

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTFC.

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Art and Social Sciences

**Programme:** BA Film Studies

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** From Script to Screen

**Course Code:** FLM 6400

**Course Leader:** Dr John Chua

**Student Engagement Hours:** 120

Lectures: 10

Seminar / Tutorials: 35

Independent / Guided Learning: 75

**Semester:** Fall, Spring

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits

6 ECTS credits

3 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 the idea as 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 and 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 film-making, from the creative and theoretical – writing, story boarding, workshopping, casting and directing, to the technical – camera operation, sound recording and video editing. A studio fee is levied on this course.

**Prerequisites:** Prerequisites: ADM 5200 or submission on video or DVD of a video/film made by the applicant. Can be in any genre, but must demonstrate the ability to use a video camera and basic skills in sound recording and editing.

**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:**

6A(i); 6A(iii); 6B(i); 6C(i); 6D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:  
<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

**Learning Outcomes:**

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

- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the genre's evolution, as well as its aesthetical traditions, forms, current characteristics and possible future developments.
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of new and emergent moving image formats and their relation both to their social context and to earlier forms
- Demonstrate a systematic understanding and application of the key production processes and professional practices in narrative film production and apply this knowledge in the creation a short narrative film.
- Gather, organise and deploy complex and abstract ideas and information to produce a cogent and original narrative film.
- Demonstrate personal responsibility and professional codes of conduct in working, learning and development, and in professional and interpersonal communication.

**Indicative Content:**

- Introduction to 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
- Post production, editing and sound-mixing - including colouring/grading

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Special Programme Assessment Norms for Art, Design and Media approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee found at: <http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-affairs/academic-standing.aspx>.

**Teaching Methodology:**

Lectures, screenings, demonstrations, supervised practice, individual and group critiques comprise the teaching methods for this course.

**Bibliography:**

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Indicative Text(s):**

Field, Syd. *Screenplay: the Foundations of Screenwriting*. New York: Delta, 2005.  
Gooch, Steve, *Writing a Play*. London: A&C Black, 2001  
Jolliffe, G. and C. Jones. *The Guerrilla Film Makers Handbook*. London: Continuum International, 2006.  
McKee, Robert. *Story*. London: Methuen 1999.

**Journals**

*Sight and Sound*

**Web Sites**

<https://www.celtx.com/index.html>

[www.bafta.org](http://www.bafta.org)

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

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Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Major	Change from ADM to FLM	28/11/2014	

	numbering		
Major	Prog Outcomes mapped onto FLM.	28/11/2014	
Major	Revised Learning Outcomes	28/11/2014	
Minor	Revised Indicative Texts	28/11/2014	