

Programme Specification Document

Approved, 2022.04

Overview

Programme Code	35858
Programme Title	Documentary
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Camilla Affleck
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Arts - MA	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Certificate - PC	Demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of various documentary genres and their potential social and political impact. Demonstrate professional documentary-making skills in terms of using practical equipment and post-production software. Demonstrate an understanding of the processes required when funding, distributing and marketing an independent documentary project, both in terms of national and international engagement. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the complex legal and ethical dimensions of documentary-making. Develop a critical approach to the analysis of the development and operation of media in a national and international context. Those students with prior practical production experience, at BA level or through experience as a practitioner within the professional media industry, will be able to demonstrate an awareness of industry practices through a practical placement or reflection upon their experiences gained through employment within the industry. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the students' own creative processes and practice through engagement in and critical analysis of one or more production practices.
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of various documentary genres and their potential social and political impact. Demonstrate professional documentary-making skills in terms of using practical equipment and post-production software. Demonstrate an understanding of the processes required when funding, distributing and marketing an independent documentary project, both in terms of national and international engagement. Demonstrate a critical awareness of the complex legal and ethical dimensions of documentary-making. Develop a critical approach to the analysis of the development and operation of media in a national and international context. Those students with prior practical production experience, at BA level or through experience as a practitioner within the professional media industry, will be able to demonstrate an awareness of industry practices through a practical placement or reflection upon their experiences gained through employment within the industry. Demonstrate how storytelling narratives can be created for and distributed using a range of media platforms; Demonstrate an understanding of different digital post production skills. Demonstrate effective transferral skills such as written and oral communication skills, production research and planning skills. Demonstrate an ability to pitch ideas concisely and convincingly to industry professionals. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the students' own creative processes and practice through engagement in and critical analysis of one or more production practices. Demonstrate the ability to synthesise ideas and conceptual frameworks from different sources of knowledge and from different academic disciplines. Undertake self-directed research for essays, projects and creative productions involving sustained independent and autonomous enquiry. Be creative and self-reflexive in producing output for a variety of audiences and in a variety of media forms. Utilise their documentary production skills in a variety of careers, including media,

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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	1 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

As with all Master's level programmes, study will be at, or be informed by, the forefront of academic and professional discipline; Study will provide skills training in documentary production; including core journalism skills for documentary makers; practical craft skills; post production software skills and the opportunity to engage with cutting edge technology appropriate to the professional media industry; Modules have been designed to foster the development and application of research and evaluative skills, together with the adoption of professional planning and project management practices for all aspects of documentary production, in order to enhance employability in circumstances requiring sound judgement, personal responsibility, initiative and practical programme-making skills in complex and unpredictable professional environments; All students will be actively encouraged to show originality in the application of knowledge and understand how the boundaries of knowledge are advanced through research and by approaching complex issues systematically and creatively; The University will provide an educational experience which facilitates the development of all students irrespective of race, gender, physical ability and sexual orientation.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Evidence knowledge and understanding of a range of documentary media texts from diverse cultural and industrial backgrounds;
PLO2	Evidence knowledge and understanding of the variety of cultural and industrial contexts in which these texts are produced, disseminated and received;
PLO3	Evidence knowledge and understanding of the techniques and practices involved in the production of documentary media artefacts;

Code	Description
PLO4	Evidence knowledge and understanding of the skills and approaches concerned with the production of digital media;
PLO5	Evidence knowledge and understanding of the business of funding, distributing and marketing documentaries in the independent sector;
PLO6	Show an understanding of key production processes and professional practices relevant to media and communicative industries, and of ways of conceptualising creativity and authorship;
PLO7	Demonstrate a critical understanding of the narrative processes and modes of representation at work in different documentary genres;
PLO8	Engage critically and evaluatively with major thinkers, debates and intellectual paradigms within the documentary field and put them to productive use;
PLO9	Analyse, interpret, and show the exercise of critical judgement in the understanding of and practical production of documentary artefacts;
PLO10	Develop substantive and detailed knowledge and understanding in the field of documentary-making within a broader national and global context;
PLO11	Consider and evaluate their own work in a reflexive manner, including in some instances, with reference to their own professional and/or placement experience;
PLO12	Undertake self-directed research for documentary projects, involving sustained independent and autonomous enquiry;
PLO13	Formulate appropriate research questions in terms of potential story ideas and employ appropriate methods and resources for exploring and researching these ideas with a view to producing a documentary media artefact;
PLO14	Draw and reflect upon the relevance and impact of their own cultural commitments and positionings to the practice of story ideas and story narrative research;

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Full-time students will complete 60 credits in semesters one, two and summer. Students will choose modules that reflect their existing professional media experience. Teaching staff will give advice about which route will be most advantageous for them, to ensure they can achieve the requisite learning outcomes. In Semester 1, students choose from various Option modules but can only select one of the two Placement modules, either 7007DOC (10c) or 7013DOC (20c). If selecting a Placement module, this must be for a minimum of 80 hours and students must obtain prior approval from tutors that the placement is suitable for module assessment. 7025DOC Research/Story Development 2 is a core module taught in semester 2 and must be passed before the final core module assessment (7009DOC Documentary Project) can be submitted.

Programme Structure - 180 credit points		
Level 7 - 180 credit points		
Level 7 Core - 90 credit points	CORE	
[MODULE] 7009DOC Documentary Project Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points		
[MODULE] 7025DOC Research/Story Development 2 Approved 2022.02 - 30 credit points		
Level 7 Optional - 90 credit points	OPTIONAL	
[MODULE] 7003DOC Interactive Documentary Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points		
[MODULE] 7004DOC Radio Documentary Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points		
[MODULE] 7007DOC Industry Placement Approved 2022.01 - 10 credit points		
[MODULE] 7008DOC Reflections on Professional Practice Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points		
[MODULE] 7010DOC Media Production Project Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points		
[MODULE] 7011DOC Documentary Post Production Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 7012DOC Documentary Craft Skills Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 7013DOC Professional Placement Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points		
[MODULE] 7024DOC Research/Story Development 1 Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points		

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

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Knowledge and understanding is acquired through a wide mix of teaching methods including lectures, demonstrations, screenings, workshops; tutorials; group and individual project work, live projects, pitching to industry practitioners; supervised independent learning, open and resource-based learning, multi-media and new media learning, production practice; work placement; small group and individual learning and teaching situations; tutor-led, student-led and independent learning sessions. Specialist IT resources and other studio-based resources play an important part in the delivery. Essays, reviews and reports; seen examinations; individual presentations (oral and technology based); critical self- evaluation; role-analyses/evaluations; logbooks, diaries and autobiographical writing; individual portfolios of work (whether critical, creative, self-reflective, or the outcome of the professional practice); individually produced artefacts, including productions in sound, audio-visual or other media; individual project reports; research exercises; tasks aimed at the assessment of specific skills (e.g. different media platform skills; digital post-production skills, research skills, skills of application); external placement or work-based learning reflection reports.

Opportunities for work related learning

It is intended that much of the study will simulate the professional workplace in terms of tutorials and rough cut assessments run in part as production meetings as experienced in the professional industry. These will offer the opportunity for formative feedback, thereby mirroring professional practice. For those students with a media background at undergraduate level, a placement module allows them the opportunity for substantial work experience to be recognised and assessed within either 7007DOC Industry Placement module (10c) or 7013DOC Professional Placement (20c). Work experience would need to be approved by the Programme Leader, incorporate a minimum of 80 hours and be undertaken within a media organisation which produces short and/or long-form documentaries/factual programming. It is anticipated that members of the cohort may already be working in the professional media industry, thus adding to the professional contacts of the student cohort as a whole. Regular contact is maintained with Journalism and Media Production alumni working in the media industry which will help students to forge further industry contacts. Students are also encouraged to contact production companies and seek work shadowing placements or internships. The Journalism and Media Production departments organise regular events where documentary-makers and media professionals are invited to give presentations/run master classes. These events offer excellent networking opportunities for students to make contact with people in the industry, which can lead to placement opportunities.

Entry Requirements

Туре	Description
Interview required	You will not be interviewed (unless the Programme Leader deems it necessary)
IELTS	IELTS English language requirement: 6.5 (minimum 5.5 in each component)
Undergraduate degree	a minimum 2:2 degree
RPL	RPL is accepted on this programme
Alternative qualifications considered	Although most applicants will be graduates, those without a degree and other non-standard applications will be considered. The Programme Leader will consider such applications on the basis of experience

Extra Entry Requirements

to demonstrate a genuine interest and commitment to practical filmmaking (non-media graduates) to demonstrate the ability to benefit from and contribute to the programme