Practical projects are taught through a pattern of technical and creative workshops, tutorials, reviews and final critiques or reviews which encourage a high level of learner activity, interaction with others and combine peer and self- assessment in the reflection encouraged by the debates. The group working practices support sustained learner activity and interaction with others through the production of a shared outcome. These activities are supported and monitored through online blogs and e-learning (MyUCA and Edmodo).

Practice units in the final year require students to develop their own briefs, negotiating their own schedule of work and specific outcomes and these are supported through the production of Learning Agreements, on which staff will give constructive feedback. Presentation skills are developed throughout the course in reviews and critiques and in specific units where group or individual presentations and pitches (modeled on current professional practice) form part of the assessment requirements.

The more formal academic units where lectures and screenings form the basis of the teaching are supported through seminars and tutorials where students' learning is tested through their verbal reasoning. They are prepared for the assessment tasks through detailed briefings and workshops.

Professional skills are developed through workshop attendance, project work, work placement experience and extra curricula engagement with the medium which is supported by tutorials throughout the course in conjunction with the Careers Department and culminates in a professionally produced CV and online presence in the final Filmmaking Portfolio unit.

Formal teaching on the course is supplemented by organised field trips to festivals, master classes, exhibitions, trade fairs, museums and galleries (including Sheffield International Documentary Film Festival, the School of Sound, and events at the BFI Southbank and the London Film Festival, the National Gallery, the Photographers' Gallery and the V and A) and special guest screenings at the Farnham Maltings including the Future Shorts touring programme. Recent examples include a special screening of 'Notes on Blindness' by Peter Middleton and James Spinney with a Q and A session led by Simon Aeppli (October 2016).

Visiting lecturers give regular presentations of their own working practice and industry professionals are involved in teaching the specialist workshops. Recent examples include a visit by our graduate Danielle Clarke whose graduation project, Britain's Young Soldiers with director Joe Martin won the National RTS award for documentary (2010), to producing documentaries for Channel 4 and a soon-to-be-released feature film.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment on the course includes formative feedback to students throughout the development and production process of their practical projects and is supported through our online platforms using MyUCA and Edmodo for group blogs.

Group working is supported through tutorials and debriefing sessions after the presentation of final projects with students encouraged to reflect on their own contribution to the processes involved in the production of a shared outcome.

Written work is developmental in its approach to formative assessment with online submission of illustrated essays.

Section F - Enhancing the Quality of Learning and Teaching

The course is subject to the University's rigorous quality assurance procedures which involve subject specialist and internal peer review of the course at periodic intervals, normally of 5 years. This process ensures that the course engages with the national Subject Benchmarks in Art & Design and references the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

All courses are monitored on an annual basis where consideration is given to:
- External Examiner's Reports
- Key statistics including data on retention and achievement
- Results of the Student Satisfaction Surveys
- Feedback from Student Course Representative