# ual: london college of communication

# BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies

Programme Specification 2021/22

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| **Awarding Body** | University of the Arts London |
| **College** | London College of Communication |
| **School** | Screen School |
| **Programme** | Film and Television (L043) |
| **FHEQ Level** | Level 6 Degree |
| **Course Credits** | 360 |
| **Mode** | Full Time |
| **Duration of Course** | 3 years |
| **Valid From** | September 1st 2021 |
| **Course Entry Requirements** | **Home/EU/International**<br><br>The course team welcomes applicants from a broad range of backgrounds from all over the world. The course attracts students who apply direct from A-level (or equivalent) or from Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, or other art or design courses, as well as mature students who may have previously worked in industry.<br><br>**The standard entry requirements for this course are as follows:**<br><br>112 UCAS tariff points, which can be made up of one or a combination of the following accepted full level 3 qualifications:<br><br><ul><li>A Levels at grade B, B, C or above (preferred subjects include: English; History; Media; Business; Art and Design, or other subjects within Social Sciences).</li><li>Foundation Diploma in Art & Design (Level 3 or 4).</li><li>Distinction, Merit, Merit at BTEC Extended Diploma (preferred subjects: Art and Design, Media, Music and Performing Arts).</li><li>Merit at UAL Extended Diploma.</li></ul> |

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| | • Access to Higher Education Diploma (preferred subject: Digital and Creative Media, Film and Production, Humanities and Social Sciences). <br> • OR equivalent EU/International qualifications, such as International Baccalaureate Diploma at 25 points minimum <br><br> **And** 5 GCSE passes at grade 4 or above (grade A*-C). <br><br> **APEL - Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning** <br><br> Applicants who do not meet these course entry requirements may still be considered in exceptional cases. The course team will consider each application that demonstrates additional strengths and alternative evidence. This might, for example, be demonstrated by: <br><br> • Related academic or work experience; <br> • The quality of the personal statement; <br> • A strong academic or other professional reference; <br> • A combination of these factors. <br><br> Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case. <br><br> **English language requirements (International/EU)** <br><br> IELTS level 6.0 or above, with at least 5.5 in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Please check our main [English language requirements](#) page for more information. <br><br> All classes are conducted in English. If English is not your first language you will be asked to provide evidence of your English language ability when you enrol. |
| **Selection Criteria** | The details on your UCAS application (including the academic reference and your personal statement) will be assessed against the following criteria: <br><br> ▪ Evidence of an informed interest in and appreciation of film and screen studies. |

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| | ▪ An understanding of the need for a critical and analytical approach (through research and practice) to this area of study. <br> ▪ Commitment to the study and development for your potential career. |
| **Scheduled Learning and Teaching** | During your course you will engage with learning and teaching that includes both online and face-to-face modes. The advertised scheduled activity for the course will be delivered through a combination of live, synchronous and asynchronous on-line learning. Scheduled learning and teaching activity may include lectures, seminars, studio and workshop briefings, tutorials, external visits and project briefings. |

## Awards and Percentage of Scheduled Learning

### Year 1

| Percentage of Scheduled Learning | 21 |
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| **Awards** | **Credits** |
| Certificate of Higher Education (Exit Only) | 120 |

### Year 2

| Percentage of Scheduled Learning | 17 |
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| **Awards** | **Credits** |
| Diploma of Higher Education (Exit Only) | 240 |

### Year 3

| Percentage of Scheduled Learning | 13 |
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| **Awards** | **Credits** |
| Bachelor of Arts | 360 |

# Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

| Aim/Outcome | Description |
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| Aim | Further enquiry central to the study of film and screen studies |
| Aim | Deliver the historic, theoretical and analytical perspectives and key debates |
| Aim | Explore diverse and distinct screen narratives; |
| Aim | Explore creative innovation and practices informing film and screen culture; |
| Aim | Introduce ethical consideration of film, television and screen industries; |
| Aim | Proactively promote curatorial events for the screen, the makers and audiences; |
| Aim | Develop critical thinking and intellectual literacy to sustain argument for academic writing and journalistic or editorial enterprise and employability; |
| Aim | Provide a learning environment to grow effective communication skills and competencies for reflective, self-motivated team-players collaborating with their peer groups and the wider community; |
| Aim | Provide opportunities for involvement in screen industry experiences and work placements; |
| Aim | Enable the potential to pursue screen studies at postgraduate level; |
| Aim | To develop both key and transferable skills that will showcase abilities to all employers but, in particular, those seeking employee's for, distribution and promotional events, commissioning, sales and acquisition, talent development, marketing and public relations in the screen industries. |
| Outcome | Demonstrate critically informed knowledge of the artefacts (i.e. film or product), the theoretical perspectives and the key debates for film and screen studies. (Enquiry, Knowledge,) |
| Outcome | Demonstrate critically informed knowledge of the depth of historic context and the breadth of contemporary development for time- |

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| | based and interactive moving images for the screen. (Enquiry, Knowledge) |
| Outcome | Synthesise knowledge to examine and interpret the narrative, the social and cultural significance and the methods of creation and practice. (Enquiry, Knowledge, Process) |
| Outcome | Contribute to innovative curatorial practice for the screen, makers/practitioners and audiences. (Knowledge, Process, Communication, Realisation) |
| Outcome | Sustain critical thinking and intellectual argument in written, visual and verbal communication for academic, journalistic and editorial purposes. (Process, Communication) |
| Outcome | Effectively demonstrate independent and collaborative skills and competencies for enterprise and employability. (Enquiry, Knowledge, Process, Communication, Realisation) |
| Outcome | Pursue a wide range of film and screen studies at postgraduate level. (Enquiry, Knowledge, Process, Communication) |

| | Distinctive Features |
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| 1 | The BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies prepares students with knowledge and skills for the current, emerging and evolving sectors of the film and screen industries. |
| 2 | The course promotes the distinct and diverse screen voices from the creative communities in the UK and the international filmmaking community. |
| 3 | This course teaches film and screen analysis informed by an understanding of skills and technologies underpinning the making of film and screen artefacts. |
| 4 | The course integrates critical thinking, learning by doing, creative innovation and risk-taking for commissioning, journalistic review, curation, exhibition and distribution of film and screen. |
| 5 | The graduation project is a student-led initiative to curate and deliver an outward, public-facing screen festival. |
| 6 | The course offers opportunities for furthering archival research with the Stanley Kubrick and other film based archives at LCC. |
| 7 | The geographical position of LCC is in easy reach of the IMAX, the BFI Southbank and the British Film Institute Library, and a large concentration of cinemas and venues throughout central London. |

## Course Detail

On BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies you'll explore the rich global history of the moving image from the 20th Century, alongside contemporary immersive and interactive platforms.

Develop your critical thinking through an extensive programme of film screenings, delivered alongside contextual analysis. You'll explore film and screen narrative from the cinematic, historic, national, geographic, genre, ethnic and diversity perspective.

For your final graduation project, you will collaborate and curate a film or screen festival.

BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies aims to generate graduates who are insightful, analytical, commercially minded and ethically aware.

### What can you expect?

- The course is taught through an extensive programme of screenings, lectures, and seminars.
- You'll learn about moving image and screen practices through a combination of contextual theory units and practical workshops. This is not a film production course, but a course that uses practice to further your understanding of screen theories, histories and industries.
- The course celebrates distinct identities and diverse voices. You'll explore a range of debates within the screen industry which range from Black-British, Asian-British and decolonial perspectives to debates around gender, LGBTQA and disability.
- You'll explore how innovative techniques and tools inform storytelling and interactivity on the screen.
- You'll look at audience engagement and learn practical and critical skills for programming, curating, archiving or mounting an exhibition of the moving image for an audience.
- You'll have a chance to collaborate with other programmes within LCC's Screen School.

Between Years 2 and 3 of the course, you'll also have the opportunity to undertake one of the following additional UAL qualifications:

Diploma in Professional Studies (DPS): An optional, year-long learning opportunity which enables you to develop your professional skills by undertaking a variety of placements and industry experiences. Supported throughout the year by academics, you'll build on the knowledge gained on your course in a range of national or international locations, and graduate with an additional qualification of Diploma in Professional Studies.

Diploma in Creative Computing: An optional, year-long opportunity which allows you to develop the computational skills that are shaping the future of the digital creative

industries. After successfully completing the Diploma and the final year of your undergraduate degree, you'll graduate with an enhanced degree title: for example, BA (Hons) Film and Screen studies (with Creative Computing).

**You will leave the course with:**

- An advanced understanding of how the British and International film and TV businesses work.
- A developed understanding of how your personal identity connects to film narrative and how to promote that vision.
- The experience of curating an outward-facing festival in a capital city.
- A thorough understanding of film grammar and an overview of current and emerging film technologies.
- A network of industry contacts.
- A set of collaborative and transferable skills that can compete effectively in any employment market.

## Mode of Study

BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies runs for 93 weeks in full time mode. It is divided into 3 stages over 3 academic years. Each stage lasts 31 weeks.

## Course Units

In common with all courses at the University of the Arts London, this course is credit rated. The course is 3 years, levels 4-6. Each year requires you to achieve 120 credit points. To be awarded the BA (Hons) Film and Screen Studies qualification, you need to accumulate a total of 360 credits.

### Year 1

**Introduction to Film and Screen Studies (20 credits)**

This unit introduces key aspects of the course: methodologies and tools for successful research and written work, skills in visual and verbal pitching for academic papers, critical review and curatorial purposes.

**Moving image as an art form (40 credits)**

This unit provides a grounding in the significance of the moving image as an art form through the 20th Century. Through screenings and lectures, students build an appreciation of film and screen, together with contextual knowledge of key texts.

Students interrogate, debate and reflect on the historic, national, geographic or genre

perspectives including World Cinema, European Arthouse, Soviet, Chinese, Indian Hollywood and Experimental film and television.

**Innovation and storytelling (40 credits)**

This unit examines the historical and contemporary contexts of how innovation has influenced storytelling and interactivity on the screen.

The unit tracks the development of innovative screen practices - from silent early cinema and the introduction of synchronised sound to modern storytelling in contemporary areas including experimental film, visual art, online screen media, music videos, computer games and virtual reality.

**Creative technologies for storytelling (20 credits)**

The unit introduces the tools and techniques for working with moving images and sound. The unit includes practical, studio-based activity to learn about the acquisition platforms of the Screen School, and includes the fundamentals of digital film production, animation, sound design, games design and virtual reality technologies.

## Year 2

**Distinctive identities (40 credits)**

In this unit students explore the history, critical theories, and the contemporary context and key debates in screen culture for LGBTQA, gender, feminist, race, ethnicity, disability and age issues. This includes studying British-Black and Asian-British screen media in a diasporic, decolonial and international context.

**Curating for the screen (20 credits)**

This unit introduces and examines the practical and critical skills for programming, curating, archiving or mounting an exhibition of the moving image for an audience. Study trips and internship options to film festivals and cultural organisations will enable students to demonstrate an awareness of industry and external practices.

**Interrogating the truth (40 credits)**

This unit examines the documentary form through a historical framework, key debates and narrative structures. The context is a synthesis of traditional and contemporary documentary filmmaking, animation, virtual reality and fact-based computer games.

We will also look at innovations in digital technologies used in screen-based industries and contemporary art practice.

**Collaborative project (20 credits)**

This unit offers students an opportunity to develop acquired skills in curation and criticism, working on projects with other courses in the Screen School, or with external organisations.

Projects could include collaborating on a student film production, curating a project online, or applying to film festivals, so as to develop a deeper and/or wider understanding of aesthetic and creative roles in contemporary screen culture.

## Year 3

### Dissertation (40 credits)

This unit is the culmination of the earlier contextual film and screen studies components of the course. During the unit, 'The Emerging Future' students will investigate and formulate a research question and will synthesise their knowledge, critical thinking and analytical skills related to the moving image in an extended piece of work.

### The Emerging Future (20 credits)

The unit aims to consider the new films and moving image artefacts emerging through the festivals and exhibitions, cultural and critical debates, and digital screening platforms. Students will integrate investigative and contextual analysis and consider the future of the moving image and the screen.

### Major project (60 credits)

In this unit students will curate and deliver a Screen School film/screen festival or series of events with a published catalogue. The curated theme could, for example, be a socially engaged project with an external cultural organisation.

This unit enables students to consolidate their knowledge about a subject of their choosing and to consider it in relation to issues of history, context and criticality, audience, community and decolonisation.

The planning work is to curate the programme, invite speakers, and publish and distribute an accompanying catalogue with critique as well as marketing and publicity material for the programme.

**Learning and Teaching Methods**

- Curated programme of screenings and artefacts with analytical and contextual lectures
- Student-led seminars
- Tutorials
- Practical and technical workshops
- Planned event delivery
- Self-directed research
- Study events

## Assessment Methods

- Group and individual presentations
- Group and individual portfolios
- Written work: essays, critical review, self-evaluation report
- Video essays and podcasts

## Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- UAL Undergraduate Course Design Framework

- UAL Creative Attributes Framework

- UAL Digital Creative Attributes Framework

- UAL Academic Development and Quality Policies & Procedures Handbook

- UAL Placement Policy

- QAA Bench marks

- Industry panel feedback

Course Diagram: BA Film and Screen Studies

S = Summative Assessment

| Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Week 8 | Week 9 | Week 10 | Week 11 | Week 12 | Week 13 | Week 14 | Week 15 | | Week 16 | Week 17 | Week 18 | Week 19 | Week 20 | Week 21 | Week 22 | Week 23 | Week 24 | Week 25 | Week 26 | Week 27 | Week 28 | Week 29 | Week 30 | Week 31 |
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**Level 4 – Year 1**

Block 1 | End of Block | Activities Week | Block 2

- Introduction to Film and Screen Studies (20 credits) [S (Week 15)]
- Moving Image as an Art Form [S (Week 7)] (40 credits) [S (Week 14)]
- Innovation and Storytelling (40 credits) [S (Week 18)] [S (Week 21)]
- Creative Technologies for the Screen (20 credits) [S (Week 26)]

**Level 5 – Year 2**

Block 1 | Block 2

- Distinctive Identities (40 credits) [S (Week 8)] [S (Week 10)]
- Curating for the Screen (20 credits) [S (Week 14)]
- Interrogating the Truth (40 credits) [S (Week 29)]
- Collaborative Project (20 credits) [S (Week 29)]

**Level 6 – Year 3**

Block 1 | Block 2

- The Emerging Futures (20 credits) [S (Week 12)]
- Major Project (60 credits) S [S (Week 8)] Major Project cont.
- Dissertation (40 credits) [S (Week 27)]
- Major Project [S (Week 20)]

*The University will use all reasonable endeavours to provide the Course and the services described in this Output. There may be occasions whereby the University needs to add, remove or alter content in relation to your Course as may be appropriate for example the latest requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body, or in response to student feedback, or to comply with applicable law or due to circumstances beyond its control. The University aim to inform you of any changes as soon as is reasonably practicable.*