



Programme Specification

FLM-2019: Filmmaking

LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours awarded by Lancaster University (FHEQ Level 6)

Programme Status: Approved | Version: 1

Introduction

This programme specification provides a summary of the main features of the Filmmaking programme and the learning outcomes that you as a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate on successful completion of the programme.

Further detailed information related to this programme and the College can be found in the following resources:

- Programme Handbook
- B&FC Student Handbook
- B&FC Admissions Policy
- Work based and placement learning handbook (for foundation degrees)
- Student guide to assessment and feedback

Key Programme Information

Programme Code	FLM-2019
Programme Title	Filmmaking
Teaching Institution	Blackpool and The Fylde College
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) Accreditation	None
UCAS Code	
Language of Study	English
Version	1
Approval Status	Approved
Approval Date	09 April 2019
JACS Code	Other: Other
Programme Leader	Gabriella Wills

Programme Awards

Award	Award Type	Level	Awarding Body
LU Bachelor of Arts with Honours	Honours Degree (360 credits)	Level 6	Lancaster University

Programme Overview

This BA (Hons) Filmmaking is intended for those with a passion for all things film. Over the three years you will develop the technical, analytical and creative skills to produce films which manipulate the form in a creative, informed and visually engaging way. The programme aims to provide you with the opportunity to develop the many skills required to make films worth watching. As well as the technical skills required such as filming and editing techniques you will learn about how stories are constructed, how to write scripts, you will analyse film texts and develop a deeper understanding of how film works to create meaning and connection with the audience, you will study its history and the practitioners within it. All of this will feed into your production work helping you to create work that is not only technically competent but that has something to say. You will produce short narrative films, documentaries and experimental music videos as well as having the opportunity at level six to explore who you want to be as a filmmaker with the production of your graduation film along with the knowledge, time and support to help you get started in your career.

In addition to the skills and knowledge developed to prepare you for a career in filmmaking, you will also develop a wealth of wider employability skills in communication, creative problem solving, project management and critical thinking. You will have the opportunity to take part in industry facing collaborative projects and engage with industry professionals giving you real insight into the reality of working within the field. You will work with Photography and Graphic Design students on a carousel module which introduces you to the fundamentals of these disciplines again broadening your skill set and also providing a greater network of peers and potential collaborations.

Creative Arts and Digital Industries provides an environment of support and encouragement to all of our students with a focus on developing the individual as a creative problem solver. Smaller class sizes mean that you have regular access to industry standard equipment both within session and from our stores through our booking system. These small class sizes, unique to Blackpool and The Fylde College, also mean that you have greater access to your module tutors and the Programme Leader meaning that additional support is available when required. At the end of three years you will have developed the skills, knowledge and experience required to take you to your next step in life, whether post-graduate study or employment, with confidence, a greater understanding of what kind of impact you want to make on the world and the tools to make it happen.

Admission Criteria

Ideally students should have a minimum of 96 UCAS points in an appropriate discipline and GCSE English Language grade C/4 or above (or equivalent). However, if you are a non-standard student, who has not followed the traditional routes to higher education, we may consider your application on a case by case basis. If you have relevant work experience or can demonstrate a passion and understanding of film then we may be able to offer you a place.

Career Options and Progression Opportunities

As a graduate of the BA (Hons) Filmmaking degree you have a number of career pathways open to you. You can go onto working within the film industry both in areas of pre-production such as production design, production or post production. You will also have the skills and experience to pursue a career in exhibition such as working for film festivals. The graduate attributes you acquire will also transfer to careers outside of your subject discipline such as project management, teaching and journalism. The opportunities available to graduates of a filmmaking degree can be seen in the success of our alumni. Last year saw our first graduating class and from this cohort graduates have gone on to further study in the form of PGCE and MA, work for Britain's Got Talent, ITV and two have set up their own production company. The range of practical and theoretical content provided by a full level six study programme prepared our graduates for both post graduate education and employment within the industry.

Programme Aims

-To produce practitioners of film arts with intellectual and technical expertise, appropriate for film and moving image arts practice within the contemporary film and moving image industries and associated creative sectors.

-To provide a creative and collaborative environment in which core technical skills and creative development are nurtured to enable students to become accomplished producers, directors, cinematographers, editors, scriptwriters and sound designers.

-To provide students with the opportunity to produce individually and collaboratively authored original work to professional standards

-To provide students with an environment that allows them to cultivate a pro-active and

reflective approach to learning and practice

-To equip students with the intellectual tools and techniques required to deal with issues systematically and creatively

-To prepare students to be innovative and able to solve problems, both intellectual and practice oriented

-To provide a focus on experimentation and risk taking, broadening students' perspectives on practice and developing work in their specialist discipline

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level 6

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

1. Explain the central role that communications, media, film and cultural agencies play at local, national, international, global levels of economic, political and social organisation
2. Discuss and critically analyse the history and context of film production in order to develop understanding of the technical evolution of the medium
3. Critically apply research practices, procedures and traditions in order to critically evaluate their strengths and limitations
4. Apply independent and informed critical judgement to consider critical, ethical and analytical views other than their own
5. Critically evaluate communicative, cultural and media processes in order to examine policy, ethics and the wider context in which filmmakers work
6. Utilise technologies, production processes and procedures from a critically informed perspective
7. Critically analyse communicative situations and cultural practices in order to produce comparisons and connections
8. Critically analyse and evaluate texts, genres, aesthetic forms and cultural practices
9. Critically analyse argue and debate through oral, written and other alternative forms of communication
10. Analyse the diversity of approaches to understanding communication media film and culture in both historical and contemporary contexts

Programme Structure

Pathway	Module	Level	Credits	Coursework	Practical	Written Exam
Stage 1						
All	C401FLM: Engaging the Archive (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	FLM401: Film Theory and Analysis (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	FLM402: Preparing to Film (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	FLM403: Filming Techniques (Mandatory)	4	20	50%	50%	
	FLM404: Editing Sound and Video (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
	FLM405: Collaborative Approaches to Creative Practice (Mandatory)	4	20	100%		
Stage 2						
All	CS501: Research into Practice (Mandatory)	5	20	67%	33%	
	FLM501: Film History and Genre (Mandatory)	5	20	50%	50%	
	FLM502: Documentary Filmmaking (Mandatory)	5	20		100%	
	FLM503: Short Film (Mandatory)	5	20	25%	75%	
	FLM504: Music Video and Experimental Practice (Mandatory)	5	20	100%		
	GDM503: Animation and Moving Image (Mandatory)	5	20	100%		
Stage 3						
All	C601FLM: Independent Research Project (Mandatory)	6	20	100%		
	FLM601: Planning and Pre-Production for Graduation Film (Mandatory)	6	20	70%	30%	
	FLM602: Professional Practice (Mandatory)	6	20	80%	20%	
	FLM603: Graduation Film (Mandatory)	6	40	100%		
	FLM604: Exhibition and Industry (Mandatory)	6	20	30%	70%	

Course Options

There are no optional modules in this programme

Study Workload

We typically deliver the programme over three full days per week over a 32 week year, comprising two 16 week semesters.

At level four you will be expected to attend classes for around 11.5 hours per week, at level five this will drop to around 9.5 hours and at level six will drop again to 7.5 hours per week. This drop is to account for the increased autonomy expected of you as you develop as a student. In addition to attending university for taught sessions you will be expected to undertake independent study. This will increase from around 26 hours per week at level four to 30 hours per week at level six as you become more autonomous. Independent study could be comprised of reading texts, watching relevant film and working on assignments and is intended to support your achievement on this programme..

Your programme of study will include progress tutorials to support you with both your academic work and to address any personal issues that might be preventing you from achieving on the programme.

Programme Delivery: Learning and Teaching

The programme delivers a range of skills and knowledge required to develop you as a filmmaker. Because of the nature of the subject the delivery will be dynamic and include an array of different activities designed to keep you engaged, with different approaches to teaching and learning appropriate to the different skills and knowledge you are required to acquire.

There will be practical sessions where you will acquire the skills required to film and edit. Demonstrations will be given before allowing you to practice and hone the skills you will need to produce high quality film work. These practical sessions will be informed by theoretical and analytical understanding of film form and the different ways the camera and lighting as well as differing editing techniques can be used to create meaning.

Workshops will also be used to develop a confidence in the technical skills delivered in practical sessions. You will be given different scenarios to respond to using your developing skills and putting what you have learned into practice. Workshops will also be used to give you the time to work on assignments with peer and tutor feedback informing this process. Within these workshops you will have 1:1 tutorials to give formative feedback and to discuss any issues.

Traditional lectures will be delivered on subjects such as film analysis, codes and conventions of documentary, music video and short film as well as for the critical studies module which will explore critical approaches to visual arts. In these sessions, you will be expected to take notes and to engage with the content of the lectures.

Seminars will be used to discuss the content of the lectures and to ensure that you are given the best opportunity to understand the content delivered. In these seminars, the tutor will lead a discussion and assess understanding. You will be expected to participate in these discussions. An environment of support will be encouraged in these sessions with students expected to ask questions about any areas about which they are unclear as this is usually to the benefit of the rest of the class.

Programme Delivery: Assessment

Assessment on the programme is designed to ensure that you are given the best opportunity to succeed. This is achieved by utilising a range of assessment methods including reports, essays, exams, presentations and pitches, responses to briefs, production of films and evaluations. In some assessments, you will be assessed on your ability to critically analyse film texts, demonstrating your understanding of film form and how meaning is made. In others, you will be assessed on your technical abilities in applying the skills you have developed to filmmaking projects. You will have the opportunity to reflect and evaluate how practical projects have gone and what you would change if you could go back and how you apply what you have found to your next project.

The requirements of the assessment will be explained to you in detail and there will be opportunities to clarify what is expected to ensure that you know how to approach the work. You will also receive formative feedback during 1:1s where your tutor will go through with you areas where your work can be improved to ensure that you are producing work the best of your ability.

Programme Delivery: Work Based and Placement Learning

You will be encouraged to engage with industry at all levels through client lead briefs and work experience opportunities. There is no work placement required as part of the course, but students are required to demonstrate that they have engaged with employer activities at Level 6 (this can be a combination of volunteer placement, case-study, live brief, developing entrepreneurship opportunities or commissions) as part of the Professional Practice module. There is an annual foreign trip that all students are encouraged to attend. Trips to New York have been a feature.

Whilst work-based learning is not a mandatory part of this degree, the programme is designed to embed and develop a range of transferable and graduate skills that will prepare you for employment opportunities in a range of academic, creative and digital professions. These include skills in spoken, written and visual communication, the ability to manage collaborative and independent projects, creative problem solving, an in-depth knowledge of the ways in which contextual factors influence academic and creative practice, digital and academic literacy and entrepreneurship. In order for you to succeed in a competitive graduate market, we want to embed professional skills and experiences that will enhance your qualifications and CV whilst studying with us. This approach has led to a high proportion of our alumni getting the jobs they want soon after graduating and we hope that your time with us will lead to this success too.

Programme Delivery: Graduate Skill Development

To ensure that we prepare you for your career in an exciting and competitive industry relevant to the broad skillset you will possess when you graduate, our focus on developing and refining graduate attributes through teaching, learning, assessment and engagement with a wide range of peers, employers and other stakeholders, is a key part of this programme's design. Below is an overview of how we seek to embed and develop these graduate skills and attributes:

A commitment to lifelong learning and career development:

As a programme that aims to develop students who are active participants in their educational journey, namely, those who have been given the skills to engage in and lead enquiry, project and problem-based learning, it is hoped that this culture of student autonomy, community working and seeking and making connections will instil a commitment to lifelong learning through progression to post-graduate and continuous professional development in the workplace.

Collaborative teamwork and leadership skills

As stated, the ethos of collaborative practice is central to this programme's appeal and is a highly useful attribute for graduates who are embarking on careers where multi-disciplinary skills are in demand. This is why many of formative and summative assessments are dependent on group work, both within the programme and across curricula. This helps you to develop skills in being a member of a collaborative team, and also helps with leadership skills, as you are able to delegate, switch roles, negotiate and truly enhance your communication skills.

Personal and intellectual autonomy

Personal and intellectual autonomy is the ultimate aim of this programme. Having developed the technical skills required for filmmaking at Level 4, you are increasingly encouraged think creatively and to develop your work in a way that reflects your areas of interest and creative expression.

Ethical, social and professional understanding

Studying Filmmaking from the range of perspectives considered on this course helps to foster an awareness of ethical, social and professional understanding. This is achieved through ethical considerations around the production and consumption of creative work, the ethics of documentary filmmaking with regards to representation.

Communication, information and digital literacies

Communication is skill that is developed throughout this programme. As a medium of communication, the study of film is one that intrinsically considers how best to communicate with an audience. Through the process of filmmaking you will be required to work closely with a number of people in highly stressed situations, this will help you to develop diplomatic communication strategies and will also teach about the importance of clear communication. As part of your studies you will also develop presentation and pitching skills as well as being able to communicate academically in essay format.

Global citizenship

Throughout this programme, global citizenship is a framework for learning that is promoted in class through contextual studies into the creation of film texts. The humanities focus of this degree allows you to reflect on a wide range of approaches to texts, ideologies, situations and conditions, encouraging you to evaluate and re-evaluate your global citizenship.

Research, scholarship and enquiry skills

As a Filmmaking graduate, you will be required to undertake research of all kinds including background research of the subject of your documentary film, practical research for any of your practical assessments and also the academic research required to complete academic essays including the dissertation at level six. In addition, you will be encouraged to share your scholarly practice in small group settings, across programmes, at college-wide events and even external events, which will significantly contribute to your employability and confidence as an emerging specialist in your subject.

Enterprise and entrepreneurial awareness and capabilities

On this degree, as well as developing a credible and confident voice in academic and creative practice, you will learn how to direct and amplify these skills to engage in entrepreneurial practice and skill building that will prepare you for careers in freelance writing, self-publication, as well as providing strategies to set up a successful business.

Study Costs: Equipment Requirements

You will not be required to purchase any additional equipment to undertake this programme as the college has resources available to students. However, there may be some opportunities that will not be a requirement of the programme but will be available to students at an additional cost.

Study Costs: Additional Costs

There may be additional costs to consider such as optional educational visits and photocopying/printing.

Related Courses

Level three:

- BTEC Creative Media Production

BA (Hons):

- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Fine Art Professional Practice