

BA(Hons) Practical Filmmaking (2 year) - CFS

Award Document 2026/27

Course Map - BA(Hons) Practical Filmmaking (2 year) - CFS

Stage 1

Study Block 1	Study Block 2	Study Block 3
PFR401 Visual Storytelling (Joint) (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	SCR402 Screen Studies (Joint) (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	PFR502 Documentary Film Production (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)
PFR405 Directing Actors (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	PFR404 Practical Filmmaking (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	PFR504 Animation & Virtual Production Compulsory (30 credits)

Stage 2

Study Block 1	Study Block 2	Study Block 3
PFR503 Practical Film Production - S16mm (CFS) Compulsory (60 credits)	PFR601 Writing, Pitching & Developing Short Film (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	PFR603 Producing (CFS) Optional (60 credits)
	PFR602 Graduation Film Pre-Production (CFS) Compulsory (30 credits)	PFR604 Directing (CFS) Optional (60 credits)
		PFR605 Production Design (CFS) Optional (60 credits)
		PFR606 Cinematography (CFS) Optional (60 credits)
		PFR607 Editing / Continuity (CFS) Optional (60 credits)
		PFR608 Sound Recording / Mixing (CFS) Optional (60 credits)

General Course Information

Status	Approved
Qualification (course type)	Undergraduate Course
Course Title	BA(Hons) Practical Filmmaking (2 year) - CFS
Intermediate Qualification(s)	Dip HE, BA, Cert HE
Awarding Institution	
Location of Delivery	Validated Partners
Duration of course	2 years
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body Accreditation	
Accreditation Renewal Date	
UCAS Code	0G78
Relevant External Benchmarking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies (2019) - QAA

Course Aims

BA(Hons) Practical Filmmaking at Central Film School is an intense, accelerated two-year course taught by working industry professionals with extensive knowledge and experience. Our practical projects mirror the film industry's workflow and creative environments. You will develop your creative and analytical skills together with your contextual knowledge. You will engage with current digital technologies and 16mm film to develop your technical and craft skills and further inspire your creativity and ambition. You will collaborate extensively in a fast-paced environment with an emphasis on practical and on-set assessments that will build your skills and confidence to enter the industry after graduation. During your studies you will have opportunities to interact with high-profile film industry practitioners through our Professional Perspective panels and visiting lecturer programmes.

Course specific employability skills

As you progress through the BA Practical Filmmaking at Central Film School you will develop an understanding of the art and craft of filmmaking. Both transferable and employability skills will be embedded into your learning through structured collaborative practice and reflective thinking, and the progressive execution of your technical expertise.

The course will offer you an opportunity to practice the following skills that can be used in professional settings in film and creative industries, as well as in academia and beyond:

Industry & Business Knowledge: You will develop an ability to recognise and apply relevant terminologies, technologies and processes to your creative practice or evaluation of others' work.

Critical Thinking & Analysis: You will develop an ability to look below the surface of film, make connections and reflect on different social and creative perspectives. Through this process, you will build a more profound understanding not only of film but also of values and attitudes in contemporary global societies that influence what you see on the screen.

Expanded Worldview: You will appreciate a range of diverse creative practices and modes of expression. You will also develop social and political sensitivity, especially regarding representation.

Ethical and Legal Responsibilities: You will progress your understanding of how to work professionally within industry-standard ethical and legal frameworks.

Health and Safety: You will enhance your awareness of health and safety guidelines and apply them in professional settings.

Problem Solving and Innovation: You will grow your capability to logically and critically evaluate the currently available film practices and progress your creativity towards innovation by applying conceptual models to practical challenges.

Imagination and Creativity: You will gain confidence to determine your potential contribution to the creative industries, finding the courage to use artistic solutions and produce unique and original work.

Collaboration and Team Working: You will develop a positive attitude when working with others in a respectful, organised and collaborative manner. Your ability to forge productive relationships with others and to understand the essential elements of how creativity is fostered in team environments.

Organisation: You will advance your project and time management skills.

Entrepreneurial skills: You will learn to identify and take advantage of professional and personal opportunities. You will develop your business awareness and understand what is required should you choose to work as a freelancer.

Communication skills: You will practice an ability to articulate your ideas in writing and speech in a coherent and clear manner that can be understood by non-specialist audiences.

Personal Development: You will define your priorities, manage your time effectively, develop an understanding of personal strengths and weaknesses and find ways of responding to constructive criticism and feedback.

In addition to its subject focus on filmmaking, the course will prepare you for other types of creative industry careers. All the above skills are transferable, which means that they can be adapted and deployed in a variety of fields and careers.

Career/future study opportunities

The course will help you become an adaptive thinker, a creator and a supportive contributing team player joining the next generation of writers, researchers, producers, directors, analysts, academics and project developers who shape the zeitgeist of contemporary film.

Typical career destinations of our graduates include:

- Film Production Management (Narrative)
- Film Production Management (Documentary)
- Camera Departments, camera operator, camera assistant
- Production Design, Art Direction and Construction
- Sound Design
- Sound Recording
- Assistant Directing
- Post-Production, editor and assistant editor
- Visual Effects
- Location Management and Logistics
- Talent Scouting and Development
- Film Exhibition and Distribution
- Sales Agency
- Sales Acquisition & Strategy
- Advertising
- Branded and Web Content
- Music Video
- Live Event Broadcast Production
- Research and Development
- Journalism

Further academic study:

- Postgraduate Practice & Research (MA, PhD, ProfDoc)

PGCHE (Teaching Programme)

Structure of Course Delivery

Pedagogy

The BA programme develops on from our Integrated Foundation course that introduces you to the fundamentals of filmmaking and screenwriting practice.

The BA (Hons) Practical Filmmaking course delivers the curriculum using strategies that encourage independence, self-reliance and group co-operation. You are expected to take responsibility for your learning and encouraged to explore the uses of blended learning techniques when working with your peers.

Group work is a vital aspect of the degree as it reflects the collaborative nature of filmmaking.

Creative practice teaching delivered during the programme elucidates the nature of and interrelationship between core roles used in film production and how they change in different environments. Modules are structured around regular group work which may take place solely between you and your peers on the course or students from different courses. This experience will allow you to become familiar with real-world practices during which you will share knowledge and develop understanding of cooperation, negotiation, compromise, leadership and management and team hierarchies in preparation for your entry into industry.

Course Design

At Level 4, modules are designed to introduce you to the fundamental principles, practices and collaborative relationships of filmmaking. At Level 5 you will gain a deeper understanding of the filmmaking process, its wider contexts and develop your technical skills, craft specialisms and formats. At level 6 you will develop a script in the module Writing, Pitching & Developing Short Film and pitch that script for a graduation film. The chosen graduation film scripts will enter pre-production in the Graduation Film Development module that culminates in pitches for the graduation film roles and assignment to the corresponding specialism from the following modules; Producing, Directing, Production Design, Cinematography, Editing / Continuity and Sound Recording / Mixing. This is the role that you will perform on the graduation film which is the consolidation of your creative practice and culmination of your study.

Teaching Sessions

Module teaching, learning and assessment take a variety of forms to offer an inclusive, safe and supportive learning environment for all students and enable multiple possibilities for constructive feedback so that you can fulfil your potential. These modules are led by specialist academics and practicing filmmakers who share their real-world film experience and are supported by a team of experienced technicians. Your learning experience is enriched by regular opportunities to listen and talk to visiting speakers through our Professional Perspectives Programme.

You will be taught by staff in a variety of ways:

Lectures: Some teaching will be delivered as 'traditional' lectures, for the conveying of complex ideas or for the clarifying of assessment and other course requirements.

Seminars: These are a chance for you to spend time with your tutor and peers investigating ideas and processes. It is a chance to work on your assessments and receive support from a variety of people and a chance to engage with ideas and develop your understanding in a safe and supportive environment.

Technical Inductions: Our technicians will enhance your skills in handling our camera, sound and lighting equipment.

Workshops: Workshops involve you developing specific craft skills and applying your learning to productions and assessment. They also facilitate your own personal, creative and professional development.

Professional Masterclasses: Your core learning is supplemented by a programme of guest speakers who deliver talks and masterclasses across a range of specialisms and professions.

Crits/Peer Learning: We have a wide variety of approaches to peer learning, including pitching/feedback sessions and crits, where you share work-in-progress and support each other in honing work for assessment and beyond. This activity helps you learn how to critique constructively and how to improve your work from reading others' approaches and acting on their feedback.

Individual Tutorials: Tutorials with tutors and course leaders allow you to really get to grips with your understanding of a module and/or an assignment as well as to discuss your progress and seek support in terms of time, project and personal management.

Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and Online Learning: Modules may employ different forms of online learning to enhance your experience and add to the diverse ways of learning that you will experience on the course. Online spaces are used to provide a safe and supportive environment to help you stay engaged with work and peers across modules and between periods of teaching and assessment.

Module Structure;

Level 4

Visual Storytelling

Screen Studies

Directing Actors

Practical Filmmaking

Level 5

Animation & Virtual Production

Documentary Film Production

Practical Film Production - S16mm

Level 6

Writing, Pitching & Developing Short Film

Graduation Film Development

Electives Specialism; Producing, Directing, Production Design, Cinematography, Editing / Continuity and Sound Recording / Mixing.

Course Assessment Strategy

The purpose of assessment is to measure your progress and achievement throughout the course and to confirm that the Learning Outcomes for each module have been met. It is the method by which you receive summative feedback in order to help you develop your practice and performance.

Assessment is governed by the Assessment Regulations as detailed in Central Film School's Academic Framework. Information about it is available on the Central Film School website; details of links are provided in your Course Handbook.

Throughout the modules on all levels, at Central Film School a major assessment method is the on-set assessment of your role. This type of assessment focuses on process rather than outcome. It develops and assesses your core 'hard' skills (e.g. technical) and your 'soft' skills (e.g. professionalism), both vital for your entry into the industry.

Studying film requires you to understand the collaborative nature of filmmaking as well as the interrelationship of a variety of skills and knowledge. We therefore use formative and summative feedback throughout the course. Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria, as outlined at the end of this document, relate to specific periods of growth and development during your course of study.

Formative assessment is concerned with progress, development and growth, and summative assessment measures achievement and accomplishment demonstrated at the end of each module.

Each module of study is assessed using the common assessment criteria of Central Film School. Feedback is delivered formatively both in advance of and following summative assessment.

The purpose of assessment is to provide you with:

- An active process that recognises and supports learning and achievement
- As an experience itself it contributes to the integration of learning and practice
- Feedback on progress which identifies strengths and recommendations for improvement
- Opportunities to present work, and articulate ideas and attitudes in a progressively professional manner

Evaluation and assessment provide the course team with:

- A means of offering you guidance in the evaluation of your progress
- A means of offering you advice and guidance on your work
- A means of monitoring and evaluating the course
- A basis for accreditation of modules
- A basis for progression from one level to the next

Each module will have specific requirements and these will be clearly briefed at the appropriate stages of the course. At these points, you will be issued with a Module Guide containing a summary of the briefs, elements of assessment, learning outcomes, assessment methods, marking scheme and the work required for assessment. Please thoroughly read the Module Guide so that you have an understanding of how the learning outcomes relate more specifically to the project work you will be completing. Ask questions if you are unsure of anything.

Regular seminars, scheduled tutorials and peer review opportunities, as well as bookable tutorials, provide formative feedback on work-in-progress against the learning outcomes and project deliverables. These staff and peer interactions offer you opportunities to ask questions, seek clarification and discuss and share significant findings, areas of research, methods employed and discoveries made.

Summative assessment provides you with marks that contribute to your academic grade and details the successful parts of the work, as well as advice on how to improve your work going forward. At strategic points in your learning you will be assessed on collaborative group productions which may take place solely between you and your peers on the course and at other times alongside students from different courses. When a collaborative production is assessed, issues of fairness and equity of grades are addressed utilising the Group Work Assessment Strategy. Summative feedback is given at the end of each module.

Course Learning Outcomes

LO name	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
1. Technical	Identify & apply ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	Demonstrate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	Evaluate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project
2. Collaboration	Identify & apply constructive relationships and work effectively on a project	Demonstrate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project	Evaluate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project
3. Communication	Identify & apply professional communication and presentation skills	Demonstrate professional communication and presentation skills	Evaluate professional communication and presentation skills
4. Professionalism	Identify & apply self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	Demonstrate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	Evaluate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression
5. Research	Identify & apply research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	Demonstrate the use of research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	Evaluate research, resources and methodologies that inform a project
6. Analysis	Identify & apply specialist information and practices	Demonstrate the ability to analyse specialist information and practices	Evaluate and analyse specialist information and practices and formulate reasoned arguments
7. Innovation	Identify and apply problem solving techniques and test ideas in the realisation of a project	Demonstrate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project	Evaluate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project
8. Industry	Identify and apply industry vocabulary and knowledge to enable you to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	Demonstrate industry vocabulary and knowledge to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	Evaluate industry vocabulary and knowledge to enable you to present your work and support your engagement with the commercial marketplace

TPA Table

Module Code	Level	Module Name	Credits	Study Block	Compulsory (C) or Option (O)	Assessment Methods*	Contributing towards the Learning Outcomes* (Taught (T), Practised (P) and/or Assessed (A))							
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PFR401	4	Visual Storytelling (Joint) (CFS)	30	1	C	SP	TP	TPA	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP
PFR405	4	Directing Actors (CFS)	30	1	C	PC	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA
SCR402	4	Screen Studies (Joint) (CFS)	30	2	C	OT	TP	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TPA
PFR404	4	Practical Filmmaking (CFS)	30	2	C	OR PF	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TPA	TP
PFR502	5	Documentary Film Production (CFS)	30	3	C	JL PO	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TP
PFR504	5	Animation & Virtual Production	30	3	C	PO	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TP
PFR503	5	Practical Film Production - S16mm (CFS)	60	1	C	PF PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TP	TPA	TP
PFR601	6	Writing, Pitching & Developing Short Film (CFS)	30	2	C	PO	TPA	TP	TP	TP	TPA	TPA	TP	TP
PFR602	6	Graduation Film Pre-Production (CFS)	30	2	C	PW	TP	TP	TPA	TP	TPA	TP	TP	TPA
PFR603	6	Producing (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP
PFR604	6	Directing (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP
PFR605	6	Production Design (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP
PFR606	6	Cinematography (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP
PFR607	6	Editing / Continuity (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP
PFR608	6	Sound Recording / Mixing (CFS)	60	3	O	PC PW	TPA	TPA	TPA	TPA	TP	TPA	TPA	TP

Learning Outcomes*

1. Technical
2. Collaboration
3. Communication
4. Professionalism
5. Research
6. Analysis
7. Innovation
8. Industry

Assessment Criteria

No	Category	Level 4 Outcome	Level 5 Outcome	Level 6 Outcome	Falmouth Assessment Criteria Category
1	Technical	Identify & apply ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	Demonstrate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	Evaluate ideas, creative elements, processes and techniques appropriate to a project	Process The student demonstrates excellent ideas generation, problem solving, concepts, technical competency, and proposals in response to set briefs and/or self-initiated activity
2	Collaboration	Identify & apply constructive relationships and work effectively on a project	Demonstrate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project	Evaluate constructive relationships and work effectively in the conception and delivery of a team project	Collaboration The student demonstrates excellent (multi-disciplinary) team working
3	Communication	Identify & apply professional communication and presentation skills	Demonstrate professional communication and presentation skills	Evaluate professional communication and presentation skills	Communication The student demonstrates excellent communication and presentation skills
4	Professionalism	Identify & apply self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	Demonstrate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	Evaluate self-management skills and set priorities for personal and professional progression	Organisation The student demonstrates excellent self-management skills
5	Research	Identify & apply research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	Demonstrate the use of research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	Evaluate research, resources and methodologies that inform a project	Research The student demonstrates excellent research and information skills.
6	Analysis	Identify & apply specialist information and practices	Demonstrate the ability to analyse specialist information and practices	Evaluate and analyse specialist information and practices and formulate reasoned arguments.	Analysis The student demonstrates an excellent ability to critically engage with and analyse information and formulate reasoned arguments.
7	Innovation	Identify and apply problem solving techniques and test ideas in the realisation of a project	Demonstrate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project	Evaluate problem solving techniques, independent enquiry, practice and experimentation in the realisation of a project	Innovation The student demonstrates excellent independent practice, experimentation, risk taking, creativity, originality (i.e. new ideas and/or solutions) and in-depth inquiry into their discipline.
8	Industry	Identify and apply industry vocabulary and knowledge to enable you to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	Demonstrate industry vocabulary and knowledge to support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	Evaluate industry vocabulary and knowledge to enable you to present your work and support your engagement with the commercial marketplace	Industry The student demonstrates an excellent, ethically informed, real-world experience of industry/ business environments and markets.