PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Film Studies

Awarding institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Teaching institution	LJMU
UCAS Code	P303
JACS Code	W600
Programme Duration	Full-Time: 3 Years
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Subject benchmark statement	Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
Programme accredited by	
Description of accreditation	
Validated target and alternative exit awards	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Film Studies Diploma of Higher Education in Film Studies Certificate of Higher Education in Film Studies
Programme Leader	Ruth Doughty

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 futhers 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.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Certificate of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

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.

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.

Work co-operatively and effectively as a member of a team.

Communicate effectively orally, in writing and in a group context.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Diploma of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

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.

Target award Learning Outcomes - Bachelor of Arts with Honours

A student successfully completing the programme of study will have acquired subject knowledge and understanding as well as skills and other attributes.

Knowledge and understanding

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

A1. A range of films from diverse cultural and industrial backgrounds from 1895 to present.

A2. The variety of cultural and industrial contexts in which these texts are produced, disseminated and received.

A3. The techniques and practices involved in the production of audio-visual artefacts.

A4. Theoretical, historical and critical debates about film.

Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

Knowledge and understanding of A1 to A5 is acquired through lectures, seminars, tutorials, screenings, group work, practical workshops, independent study and work-based learning. Knowledge and understanding of A3 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).

Assessment

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

Skills and other attributes

Intellectual Skills

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

B1. Analyse: describe and interpret artistic and cultural representations with an understanding of their generic, stylistic and institutional properties.

B2. 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.

B3. Conceptualise: abstract from the specific conditions of a context in order to formulate key issues and questions.

B4. Synthesise: information, ideas, critical perspectives and media production practices.

B5. 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).

B6. Reflect: develop an understanding of the students' own subject position with reference to film-related texts and contexts.

Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

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.

Assessment

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

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

C1. Design, carry out and present research projects for the theoretical and/or practical assignments.

C2. Locate, select and retrieve relevant material for independent or tutor-guided assignments (theoretical and/or practical).

C3. Research, plan, shoot and edit fiction and/or non-fiction audio-visual artefacts.

Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

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.

Assessment

Skills C1, C2 are assessed through coursework (including dissertations), the production of audio visual artefacts and independent study / work based learning. Skill C3 is assessed through the production of short digital films of different genres. Skill C4 is assessed through both oral and written coursework, and examinations, throughout the curriculum.

Transferable / key skills

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

D1. Undertake critical research: formulating a topic or hypothesis, reviewing debates and existing literature, assessing differing perspectives and constructing an argument.

D2. Approach tasks independently, creatively and in a disciplined manner.

D3. Take responsibility for personal work, responding to criticism and practising self-evaluation.

D4. Work co-operatively as a member of a team.

D5. Communicate effectively in a number of forms: group discussions, oral presentation, written work and digital film and television production.

D6. Comply with set deadlines.

Teaching, learning and assessment methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated

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

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.

Programme structure - programme rules and modules

Programme rules

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 4 and Level 5 all modules are core.

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, 6031FILM Writing for Film, 6034FILM Interpretation in 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. Both the ERASMUS exchange and the work placements are highly competitive.

Level 6	Potential Awards on completion	Bachelor of Arts with Honours
Core	Option	Award Requirements
6032FILM Final Film Pre-Production (10 credits) 6033FILM Final Film Production (20 credits)	6030FILM World Cinema (20 credits) 6031FILM Writing for Film (20 credits) 6034FILM Interpretation in Film (20 credits) 6035FILM Dissertation (30 credits) 6036FILM Mixed Media Research Project (30 credits) 6037FILM Work Based Learning (20 credits)	30 core credits at level 6 90 option credits at level 6

Level 5	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
5020FILM American Cinema (20 credits) 5022FILM Experimental Filmmaking (20 credits) 5024FILM European Cinema (20 credits)	5021FILM Film Adaptation (20 credits) 5023FILM Short Filmmaking (20 credits) 5025FILM Working in Film (20 credits) 5026FILM Audiovisual Essay (20 credits)	60 core credits at level 5 60 option credits at level 5

Level 4	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
4020FILM Film Language (20 credits) 4021FILM Screenwriting and Genre (20 credits) 4024FILM Film Criticism (20 credits) 4025FILM Documentary: Film and Reality (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 4 0 option credits at level 4

4026FILM Introduction to Filmmaking 1 (20 credits) 4027FILM Introduction to Filmmaking 2 (20 credits)		

Information about assessment regulations

All programmes leading to LJMU awards operate within the University's Academic Framework.
https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-quality-and-regulations/academic-framework

Opportunities for work-related learning (location and nature of activities)

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 1 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.

Criteria for admission

A/AS Level
112 UCAS points from a minimum of 2 A Levels. Maximum of 20 AS points accepted

BTEC National Diploma
112 UCAS Tariff points

Irish Leaving Certificate
112 UCAS points. Maximum of 20 UCAS points at Ordinary Level

Scottish Higher
112 UCAS points to include 2 Advanced Higher

International Baccalaureate
26 IB points

Access
At least 15 Distinctions and 30 Merits or any other combination that equates to 112 UCAS tariff points in a relevant subject

Other
Prior to starting the programme applicants must have obtained grade 4 or grade C or above in English

Language and Mathematics GCSE or an approved alternative qualification:

• 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

• Wales Essential Skills Level 2 in Communication or Application of Number

Mature entry
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.

Overseas qualifications
International applications will be considered in line with UK qualifications.

Any applicant whose first language is not English will be required to have IELTS 6.0 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or acceptable equivalent.

External Quality Benchmarks

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable.

The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Published review reports are available on the QAA website at www.qaa.ac.uk

Programmes which are professionally accredited are reviewed by professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) and such programmes must meet the competencies/standards of those PSRBs.

Support for students and their learning

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Students are able to access a range of professional services including:

- Advice on practical aspects of study and how to use these opportunities to support and enhance their personal and academic development. This includes support for placements and careers guidance.
- Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of: student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.
- Students studying for an LJMU award at a partner organisation will have access to local support services

Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Student Feedback and Evaluation

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys (such as module evaluations, the NSS and PTES), module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes.

Staff development

The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

Internal Review

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make improvements to programmes.

External Examining

External examiners are appointed to programmes to assess whether:

- the University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements
- the assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations
- the academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience
- the achievement of students are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which the external examiners have experience

and to provide informative comment and recommendations on:

- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment observed by external examiners
- opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students

Please note:

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the 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 learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme guides.