

Programme Specification Document

Approved, 2022.05

Overview

Programme Code	33010
Programme Title	Film Studies
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Degree
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Ruth Doughty
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Bachelor of Arts with Honours - BAH	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Diploma of Higher Education - DHE	Compare and contrast published and filmed texts from a range of critical and theoretical perspectives. Differentiate the approach of key current and historical practitioners, theorists and associated methodologies. Conceive, select and amend original ideas for scripts and formulate a plan for completing a script. Distinguish and select the technical skills contingent to reaching audience and/or market. Appraise and criticise their own original work and the original work of their peers, and judge the criticism their own original work receives.
Alternative Exit	Bachelor of Arts - BA	Demonstrate a broad and comparative knowledge of the general scope of the subject, its different areas and applications, and its interactions with related subjects. A detailed knowledge of a defined subject or a more limited coverage of a specialist area balanced by a wider range of study. In each case, specialised study will be informed by current developments in the subject. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the essential theories, principles and concepts of the subject(s) and of the ways in which these are developed through the main methods of enquiry in the subject.
Alternative Exit	Certificate of Higher Education - CHE	Recall the processes and good practice required of the practitioner in creating original work. Recall the processes and good practice required of the practitioner in creating original work. Describe the rudimentary techniques demonstrated by published, film and performed practitioners in the canon. Describe the rudimentary techniques demonstrated by published, film and performed practitioners in the canon. Discuss their own original work and the original work of their peers. Discuss their own original work and the original work of their peers. Respond to a range of stimuli and originate work, both in ensemble and individual contexts, as a creative practitioner specialising in film. Respond to a range of stimuli and originate work, both in ensemble and individual contexts, as a creative practitioner specialising in film. Work co-operatively and effectively as a member of a team. Work co-operatively and effectively as a member of a team. Communicate effectively orally, in writing and in a group context.

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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement

UG-Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2019)

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	3 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

To develop students critical and creative response to the moving image.

To guide students towards a critical and historical understanding of film cultures.

To familiarise students with the skills and conventions of professional film practice and the values that accompany them.

To facilitate opportunities for students to develop the technical skills and the artistic and cognitive insights necessary to engage effectively in the study and practice of Film.

To promote the development of graduates who are critical independent thinkers possessing a range of transferable skills, particularly the development of initiative, team, organisational and communication skills.

To enrich learning and teaching by supporting staff development and research which engages theoretical and practical investigation and furthers academic and artistic discourse both within and beyond the institution.

To encourage students to fully engage with the Careers Smart programme, including the Careers Smart Skills Certificate

To encourage students to engage with the development of employability skills by completing a self-awareness statement.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	A range of films from diverse cultural and industrial backgrounds from 1895 to present.

Code	Description
PLO2	Reflect: develop an understanding of the students' own subject position with reference to film-related texts and contexts.
PLO3	Design, carry out and present research projects for the theoretical and/or practical assignments.
PLO4	Locate, select and retrieve relevant material for independent or tutor-guided assignments (theoretical and/or practical).
PLO5	Research, plan, shoot and edit fiction and/or non-fiction audio-visual artefacts.
PLO6	Undertake critical research: formulating a topic or hypothesis, reviewing debates and existing literature, assessing differing perspectives and constructing an argument.
PLO7	Approach tasks independently, creatively and in a disciplined manner.
PLO8	Take responsibility for personal work, responding to criticism and practising self-evaluation.
PLO9	Work co-operatively as a member of a team.
PLO10	Communicate effectively in a number of forms: group discussions, oral presentation, written work and digital film and television production.
PLO11	Comply with set deadlines.
PLO12	The variety of cultural and industrial contexts in which these texts are produced, disseminated and received.
PLO13	The techniques and practices involved in the production of audio-visual artefacts.
PLO14	Theoretical, historical and critical debates about film.
PLO15	Analyse: describe and interpret artistic and cultural representations with an understanding of their generic, stylistic and institutional properties.
PLO16	Historicise: comprehend the operation of moving image texts within history. Identify the features of historical contexts that facilitate particular cultural expressions and inform the construction of particular identities.
PLO17	Conceptualise: abstract from the specific conditions of a context in order to formulate key issues and questions.
PLO18	Synthesise: information, ideas, critical perspectives and media production practices.
PLO19	Evaluate; exercise independent judgement in the selection of material for critical and creative activities; in the assessment of critical and creative contexts; and in the articulation of informed and reasoned arguments (expressed in oral, written or audio-visual forms).

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

The programme is taught and assessed within the Academic Framework. Students must take 120 credits of Film Studies modules at each level of the programme (Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6). Each level of the programme should normally be completed in one academic year. Modules are of two types: Core or Option. Modules can be of 10, 20 or 30 credits. At Level 6 there are two core modules - 6032FILM Final Film Pre-Production (10 credits) and 6033FILM Final Film Production (20 credits). Students must chose 3 modules from the following: 6030FILM World Cinema, 6034FILM Interpretation in Film, 6039FILM Black American Film and 6037FILM Work Based Learning. Each module is worth 20 credits. Students must also chose one of the following 30 credit modules: 6035FILM Dissertation or 6036FILM Mixed Media Research Project. All students are assigned a personal tutor when they arrive at LJMU. The personal tutor will be a member of the Film Studies teaching staff. In addition to meeting with personal tutors in induction week, students are invited to attend 2 x one-to-one meetings over the year. Students will be offered the opportunity of study abroad at Level 5. Option A: replacement of 60 credits of Level 5 with appropriate study abroad The programme will offer the opportunity of 60 credits of study at Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 360 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credits Level 5 study abroad module 5030FILM will normally replace the semester 2 modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5. and/or: Option B: additional study year abroad following Level 5 The programme will offer the opportunity of an additional study year abroad following Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 480 credit honours with study abroad programme. Of those 480 credits, 120 will be taken via a Level 5 study abroad module 5031FILM. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 240 credits at Level 5. Currently we are partnered with a university in Copenhagen, where student can spend a semester at level 5. From 2016-17 we have a new partnership with San Pablo University in Madrid, Spain. We are also in discussion with the University of Connecticut. There are other opportunities to gain work experience in Malta and China.

Programme Structure - 360 credit points	
Level 4 - 120 credit points	
Level 4 Core - 120 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 4020FILM Film Language Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4021FILM Screenwriting and Genre Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4024FILM Film Criticism Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4025FILM Documentary: Film and Reality Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4022FILM Introduction to Filmmaking A Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4023FILM Introduction to Filmmaking B Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Core - 60 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 5020FILM American Cinema Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5022FILM Experimental Filmmaking Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5024FILM European Cinema Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 Optional - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5021FILM Film Adaptation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5023FILM Short Filmmaking Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5025FILM Working in Film Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5026FILM Audiovisual Essay Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
Optional placement - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
Study Abroad - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5031FILM Study Year Abroad -Film Studies Approved 2022.01 - 120 credit points	

Optional Study Semester - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5030FILM Study Semester Abroad - Film Studies Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit	
points	
Level 6 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 Core - 30 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 6032FILM Final Film Pre-Production Approved 2022.02 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 6033FILM Final Film Production Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 90 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6030FILM World Cinema Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6034FILM Interpretation in Film Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6034FILM Interpretation in Film Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points [MODULE] 6035FILM Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 6035FILM Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	

Module specifications may be accessed at https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Knowledge and understanding is acquired through lectures, seminars, tutorials, screenings, group work, practical workshops, independent study and work-based learning. Knowledge and understanding is also effected by demonstrations (short expositions to demonstrate skills and techniques and to establish the parameters of professional practice),master classes (expert workshops by visiting practitioners to familiarise students with current industrial practice),and showcases (opportunities taken to screen and discuss finished work and view work in progress).

Knowledge and understanding is assessed by coursework, examinations and group productions of audio-visual artefacts. Coursework includes essays of various length, reviews, individual and group presentations, individual and group critical self-evaluation, logbooks, self-reflective group portfolios, research exercises, individual work-based learning reports, dissertations. Examinations include class-tests and unseen exams. Group productions of audio-visual artefacts include photo-storyboard, factual and fictional video productions.

Intellectual skills are promoted through lectures and applied by students in seminars, group work, tutorials, independent study and the production of assessments. Some or all of these skills may also be developed through reflection on work-based learning and production of audio visual artefacts. Intellectual skills are assessed through the range of forms of assessment used on the Film Studies programme.

The forms of assessment are structured over the three years of the degree to allow students to develop the ability to think independently, to formulate and research their own topics, and to build on their knowledge and interests. Professional practical skills are acquired through lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, the production of assessments and particularly through independent study and practice. Hands on involvement with audio-visual equipment and work based learning are particularly significant in advancing those skills.

All students receive initial guidance on how to use film related information resources located in the Learning Resource Centres and or on-line how to use cameras, editing facilities and IT. All students are offered guidance on how to use specialised electronic journals and databases. Skills are assessed through coursework (including dissertations), the production of audio visual artefacts and independent study / work based learning. Skills are also assessed through the production of short digital films of different genres and through both oral and written coursework, and examinations, throughout the curriculum.

Transferable skills are developed through seminars, group work, tutorials, independent study and work-based learning. Sustained independent learning (progressively developed in Levels 5 and 6 through the introduction of work-based learning modules and research-driven modules (Interpretation in Film, Dissertation) is supported by individual or group tutorials, individual or group supervision, and the formulation of learning agreements. Students receive induction into basic IT skills at Level 4 and are encouraged to use these skills throughout the levels. Canvas is used to support students learning on the majority of modules. Extensive guides to essay writing and research are available through the VLE. Assessment of transferable skills is through coursework at all levels. The forms of assessment are structured over the three years of the degree to allow students to develop certain transferable skills, such as those of presentation (oral or written) and communication, collaboration, self-reflection and the skills involved in learning independently.

Opportunities for work related learning

Opportunities for work-related learning and work-based learning on the Film Studies programme are offered by the following modules: The Level 4 core Film Studies module Introduction to Filmmaking offers an early glimpse of experience of the world of work. Specifically, all students have to produce fiction and non-fiction films working to a professional standard. The module - and all other practical filmmaking modules of the programme - provides ample space for other forms of work-related learning such as role plays, simulations and on and off-campus activities. As the filmmaking modules advance in terms of skills acquired. Students often have to work with professional actors and in the process come even closer to the work and conditions of professional production while the whole production process is designed as a simulation of a professional production process. At level 5, students can take the Option module 'Working in Film'. Here students will develop an understanding of the working practices and organization of the British film industry on a local and national level. From a careers perspective, 'Working in Film' complements understanding of film gained on both academic and practical modules. Students' understanding of the different sectors associated with the film industry will be further developed through industry case studies that will involve completing briefs set by our industry partners. Students will be encouraged to develop an understanding of the different sectors of the local and national film industry into a recognition of the job opportunities that are presented in an area of personal career paths. The module informs students of relevant work experience opportunities in order to help create a careers portfolio. Work Based Learning: Film Studies (Option Module) Students are asked to secure an 80 hour long placement with a media company or organisation and report on their experience and on the company's structure in detail. Placements are arranged in discussion with a member of staff and all relevant paperwork must be completed. A member of staff will liaise with both the student and the place of work to reflect on the experience. The student will be allocated a supervisor who will guide and advise them in creating the written report. This module will comply with the LJMU Learning Code of Practice.

Entry Requirements

Туре	Description
BTECs	National Certificate (RQF): Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
	National Extended Certificate: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
	National Diploma (RQF): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	National Diploma subjects / grades required: D*D* from a relevant subject area is required if no other level 3 qualifications are taken
	National Extended Diploma (RQF): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	National Extended Diploma subjects / grades required: DMM in a relevant subject area is required if no other level 3 qualifications are taken
Access awards	Access to Higher Education Diploma acceptability: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	Further information: At least 9 Distinctions and 36 Merits, or any other combination that equates to 112 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject

A levels	Minimum number of A Levels required: 2
	Is general studies acceptable? Yes
	Average A Level offer: BBC
	Are AS level awards acceptable? Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
	Maximum AS Level points accepted: 20
Welsh awards	Welsh Baccalaureate: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
IELTS	6.0 (minimum of 5.5 in each component) or equivalent English language proficiency test.
UCAS points	112
International Baccalaureate	International Baccalaureate: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	Additional information: 112 UCAS Tariff points from IB Composite parts, or in combination with other Level 3 qualifications
Alternative qualifications considered	Applications are welcomed from mature and non-standard applicants, who will be considered on an individual basis. These applicants may be required to submit an essay and/or attend an interview, and should demonstrate potential and motivation and/or have relevant experience.
	International applicants will be considered in line with UK qualifications.
NVQ	Are Level 3 NVQs acceptable? Acceptable when combined with other qualifications
Reduced offer scheme	As part of LJMU's commitment to widening access we offer eligible students entry to their chosen course at a reduced threshold between 8 and 16 UCAS points. This applies if you are a student who has experience of living in local authority care or if you have participated in one of LJMU's sustained outreach programmes such as a summer university. Please contact course enquiries for further details.

GCSEs and equivalents	Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained Grade C or Grade 4 or above in English Language and Mathematics GCSE or an approved alternative qualification below:
	Key Skills Level 2 in English/Maths
	NVQ Level 2 Functional skills in Maths and English Writing and or Reading
	Skills for Life Level 2 in Numeracy/English
	Higher Diploma in Maths/English
	Functional Skills Level 2 in Maths/English
	Northern Ireland Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number
	Welsh GCSE in Maths or Numeracy
	Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number
Interview required	Mature and non standard applicants may be invited to attend interview
T levels	T Level requirements: 112 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject
Irish awards	Irish Leaving Certificate: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	Grades / subjects required: 112 UCAS Tariff points with a maximum 20 UCAS Tariff points from Ordinary Level

Extra Entry Requirements

Is a DBS check required?

No