

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**Academic School/Department:** Communications and The Arts

**Programme:** BA Film

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** From Script to Screen

**Course Code:** FILM 6102

**Student Engagement Hours:** 160

**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 US credits

**Course Description:**

From Script to Screen will explore the creative and practical aspects of script writing and advanced video production. The course is intended for students who have experience of video production and want to expand their knowledge and skills. Students will create and produce a video, starting from the inception of the idea through to the realization of a finished film to be screened at the end of the course. Focusing on the journey from having an idea for a film through to writing a high spec script, students will learn how drama is represented in the written form, analyze and explore scripts from existing films or other forms of drama, and learn more about the film and TV industry and the place of screenwriting in it. In doing so, students have the opportunity to try the different 'parts' of filmmaking, from the creative and theoretical – writing, story boarding, workshopping, casting and directing, to the technical – camera operation, sound recording and video editing.

**Prerequisites:**

FILM 5101 Video Production OR FILM 5103 Documentary Theory and Production, 70 credits

**Aims and Objectives:**

The course aims to provide instruction on the key aspects of filmmaking. This includes the key techniques of the medium - writing a script, producing a film, cinematography, sound design & operation, directing and editing.

**Programme Outcomes:**

6AI, 6AII, 6BI, 6CI, 6DI, 6DIII

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is 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 systematic understanding of different paradigms in writing, directing, designing, and producing short narrative films.
- Demonstrate the ability to develop critical responses to and a systematic understanding of methodological approaches taken in filmmaking, from pre-production to post-production.
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of practical issues and problems film production faces (explicitly addressing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion/Education for Sustainable Development).
- Demonstrate the communication skills needed to plan and manage a film production, while considering changing contexts, audiences and levels of complexity, and advanced group work.
- Demonstrate in film production the ability to act with minimal direction or supervision, to engage in self-reflection, to use feedback in analysing own capabilities, to appraise alternatives, and to plan and implement actions.
- Demonstrate, within a portfolio of work, entrepreneurial education in the form of video production practices and skills (including but not limited to scriptwriting, casting, directing, lighting, cinematography, colour grading, as well as video and sound editing) that translate directly into employment.

**Indicative Content:**

- Scripted short form filmmaking
- Review of video and sound editing
- Primary elements of filmmaking
- Considering production resources.
- Script writing and development
- Casting and directing
- Lighting and cinematography
- Art direction and set design
- Postproduction, editing and sound-mixing - including colouring/grading

**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:**

Lectures, screenings, demonstrations, supervised practice, individual and group critiques comprise the teaching methods for this course. Students will spend three hours per week in the classroom and one additional hour per week on various activities including but not limited to self-guided practice, screenings, and guest lectures.

**Indicative Texts:**

Field, S. (2019) *Screenplay: The Foundations of Screenwriting*. New York: Indibooks.

Gooch, S. (2004) *Writing a Play*. London: Bloomsbury.

McKee, R. (1999) *Story*. London: Methuen.

Wales, L. (2023) *The Complete Guide to Film and Digital Production: The People and The Process*. 4th edn. London: Routledge.

**Journals:**

*Sight and Sound*.

**Websites:**

Celtx. Available at: [www.celtx.com/index.html](http://www.celtx.com/index.html) (Accessed: November 2024).

BAFTA. Available at: [www.bafta.org/](http://www.bafta.org/) (Accessed: November 2024).

See syllabus for complete reading list.

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Change Log for this CSD:

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