COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department: Communications and the Arts

Programme: BA Film

FHEQ **Level:**   4

Course Title: Introduction to Filmmaking

Course Code: FILM 4102

Total Hours: 160 (Lev 3-5) (4 US Credit)
Timetabled Hours: 45
Guided Learning Hours: 15
Independent Learning Hours: 100

Credit   16 UK CATS credits
                                       8 ECTS credits
                                       4 UK credits

Course Description:

This course introduces students to key skills required for contemporary filmmaking in its various contexts. Students will experience working as part of a crew within a group, and be introduced to essential tools including video cameras, tripods and professional editing software. Using these tools, students produce short videos in response to specific briefs that each introduce different aspects of the filmmaking processes. By looking at noteworthy examples of other films, students are also introduced to the breadth of contemporary filmmaking practice and gain a basic introduction to relevant theoretical concerns.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

The Aims and Objectives of the course include:

- understanding the basic functions of a video camera
- the use of a tripod for both stillness and movement
- a basic understanding of editing, including the import and manipulation of footage
- an introduction to cinematography - composition of an image in relation to a subject
- how to conduct and record interviews
- An introduction to the recording and editing of sound
- the considerations of the context of film making and its distribution
- the importance of lighting when filming
- An introduction to script writing
- Gain experience of collaboration as part of a crew

Programme Outcomes:

4BI, 4CI, 4DI

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the key issues of and core methods in film production.
- Demonstrate broad communication skills (including digital literacy) in deploying ideas and information within filmmaking.
- Demonstrate broad skills that are relevant to the workplace in terms of both personal and/or group outcomes within filmmaking.

Indicative Content:

- Introduction to a video camera

- Tripod for stillness and movement

- Introduction to editing, including the transfer of footage from camera to computer, the manipulation of material and export of final video

- Interview techniques (written, verbal and technical)

- Introduction to script writing

- Introduction to collaboration in filmmaking

- The sharing of created content online

- Screening and discussion of noteworthy film making

- Consider the context of the video (narrative, documentary, journalistic, experimental, etc.) and how this effects the production

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/

Teaching Methodology:

This course will be delivered face to face through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions. In addition to classroom activities, there are guided learning elements that are tutor led and arranged through Blackboard. These activities can be asynchronous online sessions, flipped classrooms, set readings with discussion boards or set guest lectures for example. Set activities are monitored by the instructor to ascertain student engagement. Students are encouraged to prepare for class and to play an active part, to raise questions, following-up ideas and interact with a wide range of provided material.

Indicative Text(s):

Owens, J. (2023) *Video Production Handbook.* 7th edn. Waltham, MA: Focal Press.

Taylor, S. and Batty, C. (2021) *The Palgrave Handbook of Script Development*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Willett, A. (2021) *Media Production: A Practical Guide to Radio, TV and Film*. 2nd edn. London: Routledge.

See syllabus for complete reading list and recommended films material.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
First edition	Nov 2024	