

## Screenwriting

### Programme Information

2022.01, Approved

#### Overview

Programme Code	30873
Programme Title	Screenwriting
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters

#### Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Arts - MA	N/A
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Understand the processes involved in producing original scripts that shows a deeper awareness of screenwriting techniques. Illustrate an enhanced understanding of the writing process and some of the theoretical elements that make an effective screenplay, including issues around equality, diversity, and inclusion. Critically assess quality and accuracy and provide concise constructive feedback on peers' work demonstrating sound editorial judgement and sensitivity. Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively, present and develop ideas in an environment similar to that of the professional writers' room. Evidence critical research skills. Develop critical responses to existing theoretical discourses, methodologies and practices within TV drama. Understand the current Screen industry and develop a strategy to target potential markets. Effectively communicate and market ideas in a concise and engaging way, verbally and on paper to industry standard.

Alternate Award Names	
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#### External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Creative Writing (2019)
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## Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length Programme Length Unit
Part-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	2 Years

## Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme	<p>The programme aims to improve its students' ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critically evaluate and practise creative, formal, and technical skills appropriate to screenwriting at Masters' level</li> <li>• format and present a range of scripts to industry standards, identifying, reflecting upon and developing their creative voice as writers</li> <li>• develop a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research</li> <li>• acquire a practical and analytical knowledge of narrative and plot sufficient to inform complex, creative composition and problem solving</li> <li>• analyse Film &amp; TV with a deeper critical awareness of current issues at the forefront of professional practice</li> <li>• demonstrate a deep and systematic understanding of the screenwriting medium</li> <li>• work autonomously and implement and evaluate improvements using personal reflection and feedback from others</li> <li>• demonstrate capability in advanced methodological approaches to research</li> </ul>
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## Learning Outcomes

Code	Number	Description
PLO1	1	Understand the processes involved in producing original scripts that shows a deeper awareness of screenwriting techniques.
PLO2	2	Autonomously implement and evaluate improvements using personal reflection to act on feedback demonstrating self-direction, originality and creativity in problem-solving.
PLO3	3	Demonstrate a critical ethical dimension to their screenwriting practice and supporting research, working proactively and with others to formulate solutions.
PLO4	4	Illustrate an enhanced understanding of the writing process and some of the theoretical elements that make an effective screenplay with a sophisticated awareness of issues in regard to equality, diversity and inclusivity.
PLO5	5	Critically assess quality and accuracy and provide concise constructive feedback on peers' work demonstrating sound editorial judgement and sensitivity to issues in equality, diversity and inclusivity.
PLO6	6	Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively, present and develop ideas in an environment similar to the professional writers' room.
PLO7	7	Evidence advanced critical research skills.
PLO8	8	Develop critical responses to existing theoretical discourses, methodologies and practices within TV drama.
PLO9	9	Understand the current Screen industry and develop a strategy to target potential markets.
PLO10	10	Effectively communicate and market ideas in a concise and engaging way, verbally and on paper to industry standard.
PLO11	11	Produce an original screenplay that demonstrates a deep and systematic understanding of the screenwriting medium and displays mastery of advanced screenwriting skills.

## Course Structure

Programme Structure Description	Master of Arts in Screenwriting - 180 credits. Postgraduate Diploma in Screenwriting – Students who complete 120 credits (excluding 7034SW). Postgraduate Certificate in Screenwriting – Students who complete 60 credits (excluding 7034SW) will be eligible for this award. All students take the core research module 7032SW Developing TV Series (Research Methods); this module must be passed before submitting the final dissertation (7034SW) Writing is Rewriting which is taken during the summer semester.
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Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 180 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7030SW Adaptation Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7031SW Writing the Feature Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7032SW Developing TV Series (Research Methods) Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7033SW Writing the Pilot Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 7034SW Writing is Rewriting Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	

## Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teaching, Learning and Assessment	<p>All the teaching and learning activities throughout the programme are designed to develop the relevant skills needed to achieve the set Learning Outcomes. Knowledge is acquired through lectures, workshops, tutorials and visits from established industry professionals as well as through the analysis of craft texts. An insight into the current trends within the television and film industry is gained through regular analysis of single and series drama both on TV and in the cinema. Discussions and taught sessions within the class enable students to differentiate between what makes an effective story for both medium and the key differences between the forms. Regular workshoping of student scripts, where students receive formative feedback from peers and tutors, enables students to evaluate and critically assess their own and others work whilst learning key skills relevant to professional practice. Screenwriting theory and techniques are taught and assessed throughout the programme through coursework (creative and analytical), in written, oral and electronic form. With workshops mirroring the professional writers room, students work collaboratively generating, developing and pitching ideas to industry standard; these ideas are then assessed. Critical essay assignments and reflective journals encourage students to analyse their own creative process within a theoretical context. The completion of an industry standard script report in semester 3 assesses the students' ability to evaluate the quality of other work and their capacity to provide concise, constructive feedback to another writer whilst demonstrating sound editorial judgement and sensitivity – essential requirements for script readers and script editors within the industry. Relevant research skills are taught and assessed in different ways. Research into character, story and setting is judged on the levels of authenticity within the final screenplay whilst in the Reflective Journal in Semester 5 assesses more conventional academic research skills and the ability to analyse key texts. Employability skills and mindset are embedded throughout the programme with teamwork and collaboration (as mentioned) integral to working in the Writers room environment. It is essential, also, that students are organized and plan their workload; this is something that is assessed indirectly with the setting of a regular deadlines for workshoping scripts and submission of assignments. Professional written and communication skills (verbal and written) are taught and assessed through workshops and group presentations. Analysis, problem-solving and decision making is also key to every aspect of this creative programme and is assessed throughout, as is creativity and enterprise. Having written a feature film script, TV series bible and pilot episode, students research possible markets and develop a strategy to sell their ideas, demonstrating initiative and the ability to learn independently - a key skill required for continuing professional development. Students are introduced to Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion (EDI) from the outset and the subject of decolonisation is embedded in all modules. Resources used throughout the programme reinforce messages about our diverse and contrasting global environment. Works by contemporary writers/film-makers (including guest speakers) from diverse backgrounds enhance students' understandings about race, gender, disability, sexuality, gender identity and socio-economic related issues.</p>
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## Opportunities for work related learning

Opportunities for work related learning
There are no specific opportunities for work related learning on this programme. however, the programme focusses extensively on industry-based skills to insure its relevance. Discussions are underway with local production companies to foster possible work-placements in the future.

## Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Other international requirements	· IELTS English language requirement: 6.5 (minimum 6.0 in each component) · Pearson PTE Academic 64 (minimum 59 in each component for UKVI purposes) · RPL is accepted on this programme · Candidates that are short listed for the course are offered an interview to discuss the programme

## Programme Contacts

Programme Leader

Contact Name
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Richard Monks
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**Link Tutor**

Contact Name
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