BA in Film   **UCAS code: W600**
For students entering Part 1 in 2014/5

Awarding Institution:	University of Reading
Teaching Institution:	University of Reading
Relevant QAA subject Benchmarking group(s):	Communications, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
Faculty:	Arts, Humanities and Social Science Faculty
Programme length:	3 years
Date of specification:	16/Feb/2017
Programme Director:	Dr Simone Knox
Programme Advisor:	
Board of Studies:	Film, Theatre and Television
Accreditation:	University of Reading

Summary of programme aims

The central aim of the programme is to develop students' critical, practical and historical understanding of film and related screen practices as cultural forms. Students will become familiar with the varied achievements of moving image practitioners, developing critical skills through close study of moving image texts, underpinned by debates and theories which have influenced the analysis of film and moving images. Students also undertake practical work, closely informed by critical issues ('critical practice'), which is designed both to extend understanding of how film and related moving image practices create meaning, and to develop appropriate practical expertise. Students can also select optional modules which allow them to situate their study of film in relation to television or theatre forms and practices, permitting the exploration of how key concepts such as performance and genre are inflected across different mediums.

Transferable skills

During the course of their studies at Reading, all students will be expected to enhance their academic and personal transferable skills. In following this programme, students will have had the opportunity to develop such skills, in particular relating to communication, interpersonal skills, learning skills, numeracy, self management, use of IT and problem-solving and will have been encouraged to further develop and enhance the full set of skills through a variety of opportunities available outside their curriculum.

In addition, on completion of this programme, students are expected to have developed a range of specific transferable skills, including: critical analysis and coherent argument; the ability to formulate and evaluate their own arguments and those of others; researching and evaluating evidence; effective communication through presentations; undertaking self-directed, independent work; devising and collaboration skills; developing projects and managing outcomes; taking leadership and management roles; effective time management; professional self-presentation including in online contexts such as websites and social media.

Programme content

Part 1 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Compulsory modules

Code	Title	Credits	Level
FT1IFI	Introduction to Film (terms 1 & 2)	20	4
FT1MEM	Medium and Meaning (term 1)	20	4
FT1UCF	Understanding Creative Processes: Film & TV (term 2)	20	4
FT1CPF	Creative Practice: Film & TV (term 3)	20	4

Optional modules:

Students select a minimum of 20 credits from the following:

Code	Title	Credits	Level
FT1ITH	Introduction to Theatre (terms 1 & 2)	20	4
FT1ITV	Introduction to Television (terms 1 & 2)	20	4

Students can select up to 20 credits' worth of level 4 modules from elsewhere in the University

Part 2 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Compulsory Modules

Code	Title	Credits	Level
FT2P2	Practical Project	20	5
FT2CPD	Creative Industries and Professional Development	10	5
FT2FA	Film Authorship	20	5
FT2P1F	Creative Practice: Film & Television	10	5
FT2AF	Alternative Forms in Film	20	5

Optional modules: students select optional modules totalling 40 credits from a list which may include the following (full list available from Director of Teaching & Learning):

Code	Title	Credits	Level
FT2FG	Film Genre (term 2)	20	5
FT2PTG	Popular Television Genres (term 1)	20	5
FT2PN	Performance and Nation (term 1)	20	5
FT2PI	Performance and Identity (term 2)	20	5
FT2ALT	Alternative Forms in Theatre (term 2)	20	5
FT2WBL	Work based learning	20	5
FT2RP	Research production	20	5
FT2DIS	Part 2 Dissertation (instead of Critical Practice + Practical Project)	20	5

Students can select up to 20 credits' worth of level 5 modules from elsewhere in the University

Part 3 (three terms)
Compulsory modules

Compulsory modules

Code	Title	Credits	Level
FT3APP	Advanced Practical Project	40	6
	OR		
FT3DISS	Dissertation: Film and Theatre	40	6

Optional modules: students select optional modules totalling 60-80 credits from a list which may include the following (full list available from Director of Teaching & Learning):

Code	Title	Credits	Level
	Critical Options (various)	20	6
FT3WBL	Work based learning	10	6
FT3RP	Research production	10	6

Students can select up to 20 credits' worth of level 6 modules from elsewhere in the University

Progression requirements

To gain a threshold performance at Part 1, a student shall normally be required to:
i Obtain an overall average of 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 1, where all the credits are at level 4 or above; and
ii Obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits taken in Part 1.

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:
i obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2;
ii marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 80 credits; and
iii marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3, a student must achieve a threshold performance.

The University's honours classification scheme is:

Mark	interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
35% - 39%	Below Honours Standard
0% - 34%	Fail

For the University-wide framework for classification, which includes details of the classification method, please see: http://www.reading.ac.uk/internal/exams/Policies/exa-class.aspx

Assessment and classification
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The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:
Part 2 one-third
Part 3 two-thirds

Admission requirements
A Level - ABB (or AAC)
Scottish Higher grade range ABBBC - BBBBB
Scottish Advanced Higher grade range ABC - BBB
Irish Highers - BBBBB
Candidates studying for the International Baccalaureate are normally expected to achieve a pass overall and 6,5,5 in three higher-level subjects.
We consider applications from students studying for a range of other equivalent and international qualifications.

Admissions Tutor: Dr Faye Woods

Support for students and their learning
University support for students and their learning falls into two categories.   Learning support is provided by a wide array of services across the University, including: the University Library, the Careers, Placement and Experience Centre (CPEC), In-sessional English Support Programme, the Study Advice and Mathematics Support Centre teams, IT Services and the Student Access to Independent Learning (S@il) computer-based teaching and learning facilities. There are language laboratory facilities both for those students studying on a language degree and for those taking modules offered by the Institution-wide Language Programme.   Student guidance and welfare support is provided by Personal Tutors, School Senior Tutors, the Students' Union, the Medical Practice and advisers in the Student Services Centre. The Student Services Centre is housed in the Carrington Building and offers advice on accommodation, careers, disability, finance, and wellbeing, academic issues (eg problems with module selection) and exam related queries. Students can get key information and guidance from the team of Helpdesk Advisers, or make an appointment with a specialist adviser; Student Services also offer drop-in sessions and runs workshops and seminars on a range of topics. For more information see www.reading.ac.uk/student

Students in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television receive a Handbook, which gives details of the Programme, guidance on study skills such as note-taking and essay writing, and information about staff, facilities, and sources of specialised help within the University, such as the Study Skills Advisor and the Counselling Service. Academic feedback and guidance is given through detailed written comments. Academic and personal support for students in their studies is also provided through the University's personal tutor system, in which students meet their personal tutors regularly to review their progress. This is supported by the University's Personal Development Planning (PDP) scheme. From a highly structured introduction in Part 1, in Parts 2 and 3 students take increasing responsibility for their learning and module choice. In practical work the move to individual projects is supported by detailed supervision and advice. The Department has a range of specialist studio and theatre spaces, together with extensive technical facilities for small scale production in theatre and digital video. It also houses an extensive collection of films and television programmes. The Library has an extensive collection of printed materials as well as electronic databases, holding one of the country's leading academic collections of film and modern theatre material. Specialist subject librarians are available to give students advice and guidance to library resources.

Career learning
Careers planning and professional skills development is an integral part of the Department's degree programmes, and there are regular visits from alumni and industry professionals.

At Part 2 the Creative Industries Careers module includes seminars, presentations from alumni and industry professionals, and projects designed to develop students' competencies in key areas, such as careers planning, professional self-presentation, digital identity, effective CV-writing, and pitching for funding.

Career prospects
Since this is not a vocational programme, career prospects are wide-ranging. The combination of scholarly rigour and practical expertise, of group work and individual practice, gives students the opportunity to develop a highly competitive range of transferable skills sought by employers, including: leadership, initiative, collaboration and negotiation, research, analysis, management, articulacy and expression in a range of different media.

Graduates find that the specific and transferable skills developed by the programme enable them to enter many fields of work, including television, film, radio, theatre, arts management, visual effects, journalism, corporate video, advertising, marketing, public relations, the public sector, business and commerce. Many graduates also go onto to postgraduate study at MA and PhD levels, both at Reading and elsewhere.

Opportunities for study abroad
As part of the degree programme students have the opportunity to study abroad at an institution with which the University has a valid agreement, either within Europe via the ERASMAS programme or at one of the University's non-European partner institutions. The period in which students can study abroad is Autumn Term of Part 2. They will require the consent of the department study abroad coordinator and the department Director of Teaching and Learning in order to participate. Key partner institutions for students in the Department of Film, Theatre & Television currently include Rhode Island, Georgia and Mississippi (USA), and Monash (Australia). Full details of potential destinations can be found on the Erasmus & Study Abroad website. Whilst every effort is made to place students at the institution of their choice, the University cannot guarantee students the possibility to study at a particular institution.

Placement opportunities
Students have the opportunity to undertake a work placement in their second and third years, in the 10-credit Work-Based Learning module. After the work placement has been completed, the module requires the student to critically reflect in writing on the arts or media organisation in which they have worked, and on their own career development and transferable skills. Students must notify the department placements officer well in advance of taking up a placement or work experience opportunity if they wish it to form the basis of their participation in the Work-Based Learning module. Students are supported in identifying and applying for placements by the Placements and Development support team in The Careers Centre.

Programme Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

1. Film and television texts from a range of national and cultural contexts, mainly produced between the late nineteenth century and the present day; a selection of television texts.
2. A variety of genres and approaches to filmmaking, cinema and television.
3. Methods of critical analysis appropriate to film and television.
4. Ways in which film and television have informed each other historically
5. Ways in which social, cultural and historical contexts inform film and television texts
6. A range of critical and theoretical approaches in Film and Television studies.
7. Selected special fields of film and television
8. Methods and skills of small scale video and television production
9. How critical and theoretical perspectives can inform practical work.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Knowledge and understanding of 1-7 are gained through formal teaching (lectures, seminars), feedback on coursework, required and recommended reading and viewing, and the writing of essays and other assignments. 8 and 9 are based on group and individual practical work with accompanying documentation, under staff supervision, Part 1 offers an introduction to critical and historical study of film, and to 'critical practice'. Part 2 extends understanding and skills acquired in Part 1 in more selected areas of study through seminars, lectures, individual feedback and supervised individual and group practical work. Part 3 includes very challenging areas of theory and practice, as well as requiring students to undertake, under individual supervision, an independent practical project or dissertation.

Assessment
In Part 1, knowledge and understanding are tested through a combination of essays, take-away examinations, and group practical work with accompanying documentation. In Part 2, assessment is through written coursework, including essays and takeaway exams plus individual and group practical work with documentation and may include assessed presentations. Part 3 contains the same range of assessment but is characterised by the large scale challenge of dissertation or independent practical project.

Skills and other attributes

B. Intellectual skills - *able to:*

1. Capacity for independent analysis and research
2. Identification of problems and issues
3. The ability to read, watch and interpret closely and critically
4. An ability to reflect on one's own ideas and those of others
5. Apply conceptual frameworks and methods of analysis to new contexts and material
6. Ability to integrate critical thinking with creative work

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Intellectual skills are acquired through independent reading and viewing (1), preparation for and discussion in seminars and workshops, essay writing (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), essay feedback (2, 3 and 4, 5), supervised practical work and documentation (5 and 6).

Assessment
1 - 3 are assessed both formatively and summatively in coursework essays and take-away exams. 1- 4 are assessed formatively through seminar discussion and essay feedback. 5 and 6 are assessed formatively and summatively through practical work supervision and documentation of practical projects. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

C. Practical skills - *able to:*

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

1. The ability to criticise and formulate interpretations of film and television texts
2. An ability to engage in critical argument using relevant theoretical approaches
3. Research skills
4. A knowledge of appropriate conventions in the presentation of written work
5. An ability to relate the study of film and television to cultural and social issues
6. Basic skills of video and television production
7. An ability to express critical understanding through exploratory practice in film/video and / or television.
8. An ability to evaluate practice in the light of critical study
9. Presentation skills

1 - 5 are developed in seminars, workshops, written coursework and feedback on coursework. 6 - 8 are developed through practical work and feedback on practice and associated documentation. 9 is developed through feedback on group and individual presentations.

Assessment
1 - 5 are assessed through formative and summative written coursework. 1 - 2 and 4 - 5 are also tested in take-away exams. 6 - 7 are assessed both formatively and summatively through practical work , and 8 through documentation accompanying practical work. 9, where appropriate, is assessed formatively and summatively through presentation and summatively through documentation accompanying presentations. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

D. Transferable skills - *able to:*

1. Effective communication in speech and writing
2. Critical analysis and coherent arguments
3. Critical evaluation of evidence and argument
4. The ability to find and use relevant information resources
5. Time-management skills and the ability to manage personal workloads.
6. A creative approach to problem-solving
7. The ability to develop projects through co-operation and dialogue
8. The ability to take leadership and management roles
9. Undertaking self-directed, independent work.
10. Computer skills, ranging from basic word-processing to advanced digital video editing.

Teaching/learning methods and strategies

Transferable skills are developed through seminar discussions , seminar presentations, preparation and writing of written assignments, feedback on written work, and take-away exams (1 - 5, 9, 10). 5 - 8 are developed particularly through group and individual practical assignments, which also demand the skills listed as 9 and 10. We require that all essays and documentation after Term 1 are word-processed (10).

Assessment
1 - 5 and 10 are formatively assessed through written coursework and seminar presentations, and summatively assessed through coursework and take-away exams. 5 - 9 are expressed in and affect the formative and summative assessment of practical projects. Formative assessments are for the guidance of the students, and do not contribute to the module mark.

Please note - This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the module description and in the programme handbook. The University reserves the right to modify this specification in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development and feedback from students, quality assurance process or external sources, such as professional bodies, requires a change to be made. In such circumstances, a revised specification will be issued.