

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department:	Communications and The Arts
Programme:	Art History & Visual Culture Communications: Advertising & PR Communications: Media Studies Film & Photography Film Studies
FHEQ Level:	4
Course Title:	Introduction to Film Making
Course Code:	FLM 4210
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	10
Seminar / Tutorials:	35
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces students to key skills required for contemporary film making. During the class, students will become familiar with essential tools including video cameras, tripods and professional editing software. Using these tools, students produce their own short videos in response to specific briefs that each introduce different aspects of the filmmaking process such as script writing and recording interviews. Students will also gain a basic introduction to relevant theoretical concerns through screenings of noteworthy examples of contemporary and historical filmmaking.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

The Aims and Objectives of the course include:

- An 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 and building characters and plot.

Programme Outcomes:

Art History and Visual Culture: A4iii, B4iii, C4i, D4i, D4iii

Film Studies: A4iii, B4iii, C4i, C4iii, D4i,

Film and Photography: A4iii, B4iii, C4i, D4i,

Communications: Advertising and PR: A4iii, B4iii, C4i, D4i, D4iii

Communications: Media Studies: A4iii, B4iii, C4i, D4i, D4iii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/programme-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

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

- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic functions of a video camera, including the recording and playback of footage.
- Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary theories and practices in script writing
- Be familiar with the process of video editing, including file management, the import and manipulation of footage, and the export of videos for distribution.
- Consider the effect of the bringing together of material in editing.
- Conduct an interview with a subject, including writing relevant questions, and framing the subject in relation to an interviewer and location.
- Analyse and critique one's own work, both technically and in relation to the criteria of a set brief.
- Construct a visual composition with a video camera, considering foreground, background & subject.

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)
- Storyboarding for planning a project
- 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
- Introduction to script writing
- Narrative structure and techniques
- Plot development
- Character development

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:

Course material is presented through lectures, demonstrations, discussions and visual presentations. Critique of work produced will take place at the editing and writing stage and upon completion of printing for each project.

Indicative Texts:

Bordwell and Thompson. *Film Art: an Introduction*; 11th Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2016.

Field, Syd. *Screenplay: the Foundations of Screenwriting*. New York: Delta, 2005.

McKee, Robert. *Story*. London: Methuen 1999

Owens, J. *Video Production Handbook*. 6th Edition. Abingdon: Focal Press, 2017.

Musburger, Robert. *Single-Camera Video Production*. 6th Edition. Abingdon: Focal Press, 2014.

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Various updates as part of the UG programme review	AB Jan 2022	
Revision – annual update	May 2023	