

# **Programme Specification Document**

Approved, 2022.04

# Overview

Programme Code	33014
Programme Title	Creative Writing and 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	Sarah Maclennan
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	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 rudimentary techniques demonstrated by published, filmed and performed practitioners in the canon. Describe rudimentary techniques demonstrated by published, filmed and performed practitioners in the canon. Discuss their own original work and the original work of peers. Discuss their own original work and the original work of peers. Respond to a range of stimuli and originate work, both in ensemble and individual contexts, as a creative practitioner specialising in poetry, prose and script. Respond to a range of stimuli and originate work, both in ensemble and individual contexts, as a creative practitioner specialising in poetry, prose and script. 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. Communicate effectively orally, in writing and in a group context. Begin to explore the history of film and television as both aesthetic and institutional objects. Begin to explore the history of film and television as both aesthetic and institutional objects.
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, amend and select 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 peers, and judge the criticism their own original work receives. Develop a plan for redrafting original scripts, demonstrating an awareness of the requirements of the audience. Describe their original writing in relation to cultural milieu. Produce original filmed work as part of a group

|--|--|

#### **External Benchmarks**

Subject Benchmark Statement	UG-Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2019), UG-Creative Writing (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 provide a context in which to explore Creative Writing and Film as media of communication for the individual and the group, paying due regard to audiences, institutions and the marketplace To familiarise students with the skills and conventions of professional practice, whether producing audio-visual artefacts or prose fiction, poetry, scriptwriting and other forms of creative writing, and the values that accompany them To guide students towards a critical and historical understanding of film, television and writing and publishing cultures To foster students creative enthusiasm for Creative Writing and Film and develop the capacity to respond creatively to a broad range of stimuli 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 Creative Writing and Film. To promote the development of graduates who are critical independent thinkers possessing a range of transferable skills, particularly the development of initiative, self-motivation, team, organisational and communication skills. To enrich teaching and learning by supporting staff development and research which engages theoretical, practical, commercial and artistic investigation and furthers academic and artistic discourse both within and beyond the institution. To encourage students to reflect on and develop their employability skills and to complete a Self-awareness Statement.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

Code	Description
PLO1	Demonstrate the cultural and industrial contexts in which film and literary texts are produced, disseminated and received
PLO2	Synthesise: information, ideas, critical perspectives and text and media production practices
PLO3	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
PLO4	Engage in the production of original film or written material based on an acquisition and understanding of appropriate performance and production vocabularies skills structures techniques and working methods with an emphasis on audience and markets
PLO5	Make new work both in ensemble and individual contexts as a creative practitioner specialising in poetry prose or script and/or digital film production

Code	Description
PLO6	Communicate competently with an audience through the application of the practical production skills associated with publishing and digital filmmaking. Dependent on choice joint and single honours students may acquire the technical craft skills associated with the art and craft of the short story teller novelist poet and screenwriter and of the filmmaker
PLO7	Use individual digital filmmaking writing and workshop techniques associated with key cultural forms or practitioners
PLO8	Engage in independent and group research as part of the process of creating new creative works
PLO9	Demonstrate appropriate skills in securing work within the industry through an understanding of the professional field
PLO10	Locate select and retrieve relevant material for independent or tutor guided assignments (theoretical and or practical)
PLO11	Research plan and expedite original written or audio visual texts or artefacts
PLO12	Understand the impact of past traditions and the canon on contemporary practice in the areas of film and creative writing
PLO13	Apply key methods and concepts for the purpose of analysing screen media or published texts
PLO14	Undertake critical research: formulating a topic or a hypothesis, reviewing debates and existing literature, assessing differing perspectives and constructing an argument.
PLO15	Approach tasks independently, creatively and in a disciplined manner.
PLO16	Take responsibility for personal work, responding to criticism and practicing self-evaluation.
PLO17	Encounter situations in a spirit of enquiry, formulating and asking incisive questions.
PLO18	Appreciate the values of open-mindedness and sensitivity to difference.
PLO19	Exercise critical judgment
PLO20	Think and learn independently and reflectively, prioritising workloads and re-setting objectives where necessary
PLO21	Produce written material in a variety of forms, genres and registers
PLO22	Plan and implement long term projects
PLO23	Replicate the techniques and practices involved in the production of creative writing and audio visual artefacts
PLO24	Analyse traditional and contemporary critical perspectives on film production and of relative concepts, issues and debates pertinent to the disciplines
PLO25	Discuss the relationships between practice and theory, and market practice and technique
PLO26	Evaluate the Processes by which digital production and publication is made in the creation of new work
PLO27	Analyse: describe and interpret artistic and cultural representations with an understanding of their generic, stylistic and institutional properties

Code	Description
PLO28	Historicise: comprehend the operation of moving image and texts within history and the canon. Identify the features of historical contexts that facilitate particular cultural expressions and inform the construction of particular identities and subject positions
PLO29	Conceptualise: abstract from the specific conditions of a context in order to formulate key issues

### **Programme Structure**

#### **Programme Structure Description**

At Level 4 all modules are core. Students take 60 credits Film Studies modules and 60 credits Creative Writing modules. At Level 5 all modules are optional. At Level 6 all modules are optional. However, the following prerequisites apply: - In order to take Final Film Pre-Production & Film Production at Level 6, students must have taken Experimental AND Short Filmmaking at Level 5. - In order to take Mixed Media Research Project, students must take at least one of the following: Experimental Filmmaking or Short Filmmaking - Students can take Mixed Media Research Project OR Dissertation. Both these modules are Year-long. - In Creative Writing, a related module in Poetry, Prose and Script at Level 5 is a pre-requisite for continuing with the form at Level 6. Similarly, students wishing to study a Semester 2 module at Level 6 would have to take the related Semester 1 module. 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 5030CWFS 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 5031CWFS. 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] 4024FILM Film Criticism Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4030CRWRI Introduction to Poetry Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4031CRWRI Introduction to Scriptwriting Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4032CRWRI Introduction to Prose Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 4022FILM Introduction to Filmmaking A Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
Level 5 - 120 credit points	
Level 5 Optional - No credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5020FILM American Cinema Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5021FILM Film Adaptation Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5022FILM Experimental Filmmaking Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5023FILM Short Filmmaking Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5024FILM European Cinema 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	
[MODULE] 5030CRWRI Screen 1 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5031CRWRI Treatment and Screenplay Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5032CRWRI The Fantastic Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5033CRWRI Approaching Your Novel Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5034CRWRI Short Prose Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	

[MODULE] 5035CRWRI Poetry Writing Workshop: Form and Substance Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5036CRWRI Short Story One Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 5037CRWRI Dramatic Writing for Radio and Stage Approved 2022.03 - 20 credit points	
Optional placement - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
Study Abroad - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5031CWFS Study Year Abroad -Creative Writing and Film Studies Approved 2022.01 - 120 credit points	
Optional Study Semester - 60 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 5030CWFS Study Semester Abroad - Creative Writing and Film Studies Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
Level 6 - 120 credit points	
Level 6 Optional - 120 credit points	OPTIONAL
[MODULE] 6030CRWRI Prose Portfolio 1 Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6030FILM World Cinema Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6031CRWRI Prose Portfolio 2 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6032CRWRI Independent Study in Creative Writing Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6032FILM Final Film Pre-Production Approved 2022.02 - 10 credit points	
[MODULE] 6033CRWRI The Writer At Work Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6033FILM Final Film Production Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6034CRWRI The Writer At Work: the Project Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6034FILM Interpretation in Film Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6035CRWRI Poetry Writing Workshop : Advanced Poetry 1 Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6035FILM Dissertation Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 6036CRWRI Poetry Writing Workshop: Advanced Poetry 2 Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6036FILM Mixed Media Research Project Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 6037FILM Work Based Learning Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6039CRWRI Digital Writing Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6039FILM Black American Film Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6040CRWRI Advanced Scriptwriting Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 6041CRWRI Script Portfolio Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	

Module specifications may be accessed at <a href="https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx">https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx</a>

### Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Knowledge and understanding is acquired through lectures, seminars, tutorials, screenings, group work, practical workshops, independent study and work-based learning. Furthermore knowledge and understanding is also effected by demonstrations/workshops (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); work-related learning projects (work-based or simulated); and showcases (opportunities taken to audience with discussion of finished work and works in progress). Knowledge and understanding is assessed by coursework, examinations, class contribution and group productions of audio-visual artefacts. Coursework includes: essays of various length; reviews; original writing; individual and group presentations; individual and group critical self-evaluation; blogs and websites; logbooks; self-reflective group portfolios; research exercises; individual work-based learning reports; dissertations; commentaries. 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 written texts and of films Intellectual skills are assessed through the range of forms of assessment used on the Film Studies and Creative Writing programmes. 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. Specifically, critical and evaluative coursework essays, oral presentations and viva are employed to assess learning outcomes. At Level 6, students write a dissertation or compile a portfolio which addresses key thinking skills. A limited number of formal (unseen) examinations at all levels provide students with the opportunity to organise information and structure a reasoned argument under limited time conditions. Professional practical skills are acquired through lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, the production of assessments and particularly through independent study and practice. Skills based practical classes and applied production projects are the basic means of teaching and learning practical skills. Self, group and tutor evaluation and feedback inform the learning process particularly at Levels 4 and 5. At Level 6, students have a significant element of independence to experiment and test practical skills but meet regularly with staff and peers to discuss methodologies and progress of the practical work. Some of the skills are taught and assessed in non-practice based modules. All students receive initial guidance on how to use film/creative writing related information resources located in the Learning Resource Centres and/or on-line. Assessment of practical skills is via coursework, blogs, websites, workshop and editing/publication projects. Assessment can involve the staff team monitoring and marking both process and editing/film production against agreed and written criteria. Assessment of process learning is supported either by commentaries or individual logs or self-evaluative essays or viva voce. Furthermore there are more traditional modes of assessment involved; for example both oral and written coursework, and examinations, throughout the curriculum. Transferable skills are developed through seminars, group work, tutorials, independent study, work-based learning. Sustained independent learning is supported by individual or group tutorials, individual or group supervision, and the formulation of learning agreements. In

## Opportunities for work related learning

Opportunities for work-related learning and work-based learning on the Creative Writing and Film Studies programme are offered by modules at Levels 4, 5 and 6: In Level 4 students are offered early glimpses of experience of the world of work with CareerSmart: Explore. Students have the opportunity to produce fiction and non-fiction films working to a professional standard. All practical filmmaking modules in the programme provide ample space for other forms of work-related learning such as role plays, simulations and on and off-campus activities. At Level 5 students experience with the world of work increases when students are required to produce filmed pieces of work of increased scope, size and the duration of production is much larger than at Level 4. 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. In the 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. To further develop and enhance our students employability, and drawing on the existing research and industry expertise we have on the Writing programme (permanent staff include: published poets, novelists, short story writers; broadcast playwrights; performed theatre and screen writers; publishers; literary editors; and community arts project managers), we have a Level 6 work related learning module called The Writer At Work. Freelance/Self-employment models will be encouraged as this is absolutely representative of the way in which subject skills are best represented in the employment world. Existing industry links will be used to finesse and deliver and assess the module. Group work is encouraged, facilitating a more rounded view, with individuals within a group adopting different roles within the simulated world of work. The module will be delivered in the form of lectures, workshops, private study, tutorials, case-studies, field visits and industry-sourced masterclasses. Specifically, students will be taught how to prepare a Learning Agreement and how to produce a portfolio which includes an awareness of personal development in its reflective element. Students will be assigned industryspecialist supervisors wherever possible and will be taught how to manage all aspects of their project, in terms of funding, resources, production and marketing. Writing as a professional skill is embedded in all Creative Writing modules throughout the course. The transferable skills which the student acquires in modules at all levels, cultivate the personal skills required of a freelance writer: self-starting, project management, teamwork, a dynamic model of objective management, self-criticism, meeting deadlines, industry-standard presentation, and audience/market awareness. Further information about CareerSmart: Explore can be found at: https://www2.ljmu.ac.uk/careers/124203.htm

#### **Entry Requirements**

Туре	Description
UCAS points	112
IELTS	6.0 (minimum of 5.5 in each component) or equivalent English language proficiency test.

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* if studied on its own or to the otal of 112 UCAS points if combined with other qualifications
National Extended Diploma (RQF): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
National Extended Diploma subjects / grades required: DMM is required if no other evel 3 qualifications are taken
Are Level 3 NVQs acceptable? Acceptable when combined with other qualifications
Applications are welcomed from mature and non standard applicants who will be considered on an individual basis. These applicants should demonstrate potential and motivation and/or have relevant experience and may be required to submit an essay and/or attend an interview.
nternational Applicants: We welcome overseas applicants who will be considered in ine with UK requirements.
Minimum number of A Levels required: 2
s 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
<b>Level requirements:</b> 112 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject
Welsh Baccalaureate: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications
rish 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
VENEVE A ACTE TIE V S A AEV T

Access awards	Access to Higher Education Diploma acceptability: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	<b>Further information:</b> At least 15 Distinctions and 30 Merits, or any other combination that equates to 112 UCAS Tariff points in a relevant subject
International Baccalaureate	International Baccalaureate: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications
	<b>Additional information:</b> 112 UCAS Tariff points from IB Composite parts, or in combination with other Level 3 qualifications
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	Will I be interviewed?
	Mature and non-standard applicants may be invited to attend interview.

# **Extra Entry Requirements**

Is a DBS check required?	
No	
OCR National acceptability	
National Certificate: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications	
National Diploma: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications	
National Extended Diploma: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications	
Can this course be deferred?	
Yes	