

ual: london college
of communication

MA Film

Programme Specification 2021/22

Awarding Body	University of the Arts London
College	London College of Communication
School	University of the Arts London
Programme	Film and Television (L043)
FHEQ Level	Level 7 Masters
Course Credits	180
Mode	Full Time
Duration of Course	15 months
Valid From	September 1st 2021
QAA Subject Benchmark	Communication, media, film and cultural studies
UAL Subject Classification	Animation, interactive film and sound
Course Entry Requirements	<p>The course team welcomes applicants from a broad range of backgrounds, from all over the world. MA Film attracts students who apply direct from an Honours degree course or other equivalent qualifications, or those with relevant prior industry experience.</p> <p>Educational level may be demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honours degree (of at least lower second class (2:2) is desirable but not essential); • Possession of equivalent qualifications; • Prior experiential learning, the outcome of which can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required; • Or a combination of formal qualifications and experiential learning which, taken together, can be demonstrated to be equivalent to formal qualifications otherwise required. <p>APEL (Accreditation of Prior Learning)</p>

	<p>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:</p> <p>Each application will be considered on its own merit but we cannot guarantee an offer in each case.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related academic or work experience • The quality of the personal statement • A strong academic or other professional reference • OR a combination of these factors <p>Language requirements</p> <p>All classes are conducted in English. If English is not your first language, we strongly recommend you let us know your English language test score in your application. If you have booked a test or are awaiting your results, please indicate this in your application. When asked to upload a CV as part of your application, please include any information about your English test score.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS 6.5 (or equivalent) is required, with a minimum of 5.5 in each of the four skills. • If your first language is not English, you can check you have achieved the correct IELTS level in English on the Language Requirements page. <p>For further details regarding international admissions and advice please visit the International Applications page.</p>
Selection Criteria	<p>Offers will be made based on the following selection criteria, which applicants are expected to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high level of expertise and experience in one of the six specialisms taught on the course • An understanding of the need for a critical and analytical approach to the area of study • An approach suited to the demands of the course and the projected career futures

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	15
Awards	Credits
Postgraduate Certificate (Exit Only)	60
Postgraduate Diploma (Exit Only)	120
Master of Arts	180

Course Aims and Outcomes

The Aims and Outcomes of this Course are as follows:

Aim/Outcome	Description
Aim	Facilitate and guide you towards a systematic understanding of the creative, technical commercial, theoretical, contextual and sustainable practices of fiction filmmaking and to offer a place for filmmakers to further develop and accomplish work alongside like-minded creatives.
Aim	Advocate cultural diversity and develop a cross-cultural understanding of inclusive and diverse ideas, approaches and methodologies for filmmaking.
Aim	Develop your competencies as self-managed, self-motivated and self-sufficient filmmakers through collaboration and a sense of shared endeavour in the production of original works of fiction for a diverse audience.
Aim	Empower filmmakers to make their mark on the world by equipping them with a comprehensive understanding of the relevant creative and sustainable techniques and practices of their discipline, and to effectively position themselves and locate their work within the wider industry.
Aim	Expand your professional networks, and employability by developing graduates capable of stepping into the industry at the forefront of your discipline, with systematic, research-based knowledge of the artistic, economic and sustainable realities of your chosen field.
Outcome	Evaluate your practice, and that of others, in the critical, contextual, aesthetic, ethical, commercial and sustainable frameworks of contemporary filmmaking. (Enquiry)
Outcome	Develop critical awareness of current issues for your specialist role and apply informed, systematic and considered solutions to specific problems in film production to formulate new insights with ingenuity, adaptability and resilience, towards a professional standard in the field. (Knowledge)
Outcome	Develop your filmmaking practice from commissioning through production to exhibition maintaining responsibilities to ethical, legal, welfare and safe-working compliance and cultivating effective inclusive and diverse group collaboration. (Process)

Outcome	Demonstrate constructive and informed debate about film practice and criticism for an inclusive and diverse audience, while delivering coherent written and verbal presentations based in research and argument. (Communication)
Outcome	Create distinct work with originality and innovative storytelling for a narrative fiction with a collaborative team and in a sustainable environment. (Realisation)

Distinctive Features	
1	<p>Specialist Knowledge: MA Film is situated within the Film and Television Programme and is part of the London College of Communication's (LCC) CILECT accredited Screen School that delivers 18-undergraduate and post-graduate courses, spanning across screenwriting, film and television, documentary, animation, VFX, games, sound and VR production. This specialist provision is committed to the art of storytelling giving students the opportunities and experiences to meet the emerging and evolving sectors of the screen industries. MA Film is predominantly practice based to develop your creative skills in contemporary digital film production and for you to build a future peer network.</p>
2	<p>Practice and Theory: Although located within a practice-based programme, this course has a strong relationship with Contextual and Theoretical Studies to encourage the development of cultural thinking, critical analysis and study of global cultures and histories together with filming practices. MA Film has a tailored contextual studies programme, prioritising a 'theory towards practice' approach and is characterized by an investigation into your specialism to map out individual intentions for an extended Major Project.</p>
3	<p>Community of Screen Practice: Collaboration is at the core of building a diverse community of film practitioners and practices for sustainable filmmaking and creativity - with unique collaborative opportunities within and cross courses, the Screen School and throughout the College and University community. MA film offers extensive collaboration offers with the opportunities to engage with parallel courses within UAL, or with an external partner for a campaign film or specific piece of work. There are collaboration opportunities to either explore the specialism beyond the confines of structured narrative fiction or to experiment with a parallel specialism.</p>
4	<p>Professional expertise: There are alumni and professional creatives who contribute to the School and its Programme Areas. This is exemplified in the list of inspirational talks, live projects and workshops delivered from a disparate range of filmmaking and production backgrounds. Throughout the year, a programme of talks, workshops, masterclasses and screenings take place, offering opportunities to develop new skills and share experiences. The technical team are Arri and Avid accredited. MA Film is well placed in terms of industry links and global reputation to extend its subject disciplines and practice for the benefit of all its students.</p>
5	<p>Graduate Attributes: The course is modelled to generate graduates who are self-reliant, distinct, self-motivated and curious. Students will develop the skills and behaviours required to work professionally in creative collaborations in production teams and crews. You'll have the optional opportunity to graduate with the BAFTA Albert Certification for sustainable production. You will be encouraged you to</p>

make new connections, exchange ideas and expand your understanding of the creative landscape beyond your own field of study and to build working relationships.

Course Detail

MA Film will prepare you for a career as a skilled film practitioner in the creative industries and will enable you to develop a deep understanding of how to work creatively across the digital technologies of contemporary film production.

Our theoretical content underscores all of the practical elements of the course and offers a shared process for you to explore both your own work and the work of your fellow students. . You'll be encouraged to take an innovative approach to narrative storytelling in a collaborative, sustainable environment where you'll be able to create distinct and original work

Taught through a combination of lectures, technical workshops, tutorials and assignments, MA Film enables you to both focus on and develop one key specialism at postgraduate level while being encouraged to engage creatively with related disciplines and wider filmic processes.

You'll also gain insight into the creative industries through regular guest lectures and masterclasses from industry practitioners and you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with external partners as well as other courses at UAL.

What to expect?

Throughout the course, you will:

- Build up a portfolio of work while reflecting on and evaluating your own practice.
- Develop your filmmaking skills both practically and intellectually.
- Participate in the creation of film drama/s.
- Foster strong working relationships with other practitioners.
- Become fully conversant with industry practices and methods of working.

Work experience and opportunities

Enterprise and employability are central to the course design to enable you to develop your creative, technical and academic skills, and to apply these to your own creative practice.

You'll have opportunities to explore your future career options where possible through one or a combination of live briefs, partnerships with industry, cross-disciplinary collaborations, and initiatives towards your Major Project. In the past, students have had the opportunity to work with organisations including Sir Robert McAlpine, Barnardo's and Sohot Yoga.

The Screen School at London College of Communication belongs to the BAFTA albert Education Partnership, which provides graduates with the opportunity to understand the professional and personal relevance of sustainability.

As a MA Film student, you'll have the opportunity to undertake an optional assignment to achieve BAFTA albert Graduate Certification, where you'll learn about topics including sustainable production solutions, the role of – and opportunities for - responsible businesses, and how to create content with a strategic environmental purpose.

Mode of Study

MA Film is in Full Time mode which runs for 45 weeks over 15 months. You will be expected to commit 40 hours per week to study.

Course Units

Each course is divided into units, which are credit-rated. The minimum unit size is 20 credits. The MA course structure involves six units, totalling 180 credits.

Autumn Term 1

At the start of the first term, you'll begin with your contextual **Specialism Investigation**, which combines guest lectures and student-led seminars on your specific discipline, field of practice and wider filmmaking processes. You'll also be encouraged to develop a strong dialogue within your peer groups, and to contribute shared and individual creative visions during the **First Term Film** unit. Once term is underway, you'll begin work on the **Major Project** and **Secondary Roles** units which will be carried through to the fourth and final term.

Introductory Production (20 credits)

In this unit, you'll take a short script through production. This experience enhances your Specialism Investigation, prepares you for the Major Project, and helps you to position your practice within the wider filmic environment.

Specialism Investigation (40 Credits)

You'll study independently while taking part in set contextual lectures that explore current trends within the film industry, as well as the culture that informs it. You'll also build a portfolio of research relating to your specialism as this unit continues through the following term.

Major Project (60 credits)

You'll have an opportunity to pursue your skills in an ambitious production that spans the 4 terms of the course. You'll undertake a Head of Department role on a fictional film of a specific length (maximum 30 minutes) to further develop your team leadership skills while balancing individual and shared creative visions. Specialism roles include:

- Producer
- Production Designer
- Director
- Director of Photography
- Postproduction Specialist

Spring Term 2

The **Specialism Investigation** unit continues and concludes in the later part of the Spring Term.

Collaborative Unit (20 Credits)

You'll have the opportunity to engage in a specific collaboration with a related course at UAL or with an external partner. External collaborations could include site-specific, experimental work developed in conjunction with a gallery or public body, or an agreed commission/campaign film for a charitable or commercial organisation.

The Major Project (60 credit-ongoing) continues with its development, preparing you for production in Term 3.

Summer Term 3

The Major Project continues with selected film productions.

Secondary Roles (40 Credits)

In parallel to the Major Project, you'll have the opportunity to undertake at least 2 secondary roles during production. This will enable you to explore associated aspects of your practice by observing your specialism via a different perspective. It will also enhance your skillset and help you to understand what it takes to effectively support a Head of Department.

The secondary roles include:

- Production Manager
- Locations Manager

- Casting Director
- Assistant Director
- Set Dresser/Props
- Camera Assistant
- Gaffer
- Script Supervisor
- Sound Recordist/Boom Operator

Autumn, Term 4

In this term, the Major Project and Secondary Roles conclude with post-production.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Technical and practice-based workshops
- Individual and group tutorials
- Formative critique and reflections on practice
- Self-directed learning
- Collaborative group assignments
- Presentations

Assessment Methods

- Practice-based work in film production, including remote and non-normative forms of production
- Reflective and analytical commentaries associated with film making
- Contextual Studies related to the practice components of the course
- Written evaluative and working journals
- Presentation

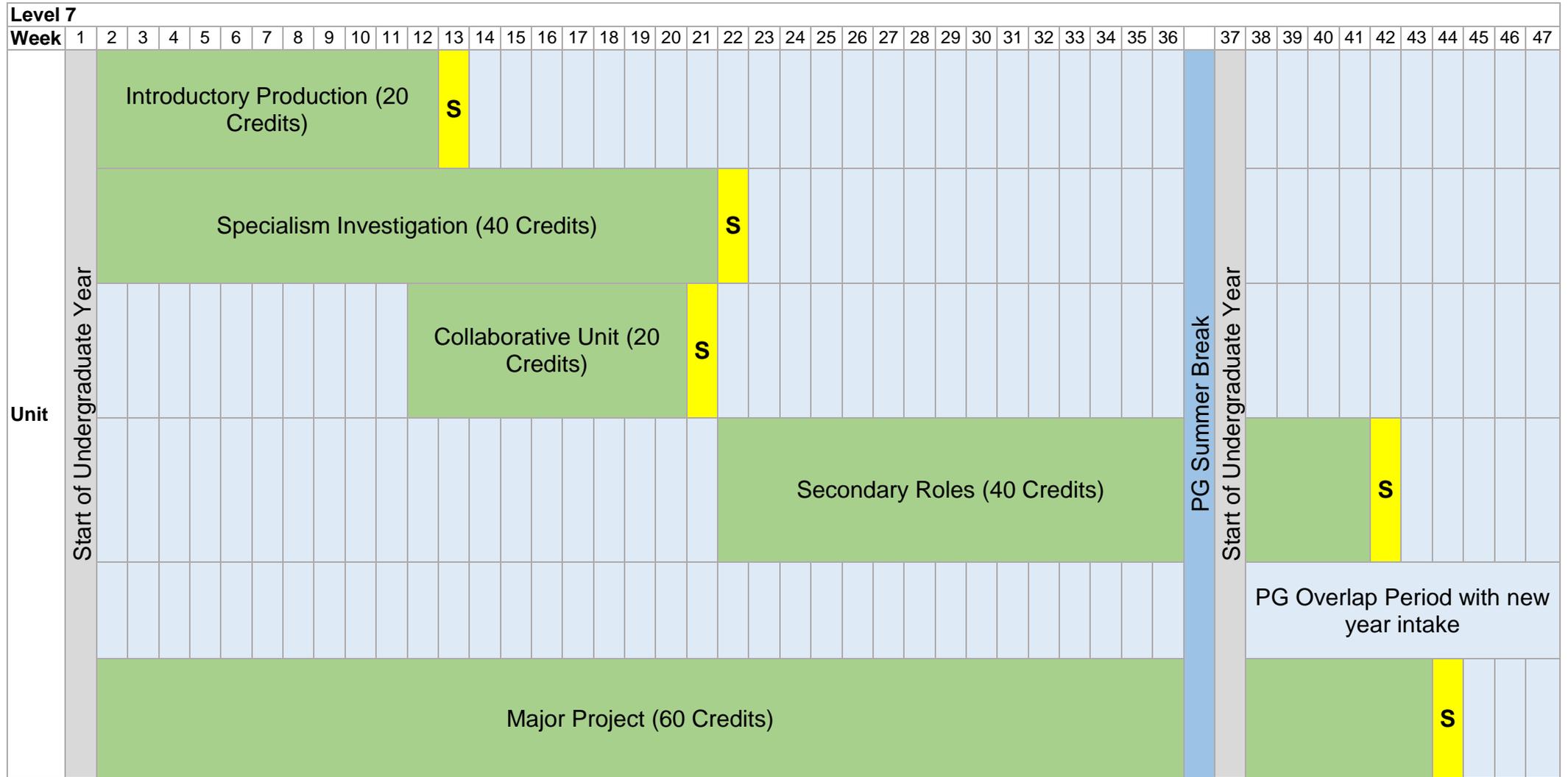
Reference Points

The following reference points were used in designing the course:

- Research into Competitor Courses
- Discussions with Industry Practitioners / Potential Mentors
- Student Focus Group
- Informal Discussions with potential Collaborator Course:
- The College Learning and Teaching Strategy
- The College Assessment Strategy
- The College approach to Personal and Professional Development
- The Learning and Teaching policies of the University of the Arts London

- University of the Arts London Level Descriptors
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- QAA Film Production Benchmark statement
- Course student consultation
- Industry panel feedback
- Industry practice BFI Diversity Standards contractual requirements
<https://www.bfi.org.uk/inclusion-film-industry/bfi-diversity-standards>
- Industry practice ALBERT environmental sustainability for film and TV <https://wearealbert.org/>

Course Diagram



S = Summative Assessment

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.

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